

His principal name is *Eutharicus*, *Cillica* being a sort of familiar epithet, and *Flavius* an honorific Latin title; the entire series is possibly meant to recall the ancient Roman three-name solemn onomastic forms. But generally the double names we find among Italy's Ostrogoths in this epoch rather result from adding to a normal, more official personal name, either a denomination suggested by religious or political occasions, or a familiar nickname.

Even outside the royal family and the clergy, people could have double names: e.g. *Riccitanus*, *vir clarissimus* of Ravenna (Tjäder P6, year 575) was also named *Eusebius*, a Greek name meaning 'pious'.³¹ He was the son of a Goth named *Montanus* (see above § 2.1.). The Arian '*spodeus*' Willienant of the Gothic church of Ravenna, son of *Cristodorus*, had the familiar nickname *Minnulus* (Tjäder P33, P34, year 541-551; see note 6). This could well be derived from the Gothic stem *minn-* 'little' (Goth. *minniza* 'less, minor'), but certainly was formed with the Latin diminutive suffix *-ulus*, besides the fact that the root itself was ambiguous, reminiscent also of the Latin adjective *minor*.³²

3. Latinization of Gothic names

3.1. Latin spellings

It is interesting to observe how Ostrogothic names were written in the Latin sources through which most of them were handed down to us. It is even more interesting when we have the same names and persons recorded both in the Latin and in the Gothic form and writing. This is the case of the bilingual papyri of Naples and Arezzo, containing six such names.³³ In the so-called Naples document (Tjäder P34, written at Ravenna in 551) we find that the Gothic name *Merila* (in Gothic letters) is rendered as *Mirica* in the Latin part of the text. Let alone the different suffix, we see that Latin <i> here corresponds to Goth. <e> [ē] (< Germc. **mērja-* 'famous'). In the so-called Arezzo deed (Tjäder †8) we find the Latin letter <u> for Goth. <o> in *Alamud*, corresponding to the Gothic form *Alamoda* (ibidem, a name formed with Goth. *mōps* 'anger, courage'). The same <u> spelling is common in the Latin rendering of Goth. <o> in names like *Ebremud*, *Rosemud*, *Guda*, *Gudila* (< Germc. [ō]). Such Latin spellings indicate the Late-Gothic raising of the Bible Gothic long vowels [ē, ō].³⁴

Another revealing spelling is Latin <e> for Goth. <ai> (< Germc. **ai*), as in the names *Gesila* (*Variae*, IV 14) and *Gesimundo* (Jordanes *Get.* 48), from

³¹ Tjäder II, p. 278, note 15, and p. 345.

³² Francovich Onesti 2005, p. 10, 23. See § 5. below.

³³ Tjäder †8 (538), P34 (551). See Francovich Onesti 2005.

³⁴ Wrede 1891, p. 161, 164; Penzl 1977.