

Corpus Number: TC-104
Language: Black Speech
Source: LR/72, ALR 9

Item Name: The Ring Inscription
Mode & Use: Númenian Short

Timeframe: 1954
Orthography: Phonemic
DTS #: 7, 69

A: The Ring Inscription – Final

~ñm̄z̄q̄ ᷡñþ̄t̄q̄. ñm̄z̄q̄ þ̄þ̄t̄~
ñm̄z̄q̄ h̄yþ̄t̄q̄. þ̄þ̄ñññ̄v̄i q̄yþ̄t̄

Ash nazg durbatulûk. Ash nazg gimbatul

Ash nazg thrakatulûk. Agh burzum-ishi krimpatul

Notes: The inscription on The Ring as shown in *The Lord of the Rings*. The tengwar lettering is identical to TC-101, however this inscription uses a single dot to represent periods. It is written in a thin filamentary calligraphic style with artistic flames at either end of the first line, shown above as the ~ sign.

B: The Ring Inscription – Rejected

ñm̄z̄q̄ ᷡñþ̄t̄q̄: ñm̄z̄q̄ þ̄þ̄t̄:
ñm̄z̄q̄ h̄yþ̄t̄q̄: **ñ**þ̄ñññ̄v̄i q̄yþ̄t̄:

Ash nazg durbatulûk. Ash nazg gimbatul

Ash nazg thrakatulûk. Agh burzum-ishi krimpatul

Notes: This inscription is the second revision art draft of the ring inscription, it was erroneously printed in the 2004 50th Anniversary Edition of *The Lord of the Rings* by HarperCollins. It is substantially similar to TC-104A except for very different calligraphy. One error can be seen in the second line. The use of regular *Harma* instead of the extended version is also noted here, very likely due to calligraphic styles which are very different between A & B, though the tengwa written in error does have an extended stem as does the carrier at the end of the same word. Also of note is the use of two vertical dots for punctuation which is reminiscent of TC-101's use. It sits with the final art at this location in the corpus as a result of being published.

[TC-104B may be relocated to other ring drafts following internal discussions]