

***arjana** Runic: 𐌱𐌰𐌶𐌰𐌴𐌹𐌿 Pronunciation: /'ar.ja.nã/

verb · Strong class 7 j-present

Meanings

to plow; to till (the soil)

Etymology

From Proto-Indo-European **h₂éryeti*, an imperfective y-present of root **h₂erh₃-*; root-final **h₃* was regularly lost before **y* (Pinault's Law), yielding the stem continued by Proto-Germanic **arj-* (Kroonen 2013: 34; Ringe 2017: 214–15; Rix et al. 2001: 272–73; Weiss 2020: 484–85). Cognate with Old Irish *airid*, Lithuanian *ariù*, Old Church Slavonic *орѣ* (*orjǫ*), Ancient Greek *ἀρόω* (*aróō*), and Latin *arō*. Kloekhorst (2008: 300–301, 312–314) proposes that PIE **h₂erh₃-* originally meant ‘crush’, reflected in Hittite *ḫarra-/ḫarr-*, with ‘plow’ developing only after the Anatolian branch had split off. Schürr (2023: 106–109) objects that *ḫarra-* is not attested with regard to working soil and points instead to Hittite *ḫārš-*, attested as 𐎶𐎵𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 (*ḫar-aš-zi /ḫarszi/*), which may be an s-extended formation of **h₂erh₃-*; together with the broad distribution of the ‘plow’ family, especially the Tocharian evidence, this supports reconstructing ‘plow’ already for PIE.

Conjugation

The past tense forms are reduplicated; otherwise, Strong class 6 would be expected, based on the root. The Strong class 7 classification is based on a single attested OHG attestation, *iarun* (‘they plowed’), though this could be an OHG innovation. In the other daughter languages, the past is either weak or unattested.

Conjugation

Present active

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive	Imperative
1st singular	arjō	arjaŭ	—
2nd singular	arisi	arjais	ari
3rd singular	aripi	arjai	arjaþau
1st dual	arjōs	arjaiw	—
2nd dual	arjaþiz	arjaiþiz	arjaþiz
1st plural	arjamaz	arjaim	—
2nd plural	arip	arjaiþ	arip
3rd plural	arjanþi	arjain	arjanþau

Present passive

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	arjai	—
2nd singular	arjasai	arjaisau
3rd singular	arjaþai	arjaiþau
1st dual	—	—
2nd dual	—	—
1st plural	arjanþai	arjainþau
2nd plural	arjanþai	arjainþau
3rd plural	arjanþai	arjainþau

Past

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	ear	earĭ
2nd singular	eart	earĭz
3rd singular	ear	earĭ
1st dual	earū	earīw
2nd dual	earudiz	earīdiz
1st plural	earum	earīm
2nd plural	earud	earīd
3rd plural	earun	earīn

Non-finite Forms

Infinitive	Present Participle	Past Participle
arjanaȝ	arjandz	aranaz

Descendants

* arjan (Proto-West Germanic)
era, ara (Old Frisian)
erian (Old Saxon)
* arjan (Proto-West Germanic)
* erien, *erren (Old Dutch)
ēren, ērien, erren (Middle Dutch)
* arjan (Proto-West Germanic)
erian (Old English)
eren, eeren, ere, erie, eryl, eyr, herie, herye, heryzen, ærien, erien (Middle English)
ear (archaic) (English)
ear (Scots)
* arjan (Proto-West Germanic)
erien, erren (Old High German)

ern (Middle High German)

erja (Old Norse)

erja (Icelandic)

erja (Old Norse)

æriæ (Old Danish)

ærje (Danish)

erja (Old Norse)

æria (Old Swedish)

ärja (Swedish)

𐌺𐌿𐌸𐌶𐌰𐌽 (arjan) (Gothic)

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