

We find a certain *Ioannes* in Catania, son of *Ustarric*,²⁵ who had been given a Latin name although his father bore a Gothic one. The father of pope *Pelagius* II (579) was called *Winigildus*. In the epitaph of *Dumilda* (Rome, year 531) we read that her son had the classical name of *Theodosus*.²⁶ The *comes Gattila* gave the Greek name of *Agate* to his daughter.²⁷ In a papyrus from Ravenna (Tjäder P35, year 572) we read that *Andreas* and *Vitalis* were the sons of the late *Lucerna*: the latter could be a Latin name, though very unusual for a man; he must have been born during the Ostrogothic period, and his name adapted to the pattern of Gothic hypocoristic masculine forms ending in *-a*.²⁸ When sons have different names from their fathers, it does not necessarily mean that they were children of mixed marriages, since other reasons such as political and religious circumstances seem to have been just as compelling in the name choice.

2.2. Double names

In sixth-century Italy, when many of the Ostrogoths must have been bilingual, a few persons appear to have had also a Latin or Greek name beside the Gothic one. For example *Ademunt*, son of *Aderit* and brother of *Ranilo*, was also called *Andreas* (*qui et Andreas appellatur*, Tjäder P13, Ravenna A.D. 553). It should be noted that both his names, the traditional Gothic and the religious one, alliterate with his father's name *Aderit*. The Goth *Igila*, belonging to the Arian clergy of St. Anastasia in Ravenna, had *Danihel* as a second name (Ravenna 551, Tjäder P34), probably chosen for his Biblical value, since Daniel was a figure worshipped among the Goths. Religious implications also lie behind the second name of queen *Ereliva*, Theoderic's mother, who took the name of *Eusebia* as she turned to orthodoxy.²⁹ The Ostrogothic princess *Ostrogotho*, Theoderic's daughter (480 ca.-522), was also called *Ariagne*, a Greek name in honour of Zeno's wife, the empress Ariadne under whose protection she initially lived. Her Gothic name on the other hand celebrates her nation and royal descent. Another pre-eminent figure that was included in the Amal dynasty was Theoderic's son-in-law *Eutharicus Cillica* (515-523, consul in 519)³⁰ who was given the Roman title of *Flavius*.

²⁵ *+Hic reqviescit Ioannes fil Vstarric...* (sixth Century inscription, *CIL* X, 7116).

²⁶ Reichert I, 241.

²⁷ Milan, 512: *Hic reqviescit in pace Agate filia comites Gattilanis...* (*CIL* V 6176; Rugo V, 33).

²⁸ Tjäder II, p. 347, thinks he is a Goth. His name could be a re-Latinization of Goth. *lukarn* 'lamp, light', in turn a Latin loan-word (see § 5.).

²⁹ Anonymus Vales. 14.

³⁰ Amory 1997, p. 456.