

Palestinian Surnames Derived from Nicknames

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Abstract

A corpus of 413 Palestinian surnames was collected from several cities, towns, villages and refugee camps on the West Bank and classified into twelve categories: 1. Animals, Birds and Insects, 2. Occupations, 3. Instruments, 4. Personal Characteristics, 5. Plants, 6. Food, 7. Natural Phenomena, 8. Historical, 9. Places, 10. Religious, 11. Foreign (Non-Arabic), and 12. Unknown. This study, the first of its kind to be conducted on the West Bank, sheds light on some important aspects of Palestinian onomastics and cultural heritage as manifested in Palestinian occupations both extant and extinct, personal characteristics, places, religion, food, flora and fauna of Palestine.

The study of nicknames and family names is an important area in onomastics. For an excellent and exhaustive resource on this subject, see Edwin Lawson's annotated bibliography which appeared in 1990 in this journal.

The investigation of Arabic nicknames and family names is scanty. In one study, Richard T. Antoun indicates that occupation names and origin names occasionally provide ethnographic or historical information. He also adds that nicknames have structural significance, distinguishing both individuals and groups. He classifies nicknames into five categories: 1. descriptive nicknames, 2. occupational nicknames, 3. nicknames that refer to personal traits, 4. personal appearance, and 5. nicknames that refer to specific events. Finally, he discusses social control in using nicknames in the context of the Islamic ethic. Other than Antoun's study, there is a limited number of studies dealing with Arabic names and name-giving.² To our knowledge, apart from Antoun's and the studies by Hanna Tushyeh, et al., and F. Lewitter, et al., there are virtually no studies dealing with Palestinian names in general and no studies that are primarily devoted to Palestinian nicknames.

Method

In November and December 1990, we collected a sample of 413 family nicknames with the help of student informants from An-Najah National

University, Nablus, and Bethlehem University, both on the West Bank. These surnames were collected from Palestinian cities, towns, villages, and refugee camps in the northern part of the West Bank including the cities of Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and the neighboring villages and refugee camps as well as from the southern part of the West Bank including the cities of Bethlehem, Beit Jala, Beit Sahour, Hebron, and Helhoul and the nearby villages and refugee camps.

We chose fifty student informants from both An-Naja University and Bethlehem University, all in their third and fourth years. Twenty informants were males while ten were females. All these informants were native to the city, town, village, and refugee camp from which they were required to collect surnames and knew personally most of the families in their localities. We explained to the informants what nicknames and surnames meant. Then each informant was asked to collect as many surnames from his or her locality as possible, and these surnames were later handed over to us. After receiving the body of Palestinian surnames, we classified them into twelve categories: 1. animals, birds, and insects; 2. occupations; 3. instruments; 4. personal characteristics (a. physical characteristics and b. personality characteristics); 5. plants; 6. food; 7. natural phenomena; 8. historical; 9. places; 10. religious; 11. foreign (non-Arabic); and 12. unknown.

Results

We collected a total of 413 surnames, of which 21 were duplicates and 9 were not clear. Table 1 shows the twelve categories we devised, with examples. Complete data is listed in the appendix.

We felt that the five original categories of Antoun were insufficient for the purposes of this study. Many surnames simply did not fit any of his categories. Furthermore, the rich variety of surnames in this study warranted classifying them into twelve categories.

Discussion

This investigation of Palestinian surnames reveals several significant facts about family surnames in Palestinian society. First of all, there is a relatively large number of categories under which these Palestinian surnames can be classified. Second, this investigation reflects the wealth of flora and fauna in Palestine because Palestine in general is a fertile country. Third, and most significantly, this investigation demonstrates an important aspect of Palestinian cultural heritage as indicated by the large

Category and Examples	Number	Percentage
1. Animals, Birds, Insects <i>Abu-Diab</i> 'father of wolves,' <i>Fahd</i> 'a leopard'	55	13.3%
2. Occupations <i>Banna</i> 'a builder,' <i>Dalla</i> 'an auctioneer'	54	13.1%
3. Instruments <i>Abu-Minshar</i> 'father [or wielder] of a saw' <i>Bakraj</i> 'coffee or tea pot'	22	5.3%
4. Personal Characteristics		
a. Physical Characteristics <i>Abu-Karsh</i> 'father of the big belly' <i>A9raj</i> 'a lame person'	56	13.6%
b. Personality Characteristics <i>Ghadban</i> 'angry,' <i>Kamal</i> 'perfectness'	73	17.7%
5. Plants <i>Baamaya</i> 'okra,' <i>Kuusa</i> 'squash'	29	7.0%
6. Food <i>Abu-Jubneh</i> 'father of cheese' <i>Abu-Laban</i> . 'father of milk'	13	3.1%
7. Natural Phenomena <i>Bahr</i> 'sea,' <i>Thalji</i> 'snowy'	31	3.1%
8. Historical <i>Saleebi</i> 'Crusader'	1	0.2%
9. Places <i>Baghdaadi</i> ' man from Baghdad' <i>Masri</i> ' man from Egypt'	36	8.7%
10. Religious <i>Abdul-Baaqui</i> 'slave of the Everlasting (God)' <i>Shukrallah</i> 'thanks be to God'	43	10.4%
11. Foreign (Non-Arab) <i>Iskandar</i> , 'Turkish form of Alexander' <i>Shakhshgeer</i> 'baggy trousers'	92	20%
12. Unknown <i>Battah</i> , <i>Hajim</i>	9	2.2%
Total	413	99.9%

number of occupations some of which had already become extinct, such as *Qanawati* 'one who digs canals' and *Saqqā* 'one who peddles water.'

