

***-anaz** Runic: ᚦᚦᚦᚦ Pronunciation: /a.naz/

suffix · forms nouns · masculine · a-stem

Function

1. forms the past participle of strong verbs
2. forms nouns denoting a person associated with, belonging to, or standing over the base noun, especially titles such as ‘ruler’

Etymology

The suffix **-anaz* most likely has two different historical origins that merged into one in Proto-Germanic. This strong verb past participle form developed from an earlier form, pre-Germanic **onó-s*, from a remodeling of the Proto-Indo-European verbal adjective suffix **nó-s*. It appears as though the original *-o-* of the pre-Germanic suffix was secondary, not part of the inherited PIE form; Ringe believes that it may have been added analogically with the pre-Germanic infinitival suffix **o-no-m* > PGmc **-anq*. However, it is still not completely clear why the remodeling occurred. In any case, the resulting form, **-anaz*, became the productive past participle suffix for all strong verbs. One example of this formation can be seen in Sanskrit verbal adjectives in *-ṇ* (*-ná*), which preserve the original PIE **-nó-* formation. The suffix **inaz* < Proto-Germanic **enō-s* was another variant of this past participle suffix. This variant is found in North and West Germanic. (Ringe 2017: 188, 217–218).

In the case of nominal uses of **anaz*, such as the names of rulers or other individuals identified by their relationship to a group or territory, the suffix probably originated as a thematicizing individualizing *n*-stem created by adding the Proto-Indo-European suffix **-n-* to an existing noun stem. Generally speaking, when used denominally, *n*-stems were used to indicate 'someone associated with X'. Pronk (2015: 327–29) explicitly includes Gothic *ψινδῶνς* (*þiudans*) < PGmc **þeudanaz* in this category. Thematicization of **-n-* would produce a Late PIE/Early PGmc **on-o-s* > PGmc **-anaz*. There are comparable Indo-European structures, such as Ancient Greek *ὑιώνός* (*huiōnós*) and Latin *dominus*; however, there is still some debate about the histories of suffix in these words.

Paradigm

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	-anaz	-anōz, -anōs
Acc.	-anaꝥ	-ananz
Gen.	-anas, -anis	-anô
Dat.	-anai	-anamaz
Inst.	-anō	-anamiz
Voc.	-an	-anōz, -anōs

Descendants

*-an, *-in (Proto-West Germanic)

-𐌰𐌿𐌶𐌹 (-anar), -𐌰𐌿𐌶𐌹 (-inar) (Proto-Norse)

-ann, -inn (Old Norse)

-en (Danish)

-in (Faroese)

-inn (Icelandic)

-en (Norwegian Bokmål)

-en (Norwegian Nynorsk)

-𐌰𐌿𐌶𐌹 (-anar), -𐌰𐌿𐌶𐌹 (-inar) (Proto-Norse)

-ann, -inn (Old Norse)

-in (Old Swedish)

-en (Swedish)

-𐌺𐌸 (-ns) (Gothic)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*-ana¹ suffix *-ana² suffix *þeudanaz noun

