

## THOR



### Historical attestations

The earliest records of the Germanic peoples were recorded by the Romans, and in these works Thor is frequently referred to—via a process known as *interpretatio romana* (where characteristics perceived to be similar by Romans result in identification of a non-Roman god as a Roman deity)—as either the Roman god Jupiter (also known as Jove) or the Greco-Roman god Hercules. The Kentish royal legend, probably 11th-century, contains the story of a villainous reeve of Ecgbert of Kent called Thunor, who is swallowed up by the earth at a place from then on known as þunores hlæwe (Old English 'Thunor's mound'). Gabriel Turville-Petre saw this as an invented origin for the placename demonstrating loss of memory that Thunor had been a god's name.[23] The first clear example of this occurs in the Roman historian Tacitus's late first-century work *Germania*, where,

writing about the religion of the Suebi (a confederation of Germanic peoples), he comments that "among the gods Mercury is the one they principally worship. They regard it as a religious duty to offer to him, on fixed days, human as well as other sacrificial victims. Hercules and Mars they appease by animal offerings of the permitted kind" and adds that a portion of the Suebi also venerate "Isis".[14] In this instance, Tacitus refers to the god Odin as "Mercury", Thor as "Hercules", and the god Týr as "Mars", and the identity of the Isis of the Suebi has been debated. In Thor's case, the identification with the god Hercules is likely at least in part due to similarities between Thor's hammer and Hercules' club.[15] In his *Annals*, Tacitus again refers to the veneration of "Hercules" by the Germanic peoples; he records a wood beyond the river Weser (in what is now northwestern Germany) as dedicated to him.[16] A deity known as Hercules Magusanus was venerated in *Germania Inferior*; due to the Roman identification of Thor with Hercules, Rudolf Simek has suggested that Magusanus was originally an epithet attached to the Proto-Germanic deity \*Þunraz.[17]

### Post-Roman era

The first recorded instance of the name of the god appears upon the Nordendorf fibulae, a piece of jewelry created during the Migration Period and found in Bavaria. The item bears an Elder Futhark inscribed with the name Þonar (i.e. Donar), the southern Germanic form of Thor's name.[18] Around the second half of the 8th century, Old English texts mention Thunor (Punor), which likely refers to a Saxon version of the god. In relation, Thunor is sometimes used in Old English texts to gloss Jupiter, the god may be referenced in the poem *Solomon and Saturn*, where the thunder

strikes the devil with a "fiery axe", and the Old English expression þunorrād ("thunder ride") may refer to the god's thunderous, goat-led chariot.[19][20]



### Viking age

In the 11th century, chronicler Adam of Bremen records in his *Gesta Hammaburgensis Ecclesiae Pontificum* that a statue of Thor, who Adam describes as "mightiest", sits in the Temple at Uppsala in the center of a triple throne (flanked by Woden and "Fricco") located in Gamla Uppsala, Sweden. Adam details that "Thor, they reckon, rules the sky; he governs thunder and lightning, winds and storms, fine weather and fertility" and that "Thor, with his mace, looks like Jupiter". Adam details that the people of Uppsala had appointed priests to each of the gods, and that the priests were to offer up sacrifices. In Thor's case, he continues, these sacrifices were done when plague or famine threatened.[24] Earlier in the same work, Adam relays that in 1030 an English preacher, Wulfred, was lynched by assembled Germanic pagans for "profaning" a representation of Thor.[25]

## HTML page

```
3Q.html CSS1Q.css
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4 <title>Column property</title>
5 <style>
6 #oo{
7   text-align:justify;
8   column-count:3;
9   column-gap:50px;
10  column-rule-width:1px;
11  column-rule-style: solid;
12  column-rule-color: black;
13  height:90%;|
14  header{
15    margin-top:30px;
16    text-align:center;}
17  p{line-height:1.4;}
18  #p1::first-letter{
19    font-size:45px;}
20 </style>
21 </head>
22 <body>
23 <header><h1>THOR</h1>
24 <div id="oo">
25   
26   <h1>Historical attestations</h1><hr>
27   <p id="p1">The earliest records of the Germanic peoples were recorded by the Romans, and in these works Thor is frequently referred to—via a process known as
28   <h1>Post-Roman era</h1>
29   <p>The first recorded instance of the name of the god appears upon the Nordendorf fibulae, a piece of jewelry created during the Migration Period and found i
30   <hr>
31   <h1>Viking age</h1>
32   <p>In the 11th century, chronicler Adam of Bremen records in his Gesta Hammaburgensis Ecclesiae Pontificum that a statue of Thor, who Adam describes as "migh
33 </div></header>
34 </body>
35 </html>
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