There are some salient characteristics of the Palestinian family nicknames in this investigation. First of all, there are variations of the same surname, These variations take the form of 1. singular or plural (e.g., *Wahsh* 'beast; *Wuhoush* 'beasts.'). 2. male or female (e.g., *Sakhil* 'he-goat,' *Sakhleh*. 'she-goat'), or 3. standard Arabic or colloquial Arabic (e.g., *Qitt* 'male cat,' *Biss* 'male cat').

Secondly, a relatively large number of the family nicknames in this study begin with the prefix *Abu-*, which in most cases means “father of,” as in the example provided by Antoun: *Abu-il-9itham*³ ‘father of bones,’ but in other cases means “wielder of” as in one of the surnames in this investigation: *Abu-Minshar* ‘wielder of a saw.’ See also the article by Ishaq Qutub for the significance of *Abu-* in addressing a married man in Arab society, for example, *Abu-* ‘father of’ is prefixed to the first name of the oldest son in the family as a sign of respect for the father (Qutub 5).

Third, a large number of the religious surnames in this investigation begin with *Abed* ‘obedient to submitted to/surrendered to.’ This is usually compounded with one of the many names of Almighty God, who, according to Muslim tradition, has ninety-nine names. Thus we have, for example, *Abdel-Rahim* ‘obedient to the Merciful (God),’ and *Abdel-Jabbar* ‘submitted to the Powerful (God).’

Fourth, surnames that come from placenames, called *nisba* names,⁴ are mostly from cities, towns, and villages in the West Bank, although there are some exceptions, such as *Shami* from *Sham* ‘Syria,’ *Masri* from *Masr* ‘Egypt.’ *Masri* means “Egyptian man”; a different inflection would indicate an Egyptian woman: *masriya*. But it should be noted that all the *nisba* nicknames in this investigation are masculine not feminine.

Some nicknames reveal the influence of other Arabic dialects on the Palestinian Arabic dialect. Thus, for example, *Qatu* ‘kitten’ is of Kuwait Arabic origin because many Palestinians used to work in Kuwait.

A very small number of the Palestinian surnames in this investigation are really diminutives which, according to M. Aziz F. Yassin, are used for endearment, affection, derogation, and insult (“Arabian Way”). The diminutives in this study are *Budair* ‘small full moon,’ *9utair* ‘full of aromatic smell,’ and *9ubaid* ‘small slave.’

The data reveal the richness and variety of surnames in the Palestinian Arab culture. To Americans, the surnames indicate the complexity of the process of giving surnames in the Palestinian Arab culture. To Arabs, however, the surnames in this study mean pride in their colorful old heritage.

Some surnames are more common than others. Surnames indicating personal characteristics; occupations; animals, birds, and insects; and religion are far more frequent than surnames indicating other categories (see Table 1). The most frequent category is that indicating personal characteristics, which includes both physical characteristics and personality traits. This high frequency can be explained by pointing out that Arabs in general are very proud of themselves and their good characteristics which constitute an everlasting source of pride, fulfillment, and accomplishment.

There is a significant difference in the data between Christian and

Muslim surnames. Surnames beginning with *Abed* 'submitted to (God),' such as *Abdel-Rahim* 'submitted to the Merciful (God)' are predominantly Muslim. Conversely, the surname *Khoury*, 'priest' is a Christian one par excellence.

The occupations category shows a rural society. The predominant occupations are those dealing with rural and primitive occupations, such as *Nakhkhal* 'oran sifter.' This occupation is a true picture of Palestinian rural society. The oran sifter used to separate the grains from the stalks and other parts of the plants which are used as animal fodder. Similarly, *Sofan* 'one who cuts wool from sheep and goats' reflects a rural occupation.

Some names reveal old occupations that still exist on the West Bank. These include *Fakhuri* 'potter,' *Haddad* 'blacksmith,' and *Khabbaz* 'baker.' On the other hand, the surname *Qanawati* 'canal digger,' held by many Christians in Bethlehem, refers to an extinct occupation. Water was and still is not plentiful in the Hold Land. The occupation of a canal digger was important. There is a well-known tradition that the ancestor of the Qanawati family used to dig up canals to bring water from King Solomon's Pools south of Bethlehem to Jerusalem.

Names coming from other occupations, such as *Awwaad* 'lute player,' *Tabbaal* 'drummer,' and *Zammaar* 'flute singer,' reveal the musical heritage of the Palestinian Aral society. Lutes are very common in Palestinian society. In fact, the lute player is an integral part of the Palestinian musical folklore. In happy occasions such as weddings, before the Intifada, the lute player was the dominant figure in popular parties, weddings, and festivals.

