

***-umnijō**

Runic: ᚱ ᚠ ᚦ ᚨ ᚷ ᚹ

Pronunciation: /um.ni.jɔ:/

suffix · forms nouns · feminine · ō-stem

Function

forms abstract, result, and state nouns, usually from verbs or from bases already associated with *men-stem nominal formations; also secondarily forms some concrete/entity nouns

Etymology

Probably from pre-Germanic **-m̥n-yéh₂* / **-m̥n̥-yéh₂* yielding Proto-Germanic **-umnijō* / **-munijō* (with the **-i-* from Siever's Law), a zero-grade Proto-Indo-European **men-*stem suffix, reformulated as a feminine *ō*-stem with the original stem-final cluster reanalyzed as part of the original stem. This accounts for the close relation between Gothic *𐌶𐌵𐌹𐌸𐌴𐌹𐌺𐌴* (*lauhmuni*) from PGmc **lauhmunijō* < pre-Germanic **louk-m̥n-yéh₂* and Middle English *levene* from PGmc **lauhumnijō* < pre-Germanic **louk-m̥n-yéh₂* (with loss of nasality of the **-m-* via dissimilation (Fulk 2018: 121)), ultimately from PIE root **lewk-*. It also explains Gothic *𐌿𐌹𐌲𐌴𐌹𐌺𐌴* (*witubni*) from pre-Germanic **witumnijō* < pre-Gmc **wid-m̥n-yéh₂* beside Sanskrit *विद्वन्* (*vid-mán-*), from PIE root **weyd-*, and comparable **-men-* formations (Kluge 1899: §150; Krahe & Meid 1969: 129–30; Johnsen 2005a: 141–43; Kroonen 2011a: 182–84; Wodtko et al. 2008: 244–45).

Paradigm

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	-umnijō, -munijō	-umnijôz, -munijôz
Acc.	-umnijō̅, -munijō̅	-umnijōz, -munijōz
Gen.	-umnijōz, -munijōz	-umnijō̅, -munijō̅
Dat.	-umnijōi, -munijōi	-umnijōmaz, -munijōmaz
Inst.	-umnijō, -munijō	-umnijōmiz, -munijōmiz
Voc.	-umnijō, -munijō	-umnijôz, -munijôz

Descendants

- *-inniju, *-unniju (Proto-West Germanic)
 - en, -nn (Old English)
 - ene (Middle English)
- *-inniju, *-unniju (Proto-West Germanic)
 - inna, -unna (Old High German)
- *-inniju, *-unniju (Proto-West Germanic)
 - innia, -unnia (Old Saxon)
- 𐌚𐌆𐌺𐌰 (-muni), -𐌚𐌆𐌺𐌰 (-ubni), -𐌚𐌆𐌺𐌰 (-ufni) (Gothic)

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