

## BeingAfrican, LLC Curriculum-Lesson 23

### Objectives

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

1. Learn shona names and their meanings.
  2. Understand some life situations shona names are derived from.
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### The culture of IsiZulu names (Isiko lamagama esiZulu)

IsiZulu 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:

Bantu bamaZulu banomkhuba nesiko lokuqamba abantwana ngezigameko ezenzeke ezimpilweni zabo. Ngaleyondlela amagama amaningi axoxa indaba ngomlando womndeni. Nanka amagama ezinye izingane zami ukubonisa lokhu:

- o Ruvimbo(munashe)- Meaning “Faith”- Faith and trust in God’s providence.
- o Kholwa - okusho ukuthembela ekusikekelweni nguNkulunkulu
- o Rufaro(munashe)-Joy in the Lord for giving me a son. Joy was my overriding feeling at this gift of a son.
- o Ntokozo - intokozo enhekiswe kumdali ngokungipha indodana. Intokozo kwakuyiwona muzwa owengamela ukuthola lesisipho.

- o Kuziva(kwashe)-I felt that it was by God’s grace that I had this third child. The name is an expression of gratitude.
- o Kwazi - ngabona sengathi kwakungumusa kaNkulunkulu ukuthi ngibe nomntwana wesithathu. Leligama liyindlela yokubonga.

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

**Nanka amanye amagama ajwayele ukuninkwa abantwana ancike ekukholelweni kuNkulunkulu.**

Mbaliyenkosi	God’s flower
Musawenkosi	God’s mercy/grace
Thembinkosi	Trust in God
Nkosinathi	God is with us (Emmanuel)
Simphiweyinkosi	Given by God

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

Thola incazelo yamanye amagama nemiyalezo yamagama ayishumi oke wawezwa kubantu obaziyo.

**Also answer the questions below (phinda uphendule lemibuzo):**

- o What does your surname mean?  
(Sisho ukuthini isibongo sakho?)
  
- o Find out as many names of your extended family relatives as you can. Any IsiZulu ones?  
(Thola amagama amalunga omndeni wakho ngobuningi bawo. Akhona awesiZulu?)
  
- o What do they mean??  
(Asjo ukuthini)

**Word building-increase Shona vocabulary**

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

**Ukwakhiwa kwamagama - khulisa ulwazi lwakho lwamagama esiZulu**

**Funda amagama esiZulu kanye nezincazelo zawo. Bheka lelitafula elingenzansi ubeke ezakho izibonelo.**

Igama	Incazelo
Sinani	What do we have?
Busani	Rule
Mnqobi	Victor

## The culture of IsiZulu names (Isiko lamagama esiZulu)

Here is a fun fact (naku okuyiqiniso):

IsiZulu names carry meanings. Names usually refer to:

Amagama esiZulu anezincazelo. Amagama ajwayele ukusho:

1. Circumstances (izimo)
2. Feelings (imizwa)
3. Namesakes (ukufaniswa kwamagama)

Names given based on different circumstances and experiences

Amagama anikwa ngezimo ezithile

isiZulu	English
Ngangazini?	What did I know?
Thokozani	Laugh some more
Chazile	Make it known or make it clear. Disclose
Bonga	Receive/Accept
Siphosenkosi	The Lord's giving

### Names given based on feelings

Feelings	English
Musa	Mercy
Ntokozo	Joy
Thando	Love
Sbongo	Gratitude
Kholo	Faith

### Practise exercise (isivivinyo sokuziqeqesha)

1.What are the namesake IsiZulu names in your family?

Imaphi amagama angamagama okufaniswa emndenini wakho?

2.What do they mean?

Asho ukuthini?

3. What does your surname mean

Sisho ukuthini isibongo sakho?