Line Names

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Overview

A line name passes from parent to child. Either parent's line may be chosen. There are three kinds.

Ship Lines

Family names that came from Earth. They no longer show what a person looks like or where a person lives: after eight hundred years, every Duskaran has ancestors from all the peoples of the ship.

Chinese: Chen, Gao, Hu, Jao, Jaŋ, Li, Lin, Lu, Shen, Shu, Sun, Tan, Waŋ, Wu, Yaŋ

Filipino: Bayani, Dalisay, Dimasupil, Gatdula, Katigbak, Lualhati, Magtaŋol, Sumuloŋ

East African: Hamisi, Kamau, Kiprono, Makame, Mbwana, Mutua, Mwangi, Omondi, Otieno, Wambua, Wanyama, Wekesa

West African: Bello, Danjuma, Danladi, Garba, Gwarzo, Idris, Lawan, Maigari, Makera, Sani, Shehu, Tanimu, Zaŋgo

Craft Lines

Names taken from the work of a founding ancestor. They are Creole words.

Line name	Meaning
Bahariji	fisher
Majitunga	water finder
Motokazi	geothermal engineer
Tulanga	builder
Shandaji	trader
Siriji	keeper of secrets, Archivist
Kinaji	teacher
Tibaji	healer
Nondoji	farmer
Shimuji	singer, maker of songs
Korasha	scout
Bantay	watch, warden
Hangakuta	windbreak (a line of wall builders)
Hanaŋa	stormroot (a line that plants shelter belts)

Some craft lines describe the founder or the home ground, not the work: Majivu (ash), Vumbi (dust), Chuma (iron), Jiko (hearth), Mkono (hand), Mzizi (root), Majisafi (clean water), Mawingu (mist), Tufani (storm), Hangapole (gentle wind), Hangabaridi (nightward wind), Lawa (pool), Tazama (watch), Haraka (quick), Alama (mark).

Place Lines

Names that mark the home of the line. They use *Dan-*, from the Hausa word for "child of". It does not change with gender.

Dan-Bahari, Dan-Birni, Dan-Harmatan, Dan-Liko, Dan-Bukal, Dan-Patag, Dan-Angataa, Dan-Liwanag

Nomads and people of small settlements often have no line name. They use the place itself: *Mosi of Shan-Feŋ*.

Joined Lines

A few families keep the lines of both parents, joined with a hyphen: *Kamau-Chen*. This is most common in the Elder lineage.