

## BeingAfrican, LLC Curriculum-Lesson 23

### Objectives

Upon completion of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Learn Swati names and their meanings.
  2. Understand some life situations Swati names are deprived from.
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### The culture of Swati names

Swati people have the habit /culture of naming children relative to what is happening in their lives at the time. Therefore most names tell a story in the history of naming the family. Here are the names of my own children to illustrate this:

- o Thembi(female)/Themba(male)- Meaning “Faith”- Faith and trust in God’s providence.
- o Nonjabulo(female)/Njabulo(male)-Joy in the Lord for giving me a son. Joy was my overriding feeling at this gift of a son.
- o Lomusa(female)/Musa(male)-I felt that it was by God’s grace that I had this third child. The name is an expression of gratitude.

**Here are some common names often given with a religious reference to God-Inkhosi**

Mbali-yenkhosi	God's flower
Musa-wenkhosi/Lomusa	God's mercy/grace
Thembi-nkosi	Trust in God
Nkosinathi	God is with us (Emmanuel)
Simphiwe-yinkhosi	Given by God

**Challenge Task:** Find out the meanings/messages behind other ten (10) Swati names you have heard among the people you know.

**Also answer the questions below:**

- o Find out as many names of your extended family relatives as you can. Any SiSwati ones?? See examples below

**Names:**

**Wamukelwe-** means to be welcome

**Mpendulo-** means to be the answer

**Lindelwa-** means to have been long awaited/hoped for

**Thubelihle-** means to be presented with a beautiful opportunity

**Melokuhle-** means to represent beautiful things

**Qiniso-** means truth

**Lunga-** means kindness

- o What do they mean??

## Word building-increase Swati vocabulary

Learn Swati names and their meanings. See illustration below and give own examples

Name	Meaning
Sinani	What do we have?
Mtsetfo	Rule
Mnqobi	Victor

## The culture of Swati names

Here is a fun fact:

**Swati names carry meanings. Names usually refer to:**

- 1. Circumstances**
- 2. Feelings**
- 3. Namesakes**

### Names given based on different circumstances and experiences

Swati	English
Senteni	What did we do?
Khulile	Grow some more
Sibikiwe	Make it known or make it clear. Disclose
Mukelo	Receive/Accept
Siphosenkhosi	The Lord's giving

### Names given based on feelings

Feelings	English
Musa	Mercy
Njabulo	Joy
Thando	Love
Bongiwe	Gratitude
Thembi	Faith

### Practise exercise

- What are the namesake SiSwati names in your family?

- What do they mean?
- What does your surname mean