

***-ārijaz** Runic: ᚦᚲᚱᚱᚩᚱᚰ Pronunciation: /a:.ri.jaz/

suffix · forms nouns · masculine · ja-stem

Function

1. forms agent nouns and occupational nouns: ‘one associated with X’, ‘one who works with X’, ‘one who does X’
2. ancestor of productive English -er in agent nouns

Etymology

The accepted theory regarding the etymology of *-ārijaz maintains that it entered into Proto-Germanic as a borrowing from Latin *-ārius* via Proto-Italic **-āzios-*, from Proto-Indo-European **-eh₂so-*, which was further extended with the suffix **(i)yó-s*. This idea has remained popular because the formal and functional uses of the suffix are similar in both language families. The suffix was originally used to create occupational terms from verbs in Proto-Germanic. However, it eventually became productive in creating agentive terms in the language.

Alternatively, Gašiorowski (2017) derives *-ārijaz internally, relating it to the feminine occupational suffix **-astrijōn-* (Modern English -ster; as in “spinster”). He believes it originated as an earlier alternation of a pre-Germanic collective complex **-sr-ih₂-ó-* that was formed from the PIE feminine agentive base **-sōr*. This would make the masculine suffix originally native, though probably reinforced by Latin *-ārius*. The proposal is attractive, but it has not been generally accepted; the main difficulties are the uncertain evidence for the required **-sr-* > **-zr-* > *-r-* development and the indirect morphological and semantic pathways (building a masculine agent suffix from a feminine one seems unlikely at best).

Paradigm

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	-ārijaz	-ārijōz, -ārijōs
Acc.	-ārijaꝥ	-ārijanz
Gen.	-ārijas, -ārīs	-ārijô
Dat.	-ārijai	-ārijamaz
Inst.	-ārijō	-ārijamiz
Voc.	-ārī	-ārijōz, -ārijōs

Descendants

*-āri (Proto-West Germanic)

 *-āri, -ere (Old Dutch)

 -ere (Middle Dutch)

 -er (Limburgish)

*-āri (Proto-West Germanic)

 *-āri, -ere (Old Dutch)

 -ere (Middle Dutch)

 -er, -aar (Dutch)

 -er (Afrikaans)

*-āri (Proto-West Germanic)

 -ere, -re (Old English)

 -ere, -ar, -are, -er (Middle English)

 -er (English)

*-āri (Proto-West Germanic)

 -ere, -re (Old English)

 -ere, -ar, -are, -er (Middle English)

 -ar, -ir (Middle Scots)

 -er (Scots)

*-āri (Proto-West Germanic)

 -ere (Old Frisian)

 -er (Saterland Frisian)

-er (West Frisian)

*-**ārī** (Proto-West Germanic)

-ārī, -ari, -eri (Old High German)

-ære, -er (Middle High German)

-er (Alemannic German)

-er (Bavarian)

-er (German)

-er (Luxembourgish)

ער (**-er**) (Yiddish)

*-**ārī** (Proto-West Germanic)

-ārī (Old Saxon)

-ære, -ēre, -ere (Middle Low German)

-er (Low German)

*-**ǫ** (***-as**) (Proto-Norse)

-s (Old Norse)

-s (Faroese)

-s (Icelandic)

-s (Norwegian)

*-**ǫ** (***-as**) (Proto-Norse)

-s (Old Norse)

-s (Old Danish)

-s (Danish)

*-**ǫ** (***-as**) (Proto-Norse)

-s (Old Norse)

-s, -x (Old Swedish)

-s, -x (Swedish)

-ari (Old Norse)

-ari (Faroese)

-ari (Icelandic)

-ar, -ari, -are, -ær (Norwegian Nynorsk)

-ari (Old Norse)

-eræ (Old Danish)

-er (Danish)

-er (Norwegian Bokmål)

-ari (Old Norse)

-are, -ari (Old Swedish)

-are (Swedish)

-is (-is), -𐌹𐍃𐍅𐌹𐍃 (-āreis) (Gothic)

***-aŕь** (Proto-Slavic)

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