

***-(i)jana¹** Runic: (|)᛫ᛦᛦᛦᛦ Pronunciation: /i.ja.nã/

suffix · forms verbs · Weak class 1

Function

1. forms Weak class 1 verbs from nouns and adjectives, especially denominals meaning ‘act as, use, provide, or be associated with X’ and factitives meaning ‘make X, cause to become X’
2. forms causative verbs from strong verbs, with the sense ‘cause to X’

Etymology

From a Proto-Germanic *j*-present stem + the infinitive ending **-anq*. The *j*-present suffix had several pre-Germanic sources that fell together in PGmc to form a single suffix: among them were inherited and derived Proto-Indo-European **-yé/ó-* or **-ye/o-* presents, denominals from *o*-stem nouns in PIE **-e-yé/ó-*, and deverbal causatives in PIE **-éye/o-* (Ringe 2017: 200–201). In denominal and factitive verbs, **-janaq* reflects the Germanic continuation and leveling of PIE *y*-present and denominative formations. Compare Sanskrit denominatives in *-यति (-yáti)* and, more broadly, Greek and Latin derived-verb classes continuing or remodeling the same **-yé/ó-* and **-eye/o-* complex. In causatives, the source is specifically PIE **-éye/o-*, as also reflected in Sanskrit causatives in *-अयति (-áyati)* and, with later branch-specific remodeling, in formations such as Proto-Slavic **-iti* causatives and some Greek *-έω (-éō)*, and Latin *-ēre* and *-īre* verbs (Fulk 2018: 294–96; Ringe 2017: 200–201, 281–84).

Conjugation

The suffix varies as **-janaq* / **-ijanaq* based on Siever’s Law: the basic **-janaq* form is used after a “light” syllable (a short vowel followed by a single consonant), and otherwise, the form becomes **-ijanaq*. In causatives from strong verbs, the root normally has the *o*-grade corresponding to the strong preterite singular, while a root-final obstruent affected by Verner’s Law appears in its voiced alternant because the original causative suffix **-éye/o-* was accented. Thus the causative often combines the preterite-singular vowel of the strong verb with the

Verner alternant of the root-final consonant, as in *rīsanā (‘to scale; move vertically (either up or down)’) / *rais (1st person singular preterite) → *raizijanā (‘to cause (someone, something) to rise; raise’).

Paradigm

Present active

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive	Imperative
1st singular	-jō, -ijō	-jaū, -ijau	-
2nd singular	-isi, -īsi	-jais, -ijais	-i, -ī
3rd singular	-iḫi, -īḫi	-jai, -ijai	-jaḫau, -ijaḫau
1st dual	-jōs, -ijōs	-jaiw, -ijaiw	-
2nd dual	-jaḫiz, -ijaḫiz	-jaipiz, -ijaipiz	-jaḫiz, -ijaḫiz
1st plural	-jamaz, -ijamaz	-jaim, -ijaim	-
2nd plural	-iḫ, -īḫ	-jaip, -ijaip	-iḫ, -īḫ
3rd plural	-janḫi, -ijanḫi	-jain, -ijain	-janḫau, -ijanḫau

Present passive

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	-jai, -ijai	-
2nd singular	-jasai, -ijasai	-jaisau, -ijaisau
3rd singular	-jaḅai, -ijaḅai	-jaipau, -ijaipau
1st dual	-	-
2nd dual	-	-
1st plural	-janḅai, -ijanḅai	-jainḅau, -ijainḅau
2nd plural	-janḅai, -ijanḅai	-jainḅau, -ijainḅau
3rd plural	-janḅai, -ijanḅai	-jainḅau, -ijainḅau

Past

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	-idō	-idēdī
2nd singular	-idēz	-idēdīz
3rd singular	-idē	-idēdī
1st dual	-idēdū	-idēdīw
2nd dual	-idēdudiz	-idēdīdiz
1st plural	-idēdum	-idēdīm
2nd plural	-idēdud	-idēdīd
3rd plural	-idēdun	-idēdīn

Non-finite Forms

Infinitive	Present Participle	Past Participle
-(i)janaḡ	-jandz, -ijandz	-idaz

Descendants

*-jan (Proto-West Germanic)

-en, -ien (Old Dutch)

-en (Middle Dutch)

-en (Dutch)

*-jan (Proto-West Germanic)

-an, -ian (Old English)

-en, -ien (Middle English)

-y (English)

*-jan (Proto-West Germanic)

-a, -ia (Old Frisian)

-e, -je (Saterland Frisian)

-e, -je (West Frisian)

*-jan (Proto-West Germanic)

-en, -ien (Old High German)

-en (Middle High German)

-en (German)

*-jan (Proto-West Germanic)

-ian (Old Saxon)

-en (Middle Low German)

-en (Low German)

-a/-ja (Old Norse)

-a/-ja (Faroese)

-a/-ja (Icelandic)

-a/-ja (Swedish)

-𐌵𐌶𐌵 (-jan) (Gothic)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*-ana¹ suffix *-ana² suffix

Entries that mention this word

*abnijaṇa verb *aglijanaṇa verb *ailijanaṇa verb *aldijanaṇa verb *algijanaṇa verb
*ambahtijanaṇa verb *andagaldijanaṇa verb *angwijanaṇa verb *anstijanaṇa verb *anṣijanaṇa verb
*arbaidijanaṇa verb *arbijanaṇa verb *argijanaṇa verb *armijanaṇa verb *atjanaṇa² verb
*augijanaṇa verb *auṣijanaṇa verb