Surnames referring to places are mostly *nisba* names derived from villages, towns, and cities in the West Bank. However, there are some cases of surnames that are derived from other Arab countries such as Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Morocco as well as some Arab cities such as Aleppo and Baghdad. In most cases, the ancestors bearing these surnames actually came from these countries and cities and settled in Palestine. The development of these surnames is certainly not a recent phenomenon because, as the investigators found out, these surnames originated in the eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries.

In the appendix, we list the family surnames under our twelve categories. Each family surname is first written in English script, then in transliteration, then its English meaning is given, and finally it is written in Arabic script. The Arabic definite article *al-* 'the' has been omitted in all family surnames that begin with this definite article.

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Notes

1. We would like to thank Professor Edwin D. Lawson of the State University of New York College at Fredonia for his insightful comments and helpful suggestions on an earlier version of this paper.

2. See for example, the articles by Allen; Qutub; Yassin (two articles); Oman ("Personal Names in Southern Region") and in Arioli, et al. and Nubani (1983), Abdel-Jawad; and Tushyeh, et al.

3. The conventional symbol ʕ represents the sound of *ayin*, a pharyngeal fricative.

4. Clifford Geertz explains *nisba* names as follows: "Nisba itself ... refers to a combination of morphological, grammatical, and semantic process which consists of transforming a noun into what we would call a relative adjective but what for the Arab becomes just another sort of noun by adding *i* (f., *iya*): masri (Egyptian man) masri (Egyptian women)" (51).

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Appendix

Palestinian Surnames Derived from Nicknames Classified by Categories

1. Animals, Birds, and Insects

Name in Roman Alphabet	Phonetic Transcription	Meaning	Name in Arabic
1. Abu-Diab	'abu-diáb	father of wolves	ابودياب
2. Abu-El-Kalbat	'abu-al-kalbát	father of bitches (dogs)	ابوالكلبات
3. Abu-El-Hayyat	'ab-al-ḥayyát	father of the snakes	ابوالحيات
4. Abu-Ghazal(a)	'abu-ḡazál(a)	father of m. or f. deer	ابوغازال
5. Abu-Habash	'abu-ḥabaš	father of a turkey	ابوحبش
6. Abu-Namleh	'abu-namle	father of an ant	ابونمله
7. Abu-Namus	'abu-námús	father of mosquitoes	ابوناموس
8. Abu-Samak	'abu-samak	father of fish	ابوسك
9. Abu-Saqr	'abu-šaqr	father of a falcon	ابوسقر
10. Abu-Qamil	'abu-qamil	father of lice	ابوقمل
11. Aloul	'álúl	a big ox	عالمول
12. Aqrab/Aqraba	'aqrab/aqraba	a m. or f. scorpion	عقرب / عقربة
13. Arnab	'arnab	a m. rabbit	ارنب
14. Asfour	'asfúr	a bird	صفور
15. Baghil/Baghla	baḡil/baḡle	a m. mule or a f. mule	بخل/بخله
16. Barageeth	baráḡit	fleas	براغيث
17. Dabi9	dabi'a	a hyena	فصح
18. Deek	dík	a rooster	ديك
19. Douda	dúde	a worm	دودة
20. Fahd	fahd	a leopard	فهد
21. Froukh	frúḥ	broilers	فروخ
22. Hamama	ḥa:mámame	a pigeon	حمامه
23. Hanash	ḥanaš	a male serpent	حنش
24. Hassoun	ḥasún	a nightingale	حسون
25. Hudhud	hudhud	a cardinal	هدهد
26. Ghoul	ḡúl	a ghoul	فول
27. Hardhon	ḥarḡón	a large lizard	حردون
28. Ibsais	'i.bsais	a kitten	ابيس
29. Ijil	'ijil	a calf	ميل
30. Jahsh	jaḥš	a small donkey	جمش
31. Jaaja	j'áje	a hen	جاجه
32. Jamel	jamel	a camel	جمال
33. Jaamous	j'ámús	a buffalo	جاموس
34. Jaraad	jarád	locusts	جراد
35. Jidi	jidi	a kid	جدي
36. Jindab	jindab	a grasshopper	جندب
37. Kharaouf	ḥárúf	a male sheep	خروف
38. Nimr	nimr	a tiger	نمر
39. Qamleh	qamle	a louse	قله
40. Qaraadeh	qaráde	a horsefly	قراده
41. Qitt	qit	a male cat	قط

42. Reesha	rīša	a feather	ريشة
43. Sabi9	sabiʿa	a lion	سبع
44. Sakhil(a)	saḥīl(e)	a baby kid	سخل / سخله
45. Saqr	šaqr	a falcon	سقر
46. Sarsour	šaṣūr	a cockroach	سرسور
47. Shahrouri	šaḥrūrī	m. adj. from nightingale	شحروري
48. Shunnaar	šunár	a pheasant	شئار
49. Si9daan	siʿadán	a monkey	سعدان
50. Sous	šúš	a chicken	سوس
51. Thawr	tawr	a bull	ثور
52. Wahsh/Wuhoush	waḥš/wuḥúš	a beast/beasts	وحش / وحوش
53. Zaagha	záġa	a kind of black bird	زائغه
54. Zaghloul	zaġlúl	a baby pigeon	زغلول

