

## Re: "Orange"

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"Wiktor S." <wswiktor@poczta.fm> wrote ...

> > *The history of the word orange keeps step with this journey*  
> > *only part of the way. The word is possibly ultimately from Dravidian,*  
> > *a family of languages spoken in southern India and northern Sri*  
> > *Lanka. The Dravidian word or words were adopted into the*  
> > *Indo-European language Sanskrit with the form nraga. As the fruit*  
> > *passed westward,*  
> >  
> > *na:raNga*  
> >  
> > *so did the word, as evidenced by Persian nrang and Arabic nranj.*  
> > *Arabs*  
> >  
> > *na:rang ... na:ranj*  
>  
> *Where the "pom-" word came from, then?*

The Polish word cited appears to be borrowed from a collocation in some Romance language of the words for 'fruit' and 'orange', the latter either a noun in apposition or an adjective. In Italian one could say "pomo arancio" 'orange fruit', 'orange apple' but I don't know whether an Italian expression was the specific source of the Polish word.

The Romance fruit-word itself comes from Latin <po:mum> 'fruit'. Umbrian <Puemune> and Sabine or Vestinian <Poimunien> are forms of a divine name which is the masculine counterpart of Latin <Po:mo:na>, goddess of fruit and fruit-trees. The Italic root is evidently \*powemo-, of non-Indo-European origin. I don't know of any related words outside Italic.