

***-hun** Runic: ᚠᚢᚱᚸᚩ Pronunciation: /xun/

particle

Function

forms indefinite and negative-polarity pronouns, numerals, and adverbs, with the sense ‘any, anyone, anything, ever, at all’

Etymology

This particle continues Proto-Indo-European **ku-na*, from the local/interrogative particle **kú* + **-na* (Dunkel 2014: 438). It is functionally parallel to Northwest Germanic **-gin*, especially in negative expressions such as in its descendant, Gothic *-hnn* (*-hun*). For example: *ni ṛinshnn* (*ni ainshun*) (Lehmann 1986a: §5.4). However, it is formally distinct from **-gin*, which is derived from PIE **k^wena*.

Usage Note

Used especially after interrogative-indefinite bases and numerals; with a preceding negator, forms expressions meaning ‘no one, nothing, none, not any, not at all’.

Descendants

-hnn (*-hun*), *ṛinshnn* (*ainshun*), *ṽishnn* (*ṽishun*) (Gothic)

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