2. Occupations

1. Asta	'asta	head waiter	استطه
2. Attaar	'atar	one who sells spices	طار
3. Awwaad	'awad	a lute player	عواد
4. Assaali	'asáli	one who sells honey	هسلي
5. Banna	baná	a builder	بنائا
6. Baasha	báša	a pasha (Turkish title for nobles)	باشا
7. Bawwaab	bawáb	a door-keeper	بواب
8. Bayyaari	bayári	a citrus grove keeper	بيئاري
9. Beetaar	bi'tár	a horse-shoe maker	بيطار
10. Bustanji	bustanji	a gardener	بستاني
11. Dallaal	dalál	an auctioneer	دلال
12. Fakhouri	fáḥúri	a potter	فاخوري
13. Falaki	falaki	an astronomer	فلكي
14. Faaris	fáris	a horseman	فارس
15. Farraan	farán	a baker	فيران
16. Fawwaal	fawál	bean-cook	فواال
17. Haddaad	ḥadád	a blacksmith	حداد
18. Iskaafi	'iskáfi	shoe-maker	اسكافي
19. Jaabi	jábi	bill collector	جابي
20. Jallaad	jalád	tanner	جلاد
21. Hamaami	ḥamámi	public bath owner	حمامي
22. Jazzaar	jazár	butcher	جزائر
23. Jizmaawi	jizmáwi	shoe-maker	جزاوي
24. Jundi	jundi	soldier	جندي
25. Kababji	kababji	kebab-maker	كبابجي
26. Kassaab	kasáb	oil-cake maker	كساب
27. Kayyaali	kayáli	a person who weighs	كئالي
28. Khabbaaz	ḥabáz	a baker	خبزاز
29. Kharraaz	ḥaráz	bead maker	خزاز
30. Khayyaat	ḥayát	tailor	خياط
31. Khudari	ḥuḍari	vegetable-seller	خضري
32. Lahhaam	lahám	butcher	لحام
33. Mallaah	maláḥ	crewman on ship	ملاح
34. Mughanni	muġani	singer	مغني

35. Nakhkhaal	naḥḥál	oran sifter	نخال
36. Najjaar	najár	carpenter	نجار
37. Naatour	nátúr	guard	ناطور
38. Qaadi	qáq̣i	judge	قاضي
39. Qanawaati	qanawáti	canal digger	قنواتي
40. Qassees	qasís	priest	قسيس
41. Raa9i	rá'ai	shepherd	رامي
42. Rahhaal	raḥál	explorer	رحال
43. Sabbaagh	ṣábáḡ	tanner	صابغ
44. Samkari	samkari	plumber	سكري
45. Sammaan	samán	grocer	سلمان
46. Saqqaa	saqá	water controller	سقا
47. Sarouji	sarúji	saddler	سروجي
48. Shaa9ir	ṣa'ir	a poet	شاعر
49. Sofaan	ṣofán	a person who cuts wool	صوفان
50. Tabbaal	ṭabál	drummer	طبال
51. Tabbaakh	ṭabáḥ	cook	طباخ
52. Tahhaan	ṭahán	miller	طحان
53. Zammaar	zamár	flute singer	زمار

3. Instruments

1. Abu-Hadeeda	'abu-ḥadíde	father of iron	ابو حديد
2. Abu-Hataba	'abu-ḥatabe	father of a piece of lumber	ابو حطبه
3. Abu-Harba	'abu-ḥarbe	father of a harpoon	ابو حرسه
4. Abu-9iraam	'abu'iram	father of the heaper (e.g., grain or vegetables)	ابو عيرام
5. Abu-Loaha	'abu-lóḥa	father of a wooden board	ابو لوجه
6. Abu-Minshaar	'abu-minš'ār	father of a saw	ابو منشار
7. Abu-Sham9a	'abu-šam'a	a father of a candle	ابو شمعه
8. Amoudi	'ámúdi	straight as a pillar	عامودي
9. Bakraj	bakraj	tea or coffee pot	بكرج
10. Barmeel	barmíl	barrel	برميل
11. Dabbous	ḍabús	pin	دبوس
12. Mismaar	mismár	nail	مسار
13. Nus-Ratil	nuṣ-raq̣il	half a pound	نص رطل
14. Nus-Waqiyya	nuṣ-waqiya	half an ounce	نص وقفة
15. Qanaadeelo	qanádīlo	his lamps	قناديلو
16. Quffah	qufá	a leather basket	قفه
17. Sahhaara	ṣaḥára	a wooden crate	سحارة
18. Saqful-Hayt	saqful-ḥayt	the roof or ceiling	سقف الحيط
19. Shilla	šilá	fleece	شله
20. Tabanja	ṭabanja	a revolver	طبنجه
21. Zeer	zír	a large jug	زير
22. Zirr	zir	a button	نر

