

προφέρω, φράζομαι

I have shown (*Celtica* X, 1975, in the press) the meaning 'say' of Latin *ferre* to have originated in a quite separate IE verb **bherH-* 'pronounce solemnly, vel sim.'. I suggest that we also have traces of this root in Greek. An accidental phonetic merger parallel to that seen in Latin is also to be found in *προφέρω* (with a complement) 'reproach', which shows the original semantics in the senses 'utter, publish, proclaim (in solemn contexts); cite; propose (of an oracle)'.

A specialized derivative may then be seen underneath *φράζομαι* with its reduplicated aorist *πέφραδε* 'show; (later) declare, explain'. From Chantraine *Formation* 39 we may glean such formations as, *ἐκτάδιος* 'extensive' < *ἐκτάδην*, *στάδιος* 'standing' < *στάδην*, *σχεδῖος* 'near' < *σχεδόν*: *σχεῖν*; note too *ἀποφράς* 'cursed' to our root (ibid. 351), and the adverbs *βάδην*, *ἐμβαδόν* (ibid. 360). I therefore assume an underlying **φράδην* 'by pronouncement', formed in the fashion of *βάδην* *στάδην*; note that *βαδίζω* 'walk' must have been formed with an additional suffix to avoid a clash with *βάζω* 'say'.

For the vocalism of **φράδην* cf. the similar situation of *κλάω*, *κλάδος* *κλαδί* etc.: Lat. *clādēs*, Lith, *kalti*. While the exact Greek development of these two sets is not yet clear, their parallel formation vocalisms, and source in IE root structure make them mutually supportive and explanatory. **φράδην* is ambiguously **bh_ṛ-d-* or **bhrə-d-* < **bhrH-d-*.

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