

***Masō** Runic: ᚠᚢᚱᚩᚱᚩᚰᚩᚱᚩ Pronunciation: /'ma.sɔ:/

proper noun · feminine · ō-stem

Meanings

the river Meuse

Etymology

From a Celtic language, presumably Proto-Celtic *Mosā. Despite the obvious similarities, the name is not derived from Latin Mosa. It shows evidence of the change from o to a; this is known to have occurred before the first contact of Germanic people with the Romans, but probably after first contact with the Celts. Most likely, Latin and Germanic both borrowed the name from Celtic independently.

Albrecht Greule writes that its ultimate origin is unclear, but could perhaps be Proto-Indo-European *meh₂d-, whence Latin *madeō* ('I am wet') and Ancient Greek *μεστός* (*mestós*) (mestós, 'full'). Or, from Proto-Indo-European **mā-* ('to stupefy') in the sense of the river's tortuousness, cognate with Proto-Germanic **masōną* ('to confound, be weary, dream') (modern English maze), Welsh *mydu* ('to vault, arch'), Old Norse *meis* ('curvatura').

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	Masō	—
Acc.	Masō̅	—
Gen.	Masōz	—
Dat.	Masōi	—
Inst.	Masō	—
Voc.	Masō	—

Descendants

***Masu** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***masa** (Old Dutch)

Maas, Maos (Limburgish)

***Masu** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***masa** (Old Dutch)

māse (Middle Dutch)

Maas (Dutch)

Maac (Maas) (Bulgarian)

Maas (Danish)

Maas (Hungarian)

Maas (Norwegian)

Maac (Maas) (Russian)

Maas (Swedish)

Maas (West Frisian)

***Masu** (Proto-West Germanic)

Masa (Old High German)

 ***Mase** (Middle High German)

Máza (Czech)

Maas (German)

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