4. Personal Characteristics

a. Physical characteristics

1. Abyad	'abyaḍ	white	ابيض
2. Abu-9aita	'abu-'aīta	father of crying	ابو عيطه

3. Abu-9asba	'abu- ^h aṣba	father of a bandage	ابو صبه
4. Abu-al-aqra9	'abu-al- ^h aqra'a	father of the bald	ابو الاقرع
5. Abu-daranah	'abu-darane	father of a lump	ابو درنه
6. Abu-denain	'abu-denain	father of ears	ابو الذنين
7. Abu-al-9uyoun	'abu-al- ^h uyun	father of eyes	ابو العين
8. Abu-Karsh	'abu-karṣ	father of the belly	ابو كرش
9. Abu-ir-rous	'abu-ir-rūs	father of heads	ابو الرئس
10. Abu-Saib9ah	'abu-ṣaib'a	father of the little finger	ابو صيحه
11. Abu-Samrah	'abu-samra	father of the brown skin	ابو سمرة
12. Abu-Shamah	'abu-ṣāma	father of a mole (skin blemish)	ابو شمسه
13. Abu-Shanab	'abu-ṣhanab	father of a moustache	ابو شنب
14. Abu-Shaqdam	'abu-ṣhaqdam	father of a grasshopper	ابو شقذم
15. Abu-Shawaarib	'abu-ṣhawārib	father of the moustaches	ابو شوارب
16. Abu-Shaqra	'abu-ṣhaqra	father of fair skin	ابو شقرة
17. Abu-snaan	'abu-snān	father of teeth	ابو سنان
18. Abu-Sh9ar	'abu-ṣha'ar	father of hair	ابو شعر
19. Abu-Zahra	'abu-zahra	father of the flower	ابو زهرة
20. Aghbar	'aḡber	dust colored/dark	افبر
21. Ashqar	'aṣqar	fair haired, blond	اشقر
22. 9alqam	'alqam	bitter	عقم
23. A9mas	'a'mas	poor-sighted (sing.)	اصم
24. 9amsain	'amṣain	poor-sighted (pl.)	عصين
25. 9ammous	'amūs	poor-sighted person	عصوي
26. Aqrat	'aqraṭ	a person with a lisp	عقرت
27. A9raj	'a'araj	a lame person (m.)	اصح
28. 9areed	'arīd	broad	عرش
29. Asmar	'asmar	brown-skinned/dark	اسمر
30. Atrash	'atraṣ	the deaf	اطرش
31. Bannourah	banūrā	glass	بنوره
32. Bouz	būz	the big mouthed	بوز
33. Faasid	fāṣid	vein cutter	فاسد
34. Haamid	ḥāmīd	the sour	حامض
35. Handal	ḥanḍal	the bitter	حنظل
36. Hilou	ḥilū	the pretty/the sweet	حلو
37. Hirish	hirīṣ	the huge	هشيش
38. 9ikir	'ikīr	the turbid	كبر
39. Ja9ar	ja'ār	the shrieker	جمار
40. Milhim	milhim	having too much meat on	لمحم
41. Muqaḥmish	muqaḥmiṣ	toasted (bread)	مقحمش
42. Murrah	murā	the bitter (f.)	سره
43. Natshe	natṣhe	the snatching	نتشه
44. Qamhawi	qamḥawī	wheat-colored	قمحوي
45. Qass	qaṣ	the breast bones	قس
46. Raasikh	rāsiḥ	deeply fixed	راسخ
47. Sader	ṣadr	first-place occupant	صدر
48. Saa9id	sa'īd	the strong-armed	ساذ
49. Sayyaah	ṣayāḥ	shrieker/caller	صياح
50. Shaayib	ṣāyīb	grey-haired	شايب
51. Sughayyar	ṣuḡayar	the younger	صغير
52. Taweel	ṭawīl	tall	طويل

