

***awjô** Runic: 𐰇𐰆𐰪𐰸 Pronunciation: /'aw.jɔː/

noun · masculine · an-stem

Meanings

a member of the Aviones, a Germanic people mentioned by Tacitus among the tribes that worshipped Nerthus

Etymology

A reconstructed masculine *n*-stem ethnonym derived from **awjō*, hence literally ‘islander, inhabitant of watery land’. The singular **awjô* is inferred from the tribal name attested by Tacitus as Latin *Aviones* and probably also by Old English *Eowum* (dat. pl.) in Widsith 26a (Bliss 1985: 97–106; Mees 2023b: 8–9). The interpretation of *Aviones* as ‘islanders’ goes back at least to Grimm and remains widely accepted (Mees 2023b: 8). Compare Old Norse *eynir*, likewise derived from *ey*; its direct historical identity with *Aviones* is uncertain (de Vries 1977: s.v. *eynir*). See **awjō* for the further etymology.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	awjô	awjaniz
Acc.	awjanų	awjanunz
Gen.	awjiniz	awjanô
Dat.	awjini	awjammaz
Inst.	awjinē	awjammiz
Voc.	awjô	awjaniz

Descendants

*Eowan (‘the Eowan, Aviones’), attested dat. pl. Eowum in Widsith 26a (Old English)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*awjō noun