

*ansijō

Runic: 𐰇𐰆𐰚 | 𐰇𐰆

Pronunciation: /'an.si.joː/

noun · feminine · ō-stem

Meanings

1. handle or loop, especially of a cup, bowl, or other vessel
2. eyelet; eye (of a needle)

Etymology

From Proto-Indo-European **h₂ens-ieh₂*, with the **-ieh₂* allomorph of a **-yeh₂* derivative after the heavy base **h₂ens-* due to Siever's Law (Beekes 2010: 520–21, s.v. ἥνιά; Meier-Brügger 2003: 90; Ringe 2017: 143–45). The word belongs to a wider Indo-European family denoting handles, loops, eyelets, hooks, and reins, though the cognates continue several related stem formations rather than a single **h₂ens-ieh₂* paradigm: Latin *ānsa* reflects **h₂ens-h₂*, Lithuanian *q̄sà* is a closely related *ā*-stem, while Old Prussian *ansis* and Latvian *ūoss* continue an *i*-stem **h₂ens-i-* (de Vaan 2008: 44; Kroonen 2013: 30). Especially close are Middle Irish *éisi* < **ansio-* and Ancient Greek ἥνιά (*hēnía*), which Beekes (2010: 520–21, s.v. ἥνιά) derives from **h₂ens-ieh₂*, while Ringe reconstructs their base more cautiously as **(h₂)áns-* and explains the secondary initial aspiration of the Greek form through *h*-copying (*Hauchumsprung*) (Ringe 2024: 140–142; Sayeed 2019: 167). Thus, the initial **h₂* is probable but not entirely secure. Despite the formal resemblance, no secure etymological connection with **ansaz* can be established.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	ansijō	ansijōz
Acc.	ansijō	ansijōz
Gen.	ansijōz	ansijô
Dat.	ansijōi	ansijōmaz
Inst.	ansijō	ansijōmiz
Voc.	ansijō	ansijōz

Descendants

***ansiju**, ***āsiju** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***ōse**, ***ōs** (Old Frisian)

ous (North Frisian)

Oose (Saterland Frisian)

oes (West Frisian)

***ansiju**, ***āsiju** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***ansa**, **ensa** (Old High German)

***ansiju**, ***āsiju** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***ōsia** (Old Saxon)

ôse, **oese**, **ôse**, **ouse**, **osse** (Middle Low German)

ōse (Middle High German)

Öse (German)

æs (Old Norse)

æs (Faroese)

æs (Icelandic)

æs (Norwegian)

***ohja** (Proto-Finnic)

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