53. Tuhul	tuḥul	the spleen	طحول
54. ʔutur	ʔutur	perfume	عطر
55. Zaʔaqeeq	zaʔaqiq	shrieker	زعاقيق

b. Personality Characteristics

1. Abu-Dhahab	'abu-ḏahab	father of gold	ابو ذهب
2. Abu-Habeeb	'abu-ḥabīb	father of the beloved	ابو حبيب
3. Abu-Haseeb	'abu-ḥasīb	father of the esteemed	ابو حبيب
4. Abu-Hulwah	'abu-ḥulwa	father of the sweet (f.)	ابو حلوه
5. Abu-Mirmish	'abu-mirmiš	father of the twinkler	ابو مرمى
6. Abu-Muhsin	'abu-miḥsin	father of the benefactor	ابو مومن
7. Abu-Naaʔsah	'abu-nāʔse	father of the sleep (f.)	ابو ناسم
8. Abu-Ghdaib	'abu-ḡḏaib	father of the angry	ابو غضيب
9. Abu-Rahmah	'abu-raḥme	father of mercy (f.)	ابو رحمه
10. Abu-Raadi	'abu-rādi	father of the satisfied	ابو راضي
11. Abu-Samaaha	'abu-samāha	father of good manners	ابو سامه
12. Abu-Shareefa	'abu-šarifa	father of the honest (f.)	ابو شريفه
13. Abu-Subuh	'abu-šubuḥ	father of the morning	ابو صبح
14. Abu-Sukkar	'abu-sukar	father of sugar	ابو سكر
15. Abu-Tayyib	'abu-ṭayyib	father of the good	ابو طيب
16. ʔaalim	ʔālim	learned man	عالم
17. ʔaaqil	ʔāqil	a man of reason	عاقل
18. ʔaasi	ʔāsi	disobedient/obstinate	عاصي
19. ʔateeq	ʔatīq	old (m.)	عتيق
20. ʔazza	ʔazā	dear (f.)	عززه
21. Barakah	baraka	blessing (f.)	بركه
22. Barakaat	barakāt	blessing (f. pl.)	بركات
23. Batal	baṭal	hero	بطال
24. Faddah	faḏā	silver	فضه
25. Ghadbaan	ḡaḏbān	angry	غضبان
26. Ghaanim	ḡānim	winner	فانم
27. Ghunaim	ḡumaim	small winner	غنيم
28. Hammoudah	ḥamūḏa	the little sour	حموضة
29. Hannoun	ḥanún	flowers/merciful	حنون
30. Hawwaash	hawāš	fighter	هواش
31. Hazeen	ḥazín	sad (m. sg.)	حزين
32. Jadaʔ	jadaʔa	brave (m. sg.)	جاع
33. Kamaal	kamāl	perfectness	كمال
34. Kaarmi	kārmi	hospitable (m. sg.)	كارمي
35. Khair	ḥair	hospitable (m. sg.)	خير
36. Khateeb	ḥaṭīb	speaker	خطيب
37. Mabrouk	mabrúk	blessed (m. sg.)	مبارك
38. Madmouj	madmúj	merger/blender	دمج
39. Mannaaʔ	manāʔa	prohibitor	منع
40. Mansour	mansúr	victor	منصور
41. Maqboul	maqbúl	accepted	مقبول
42. Masaaʔeed	masaʔíd	happy man	مساهد
43. Muhaisin	muḥaisin	small benefactor	معيّن
44. Muslih	mušliḥ	reformer	مصلح
45. Nasr	našr	victory	نصر

46. Nassaar	našár	supporter	نصار
47. Naseef	našif	just	ناسيف
48. Naasir	nášir	one who brings victory	ناسر
49. Nazzaal	nazál	descender	نزال
50. Qatu	qaṭú	kitten	قطر
51. Qutub	qutub	pole	قطب
52. Rabaah	rabáh	winner	رباح
53. Rasheed	rašíd	wise	رشيد
54. Saabir	šábir	patient	صابر
55. Salaameh	saláme	safety	سلامة
56. S9aadeh	saʿáde	happiness	سعادة
57. Saadiq	šádiq	honest	صادق
58. Sa9eed	saʿíd	happy	سعيد
59. Saaʿih	saʿih	tourist	سائح
60. Salaah	šaláh	reformer	صلاح
61. Salmaan	salmán	safe	سلطان
62. Sa19ous	salʿus	coll. little, disrespectable	سلموس
62. SaaymeH	šáyme	fasting woman	صايمة
64. Sayyid	sayid	lord	سيد
65. Shadeed	šadíd	strict	شديد
66. Shaahid	šáhid	witness	شاهد
67. Sharaf	šaraf	honor	شرف
68. Shareef	šaríf	noble man	شريف
69. Taahir	ṭáhir	pure	طاهر
70. Taayih	táyih	lost	تايه
71. Ya9eesh	yaʿiṣ	he lives	يعيش

5. Plants

1. Abu-9ajra	'abu-ʿajra	father of the unripe fruit	ابو جيرة
2. Abu-9adas	'abu-ʿadas	father of lentils	ابو عدس
3. Abu-Hummus	'abu-ḥumuṣ	father of chickpeas	ابو حمص
4. Abu-Laimoun	'abu-laimún	father of lemons	ابو ليمون
5. Abu-Sabrah	'abu-saḅra	father of cactus	ابو صبرة
6. Abu-Teen	'abu-tín	father of figs	ابو تين
7. Abu-Zaitoun	'abu-zaitún	father of olives	ابو زيتون
8. 9adas	ʿadas	lentils	عدس
9. Baamya	bámya	okra	بامية
10. Bizra	bizra	seed	بزره
11. Foul	fúl	fava beans	فول
12. Hannounah	ḥanúna	a flower	حنونة
13. Hasheesh	haššš	grass	حشيش
14. Koussa	kússa	squash	كوسا
15. Loaz	lóz	almonds	لوز
16. Na9na9	naʿnaʿ	mint	نعنع
17. Qamha	qamḥa	a grain of wheat	قمح
18. Qamhiyyah	qamḥiya	pertaining to wheat	قمحية
19. Qanabeeta	qanábfta	a cauliflower	قنبلة
20. Qurunful/a	qurunful/a	a carnation	قرنفل / قرنفل
21. Quttaineh	quṭaine	a dried fig	قطينة

