

Texts and Contexts of the Oldest Runic Inscriptions



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36. SCHRETZHEIM I (Bayrisch Schwaben, Germany). In the Stadt- und Hochstiftmuseum, Dillingen a.d. Donau. A silver *bullā* (i.e. an amulet box.) Dated ca. 600. Found in 1892 in a rich woman's grave in a row-grave field. The runes are on the bottom and on the lid. On the bottom a maker's or writer's formula, **alagupleuba: dedun**. On the lid is **arogisd**

𐌰𐌱𐌶𐌵𐌹𐌺𐌶𐌹𐌿𐌶𐌿𐌲𐌰𐌺𐌰𐌹𐌲𐌵𐌹𐌲𐌸𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌺𐌶

The **s** is very small; its upper part may have weathered away.

The first part contains two female names.

alagup is a PN, nsf. *jō*-stem *Alagu(n)th*, consisting of *ala-* ‘all’ and *-gu(n)th* ‘battle’.

leuba is also a PN, nsf. *n*-stem *Leuba*. After the division marks follows **dedun** = *dedun* 3 pl. pret. ind. ‘they did, made’, cf. OHG *tuon* ‘to do, make’. I take it that the women made the runes, rather than the box.

arogis may be interpreted as *Arogis(l)*, a PN, nsm. *a*-stem, consisting of *Aro-* ‘eagle’, and the well-known name-element *-gis(l)*. One might take the rune **d** to render *t* (cf. Seebold (1990:160 and Braune/Eggers § 163) because of the OHG sound shift $d > t$. The rune name *dag* was pronounced in OHG as *tag* (see above, OBERFLACHT, nr. 32), but was still written **ᚋ**. Some manuscript rune rows show the replacement of the rune name *dag* by OHG *tac*, e.g. in the Leiden ms. Voss. Lat. F.125, St. Gallen ms. 270, Kassel ms. Theol. F.65, as well as in the signature of the scribe *Ratgar* in St. Gallen ms. 127 (Derolez 1954:194, 217, 271, 441; and Derolez 1983:90). Cf. also **isd** = *ist* in WEIMAR III, below, nr. 47.

Hence we may read here *Arogist* or possibly *Arogast*, if the runographer omitted the sidetwigs of an intended **a**. *Arogast*, then, is a PN, nsm. *i*-stem, *-gast* < Gmc **gastiz*. Also, the *ds* in *dedun* may have been pronounced as *ts*.

In 1995, a silver disc brooch was found in a grave at Kirchheim-Teck (below, nr. 54), with runes reading **arugis**. This may be taken as a form of *Arogisl*, with **o** written as **u**.