

Ostrogoths (himself a Rugian), sent a certain *Caballarius* as envoy to Constantinople, having chosen him „among his most intimate and loyal friends“ (Procopius *Bell.Goth.* III 2,16). According to Tjäder and Lazard there is a possibility that a certain *Latinus*, *vir honestus*, witness in a document of 539, might be an Ostrogoth with a Latin name, but in my opinion the evidence is uncertain.⁹ It is quite probable that *Petrus* and *Paulus*, two Arian priests mentioned in the bilingual papyrus of 551, were Goths with Latin religious names.¹⁰

Further, there is in 514 a Gothic *comes* called *Petia* (acc. *Petiam*, in *Cont. Havniens.* I, 331): a name of Greek origin, like *Pitza*, *Pitzia*, and probably *Pitone*. Both *Pitza* and *Pitzia* are recent variant renderings, with *-tz-*, *-tzi-*, and the *-ti-* of *Petia*, of forms corresponding to the classical Greek spelling *-θι-*.¹¹ The name *Pitone* belongs to this group too.¹² Finally, the difficult name *Pissa* could be probably explained as another form of the same Greek name *Pitzia*, equally treated like a Gothic hypocoristic.¹³

A *saio* with the Alan name of *Candacis* is mentioned by Cassiodorus (*Variae* I 37, years 507-511).¹⁴ He could have been an Alan associated to the Ostrogoths or a Goth with an Alanic name; such a case would not be isolated, as there was at the end of the 5th century a Goth belonging to the Amal clan, called *Gunthigis Baza*, whose second name was Alanic (Jordanes *Get.* 51).

⁹ Tjäder P30, I, 1955, p. 56, 260-61; Lazard 2002, p. 1208. The assumption is based on the reading *Icc Latinus vh*, interpreted as Goth. *ik* „ego, I, Latinus v(ir) h(onestus)“ with a unique Gothic pronoun included in the Latin text. But the two letters of *[I]cc* are not clear at all (see picture in Tjäder 1954), besides the fact that the name does not belong to a list of signatures beginning with *Ego...* The older edition (Marini 1805) read *cl* (= *Claudius*).

¹⁰ Tjäder P34; Lazard 2002, p. 1211, n. 26.

¹¹ Πίτζας; was a Goth who surrendered to Belisarius in Samnium in 536 (Procopius *Bell.Goth.* I, 15). *Pitzia*, *-ae* was the famous *comes* and general that fought against the Gepids at Sirmio on the Danube in 504-514 (Ermodius *Paneg.* XII; Cassiodorus *Variae* v29); he is also referred to as *Petza* nom., *Pitzamum* acc. in Jordanes *Get.* 58. All these are related to the Greek name Πύθιας, and assimilated to Gothic masculine hypocoristics ending in *-a* (cp. Goth. *Gevica*, *Sibia*, etc.).

¹² *Pitone* (abl., papyrus of about 600 AD, Marini no. 124) was a *vir honestus* married to *Petronia*. In this case the name has been strongly romanised and inflected according to the Latin pattern in *-o*, *-onis* (*Piton-* < **Pitzian-*). Such a high degree of Latinisation can easily be due its late date.

¹³ Πίσσαν (acc., Procopius *Bell.Goth.* 116) was a Commander in Perugia under king Vitiges in 537; his name could also be compared to the Lombard *Pissa*, in turn of obscure origin, recorded in the *Historia Langobardorum Codicis Gothani* (early ninth Century).

¹⁴ Amory 1997, p. 368.