22. Ruzzah	ruze	a grain of rice	رزه
23. Zaitouneh	zaitúne	an olive	زيتونة
24. Za9rou	za'fúr	hawthorne	زهره
25. Tuffaaha	tufaḥa	an apple	تناحية
26. Busailah	buṣáile	a small onion	بصيلة
27. Sabaarneh	ṣabárne	cactus growers	صابارنه
28. Za9tar	za'ater	thyme	زعتار
29. Zawaaneh	zawáne	seed of a weed found with wheat and other grains	زوانه

6. Food

1. Abu-baid	'abu-baiḍ	father of eggs	ابو بيض
2. Abu-9ajeen	'abu-ʿajín	father of dough	ابو عجين
3. Abu-9asal	'abu-ʿasal	father of honey	ابو عسل
4. Abu-Jubne	'abu-jubne	father of cheese	ابو جبنة
5. Abu-Laban	'abu-laban	father of milk	ابو لبن
6. Abu-Khubiz	'abu-ḥubiz	father of bread	ابو خبز
7. Abu-Qurs	'abu-qurṣ	father of a round cake	ابو قرس
8. Dibs	dibs	molasses	ديس
9. Falaafil	faláfil	fried chickpea mix	فلافل
10. Fataayir	fatáyir	turnover (pastry)	فتاير
11. Halaaweh	ḥaláwe	halvah	حلالة
12. Labaniyyah	labaniye	concentrated yogurt	لبنية
13. Mujjaddara	mujadara	rice and lentils	مجدرة

7. Natural Phenomena

1. Abu-Jabal	'abu-jabal	father of a mountain	ابو جبل
2. Abu-Joarah	'abu-jora	father of a pit	ابو جوره
3. Abu-Naar	'abu-nár	father of fire	ابو نار
4. Abu-Ra9d	'abu-raʿd	father of thunder	ابو رعد
5. Abu-Sakhr	'abu-ṣaḥr	father of rock	ابو صخر
6. Bahr	baḥr	sea	بحر
7. Barq	barq	lightning	برق
8. Dabash	dabaš	rocks	ديس
9. Nour	nú r	light	نور
10. Nuḵjoom	nujúm	stars	نجوم
11. Sabaah	ṣabáh	morning	صباح
12. Shihaab	šiháb	comet	شهاب
13. Thalji	talji	snowy	ثلجي

8. Historical

1. Saleebi	ṣalfbi	Crusader	صليبي
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9. Places

1. Ajjouri	ʿajúri	a person from Ajjour	عجوري
2. Ammouri	ʿamúri	a person from Ammourya	عموري
3. Anabtawi	ʿanabtáwi	a person from Anabta	عنبتاوي

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4. Anbousi	ʿanbúsi	a person from Ainabous	انبوسى
5. Asqalaan	ʿasqalán	a person from Asqalaan	اسقلان
6. Artoufi	ʿartúfi	a person from Artouf	ارتوفى
7. Atteeli	ʿatfli	a person from Atteel	اتعلى
8. Awartaani	ʿawartáni	a person from Awarta	اورتاني
9. Bedawi	bedawi	bedouin	بدو
10. Bairouti	bairúti	a person from Beirut	بيروتى
11. Baghadaadi	bagdádi	a person from Baghdad	بغدادى
12. Burqaawi	burqáwi	a person from Burqa	برقاوى
13. Ghazzaawi	ǧazáwi	a person from Gaza	غزاهى
14. Hijaz	hijáz	Hejaz (Western Saudi Arabia)	حجازى
15. Halabi	ḥalabi	a person from Aleppo (Syria)	حلبى
16. Hijjaawi	hijáwi	a person from Hijja	حجواى
17. Hindi	hindi	a person from India	هندى
18. Houssani	ḥusani	a person from Husan	حوسانى
19. Jayyousi	jayúsi	a person from Jayus	جايوسى
20. Khaleeli	ḥalíli	a person from Hebron	خاليلى
21. Majdalaawi	majdaláwi	a person from Majdal	مجدلاوى
22. Maghribi	maǧribi	a person from Morocco	مغربى
23. Masri	maşri	a person from Egypt	مصرى
24. Nabulsi	nabulsi	a person from Nablus	نابلسى
25. Qabalawi	qabaláwi	a person from Qabalaan	قبلاوى
26. Qoqaasi	qoqási	a person from the Caucasus	قوقاسى
27. Ranteesi	rantfisi	a person from Rantis	رنتيسى
28. Rishmaawi	rişmáwi	a person from Rishma	رشماوى
29. Saffouri	safúri	a person from Safurya	سافورى
30. Saahili	sáḥili	a person from Saahil (coast)	ساحلى
31. Sailaawi	sailáwi	a person from Sailat el-Haarithiyya	سلاوى
32. Sa9eedi	saʿdí	a person from Sa9eed (Southern Egypt)	سعيدى
33. Sa9uudi	saʿúdi	a person from Saudi Arabia	سعودى
34. Shaami	šámi	a person from Shaam (Syria)	شامى
35. Sweiti	swaiṭi	a person from Asyout (Egypt)	سوطى
36. Tilyaani	tiliáni	a person from Italy	طليانسى

Note: All the placenames in the list above refer to cities, towns and villages in the West Bank and Gaza unless otherwise indicated.

