

**\*anô** Runic: 𐌱𐌴𐌹 Pronunciation: /'ɑ.nɔː/

noun · masculine · an-stem

## Meanings

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(male) ancestor; forefather

## Etymology

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Probably a masculine *an*-stem formed from the same inherited kinship base that underlies the widespread Indo-European ‘grandmother’ set. Serangeli (2020: 208–209) reconstructs the inherited formation as *\*h<sub>2</sub>énH-o-*, taking the geminate of Hittite 𐎶𐎵𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 (*ha-an-na- /ḫanna-/*) as evidence for *\*-nH-*, whereas Olsen (2020: 81–82) prefers the less committal stem *\*h<sub>2</sub>an(h)-* and notes that the gemination could instead be hypocoristic and that even initial *\*h<sub>2</sub>* is not entirely secure. Cognates of the underlying kinship family include Hittite 𐎶𐎵𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 (*ha-an-na- /ḫanna-/*), Ancient Greek ἀννίς (*annís*), Armenian հան (*han*), Latin *anus*, Old Prussian *ane*, and Lithuanian *anýta* (de Vaan 2008: 45, s.v. *anus*; Martirosyan 2010: 388, s.v. *han*; Olsen 2020: 81–82; Serangeli 2020: 208–209).

Crucially, only Germanic securely attests a masculine member of this set, Old High German *ano*, beside *ana*, so the specifically male meaning should not be projected back to Proto-Indo-European.

# Declension

| Case  | Singular | Plural  |
|-------|----------|---------|
| Nom.  | anô      | ananiz  |
| Acc.  | ananų    | ananunz |
| Gen.  | aniniz   | ananġ   |
| Dat.  | anini    | anammaz |
| Inst. | aninė    | anamviz |
| Voc.  | anô      | ananiz  |

# Descendants

- \*anō (Proto-West Germanic)
  - ano (Old High German)
    - ane, an, ene (Middle High German)
      - Äni (Alemannic German)
      - ane (Danish)
      - Ahn, Ahne (German)

- \*anō (Proto-West Germanic)
  - \*ano (Old Saxon)
    - āne (Middle Low German)
    - Ahn (Low German)

- \*𐳚𐳚𐳚 (\*anu) (Proto-Norse)
  - ái (Old Norse)
  - ái (Icelandic)

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# Related Words

## Entries that mention this word

\*anġ noun      \*Anulô proper noun

