

## **BeingAfrican, LLC Curriculum-Lesson 23**

### **Objectives**

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

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

Yoruba 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 Darasimi: God is good to me
- o Ayomide: my joy has come
- o Oluwatoyin: God is worthy to be praised

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

Ododo Olorun	God's flower
Aanu Olorun	God's mercy/grace
Gbeke lè Olorun	Trust in God
Olorun wà pelu wa	God is with us (Emmanuel)
Oluwa fi fun wa	Given by God

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

**Also answer the questions below:**

- o What does your surname mean?
- o Find out as many names of your extended family relatives as you can. Any Yoruba ones??
- o What do they mean??

## Word building-increase Yoruba vocabulary

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

Name	Meaning
Ki lo ni	What do we have?
Darí	Rule
Asegun	Victor

## The culture of Yoruba names

Here is a fun fact:

Yoruba names carry meanings. Names usually refer to:

1. Circumstances
2. Feelings
3. Namesakes

## Names given based on different circumstances and experiences

Yoruba	English
Kini mo mo	What did I know?
Rerin sii	Laugh some more
Je ko han kesere	Make it known or make it clear. Disclose

Gbamora	Receive/Accept
Oluwa lo fun wa	The Lord's giving

### Names given based on feelings

Feelings	English
Aanu	Mercy
Ayo	Joy
Ife	Love
Ope	Gratitude
Igbagbo	Faith

### Practise exercise

- What are the namesake Yorùbá names in your family?
- What do they mean?
- What does your surname mean

**Developers:** Can we build an interactive database of names and meanings per examples above? Can the participants add ongoing?