10. Religious

In the following religious surnames, "submitted to" is abbreviated to "sub to."

1. Aabeen	ʿabdīn	worshippers	عابد بين
2. Abdullah	ʿabdulá	sub to God	عبد الله
3. Abdul-Baaqi	ʿabdul-báqi	sub to the Everlasting (Ġod)	عبد الباقي
4. Abdul-Daayim	ʿabdul-dáyim	sub to the Everlasting (God)	عبد الدائم
5. Abdul-Fattaah	ʿabdul-fatáh	sub to the Enlightened (God)	عبد الفتاح

6. Abdul-Haadi	ʿabdul-hádi	sub to the guide (God)	عبد الهادي
7. Abdul-Haq	ʿabdul-ḥaq	sub to the True (God)	عبد الحق
8. Abdul-Hayy	ʿabdul-hay	sub to the Living (God)	عبد الحي
9. Abdul-Jabbaar	ʿabdul-jabār	sub to the Mighty (God)	عبد الجبار
10. Abdul-Jaleel	ʿabdul-jalīl	sub to the Sublime (God)	عبد الجليل
11. Abdul-Khaaliq	ʿabdul-ḥáaliq	sub to the Creator (God)	عبد الخالق
12. Abdul-Mu9ti	ʿabdul-muʿti	sub to the Giver (God)	عبد المحطي
13. Abdul-Qaadir	ʿabdul-qádir	sub to the Able (God)	عبد القادر
14. Abed-Rabbou	ʿabed-rabú	sub to his Lord (God)	عبد ربه
15. Abed-Raheem	ʿabdul-rahím	sub to the Merciful (God)	عبد الرحيم
16. Abdul-Razzaaq	ʿabdul-raáq	sub to the sustainer (God)	عبد الرزاق
17. Abdul-Salaam	ʿabdul-salám	sub to the Peace (God)	عبد السلام
18. Abdul-Samad	ʿabdul-samad	sub to the Eternal (God)	عبد الصمد
19. Abu-al-Huda	ʿabu-al-huda	father of guidance	عبد الهدي
20. Ata-Allah	ʿaṭa-alá	gift of God	عطا الله
21. Fath-Allah	fath-alá	victory of God	فتح الله
22. Fuqaha	fuqáhá	Muslim theologians	فقهنا
23. Haj Hamad	ḥaj ḥamed	Haj Hamed	حاج حماد
24. Hajj	ḥaj	one who made the pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia	حاج
25. Hamdallah	ḥamdalá	thanks be to God	حمد الله
26. Hanbali	ḥanbali	follower of the Hanbali sect of Islam (after Ahmad ibn Hanbal)	حنبلي
27. Hajji	ḥaji	my haj (see 24 above)	حاجي
28. Haashim	hášim	ancestor of the Prophet Muhammad	هاشم
29. Hirzaliah	ḥirzalá	in the safety of God	حز الله
30. Jaadallah	jádalá	bounty of God	جاد الله
31. Jum9a	jumʿá	Friday	جمعه
32. Aunallah	ʿaunalá	God's help	عين الله
33. Nasrallah	naṣralá	God's victory	نصر الله
34. Sa9dalla	saʿadalá	happiness from God	سعد الله
35. Saalih	ṣálih	reformer	صالح
36. Saayma	ṣáyme	a fasting woman	صايه
37. Shaafi9i	ṣáfiʿi	follower of the Shaafi9i sect of Islam	شافعي
38. Sha9baan	ṣaʿaban	a month in the Muslim calendar	شعبان
39. Shaikha	ṣaiḥa	wise woman	شعيه
40. Shaikh	ṣaiḥ	wise man	شعيح
41. Shihaab-id-Deen	ṣiháb-id-dín	the star of religion	شهاب الدين
42. Shukrallah	ṣukralá	thanks be to God	شكر الله
43. Tameemi	tamími	follower of Tameem al-Daari, one of the companions of the Prophet Muhammad	تميمي

11. Foreign (Non-Arabic)

1. Aagha	ʿágá	Turkish title (cf. Pasha)	آغا
2. Baazyaan	bázyán	Armenian name	بازيان
3. Iskandar	ʿiskender	Turkish form of Alexander	إسكندر

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4. Khaazindaar	ḥazindár	storekeeper	خزندار
5. Qaawuqji	qáwuqji	maker of qaawuqs (kind of hats)	قاووقجي
6. Kababji	kababji	kebab maker	كبابجي
7. Shakhsheer	šahšír	baggy trousers	شخشيير
8. Shorbaji	šorbaji	soup maker	شوربجي
9. Yameen	yemín	right (opposite of left)	يمين

12. Unknown

1. Battaah	baṭáḥ		بطاح
2. Bushnaaq	bušnáq		بشناق
3. Bustaami	buṣṭámi		بسطامي
4. Dadou	deḏú		د د و
5. Dardouk	derdúk		در دوك
6. Haajim	hájjim		حاجم
7. Sarakji	sarakji		سركجي
8. Shalhoub	šalhúb		شلهوب
9. Jaanim	jánim		جانم
10. Taffaal	tafál		طفاال