

## Summary

### The runic sequence **uilinisþat** on the Rök Stone

*By Lennart Elmevik*

The sequence of runes considered here, from the long and much-discussed inscription on the Rök Stone in Östergötland, Sweden's most remarkable runic monument, has been read and interpreted in a number of ways. Two main suggestions have been put forward. One, and the one which most commentators on the passage in question have judged most likely, is that **uilin** reflects a man's name, OWScand. \**Vilinn*, OSw. \**Vilin*, formed from the noun OWScand., OSw. *vili* m. 'will' or from the verb *vilia* 'want, wish'. According to the other, **uilin** is a form of the stated verb *vilia* and *is* is a personal pronoun in the 2nd person plural, a variant of OWScand. *ér*, OSw. *i(r)*, giving the sense 'do you wish it'. The present author subscribes to the view that concealed behind **uilin** is a man's name, which he interprets as containing an adjective meaning 'skilled in magic', identical to OWScand. *vélinn* 'treacherous, false' (in Modern Icelandic with the sense 'cunning, crafty'), OSw. \**vælin*, or to an adjective OSw. \**vīlin*, cognate and synonymous with *vélinn*. According to the author, the phrase **uilin ... knuą knati iatun** in the inscription is to be understood as meaning that what is being recounted here is that the bearer of the name **uilin**, by virtue of his skill in magic, was able to overcome a giant.