

Appendix E. Common Somali Names and Meanings

The following table includes a list of common Somali names and their meanings. Most Somali names have meanings that connote birth time, birth order, or physical characteristics. By no means is this list meant to be comprehensive. Rather, it is intended to give practitioners an idea of the types of names that their Somali patients may have.

Girls' names	Meanings	Boys' names	Meanings
Aasha	Long living, after the wife of the Prophet	Abdullah	Slave of God, father of the Prophet
Adey	Fair-skinned	Abukar	Father of Bukar, after the first Khalif
Alaso	Smooth, fair-skinned	Adam	Father of humanity, after the first man
Ambro	Of amber	Ali	The high, after the fourth Khalif
Awa	Lucky, optimistic	Arale	Clean
Awrala	Without blemish	Awaale	Lucky
Basr	The town of Basra, associated with sweet dates	Bahdoon	The one who looks for his clan, born away from home
Faadumo	Weaned early, after the daughter of the Prophet	Guleed	The victorious
Fathia	Opener of fortune	Gutaale	Leader of armies
Fawzia	Successful	Hassan/Hussein (names for twins)	Handsome, after the grandchildren of the Prophet
Haweeya	The elevated one	Khalid	Lasting, after an Islamic military leader
Hodan	Well-to-do	Mohammed	One worthy of thanks, after the Prophet
Leyla	Night, long dark hair	Omar	Long living, after the second Khalif
Magol	Early flowering	Othman	After the third Khalif
Maka	The town of Mecca	Samakab	Supporter of right
Mariam	Mother of Jesus (Mary), also a section in the Koran	Samatar	Does good
Sagal	Morning star	Waabberi	Sunrise, born in early morning
Sahra	Flower		
Sufia	Pure		
Ubah	Flower		