

# Forward

*This list of stage-worthy Arabic names suitable for Middle-Eastern dancers was begun many years ago when I decided to adopt a stage-name for the dance persona I was creating. Many of these names were taken from stories and books about the Middle East, and before long, I realized it was becoming a formidable list. In fact, it was becoming a great deal of work though it was like my other collections: fun and satisfying whenever I found a new name or a meaning for one. At the time (circa 1971), I could not locate a source of Arabic names (specifically) in the local libraries, and even if there had been any, I could not read Arabic, nor did I know anyone who could. Then along came a young Egyptian woman who was enrolled at the University of California, Berkeley, from which I had received my Master's Degree. She became a member of my exercise/dance class that I was teaching at the Kensington Recreation Department. I asked her to give me a list of five short Egyptian names that she thought Americans could pronounce without trouble. From her list of five (only!) I chose Najia simply because I like the way it looked when written down in English letters. I asked her if it had a meaning, and she told me it meant something similar to "hope". I thought that appropriate because I had a lot of it and chose the name for my career. Ten years later it seemed a choice shot through with Kismet when I discovered my new mother-in-law's name was Najia. My new in-laws informed me that the name had a very old religious meaning that in the modern was of speaking could mean "hope". The religious meaning is "one who asks God's help in all things".*

*Choosing a stage-name makes sense for a dancer in order to keep your dance-business contacts separated from you personal relationships. If someone write or phones and asks for "Najia", I know immediately that we are talking dance and adopt a more formal manner. Also, "Najia" helps me protect my personal privacy. Some women prefer to keep their true given names while dancing, perhaps feeling a touch foolish being a "Fatima" with blond hair and blue eyes – an obviously phony Arab – but I see it as "image creation, like costuming and make-up. In addition, there is the aspect of protection of the dancer from possible victimization through stalking or other antisocial behavior. I believe that adopting an Arabic stage-name is very inexpensive insurance!*

*Arabic names are not just "translatable". Many times the meaning originate in antiquity and are, therefore, obscure. **And now, a caveat!** One cannot just construct or make up a name out of one's fantasy or parts of grandma's maiden name and whatever sounds exotic. Sometimes these concocted names actually have a meaning or resemble a word that has a meaning in the Arabic, Turkish, Greek or Farsi languages that has a meaning in the other language which could range from indelicate to downright bawdy – a sure source of embarrassment at some point. If you insist on being inventive, as is your right, please take the precaution to asking whether your creation means anything ungracious in the foreign languages of our ethnic dance*

*Many dancers choose their stage-names by meaning alone, but even the meanings do not translate as easily as one might suppose. Why would you want to be called something meaning "tree branches"? Perhaps you would seriously consider a name with that meaning if you knew that in the foreign language it implied boughs that are uplifting and a haven for little birds. I thought one meaning for another name, "smoldering embers", to be quite romantic in my western way of thought, but my Arabic family said that the name was only for those with dark eyes, skin and hair, because, to them, it meant*

*“burnt coals”. While “Farasha” is included in this list, many Arabs find it peculiar to want to be named after an insect! On the other hand, if a name seems to have a weird connotation in English, it may be much nicer from the foreign culture’s point of view, such as a plump woman naming herself Fatmi.*

*Please remember that the names in this collection are transliterated, which means that they were taken from the foreign letters, often in Arabic, which have no vowels, but do have other indicators. I have written each in one of many possible spellings and have attempted to give you some clues as to possible pronunciations. I have written each one out in a quasi phonetics method, using English sounds and actual English words just as I heard the name spoken by my Arabic-speaking contacts. I would advise you to get further help from you own Middle-eastern connections to further personalize your attachment to a specific name.*

*Special thanks to **Ahmad Sharif Muzayen**, singer and oud player, and also to his brother, **Mohamad Hussein El- Mouzayen** for their contributions to meanings and pronunciations, to **Bert Balladine** for his encouragement to update the project, and to **Glenn of Sonoma** for his help with the original publication of my glossary. It gives me great satisfaction to share with you, dance teachers, and dance students alike, my **Glossary of Stage-worthy Names for Middle-Eastern Dancers**.*

Najia El-Mouzayen

# Glossary of Stage-worthy Names for Middle Eastern Dancers

## A

Aadela ah'del la	<b>Fair (of face)</b>
Aabir/Abir ah beer'	<b>Fragrance</b>
Aasal a'sell	<b>Honey</b>
Aasiyah ah see'ya	<b>Villa with Strong Foundation</b>
Abda ahb'duh	<b>Black Slave Girl</b>
Abla ah'bluh	<b>Perfectly Formed</b>
Adhamiya ad ham ee'uh	<b>Of Good Lineage</b>
Adina ah dee'nuh	<b>Noble</b>
Adila ah deal'uh	<b>Equal</b>

Adira ah deer'uh	<b>Mighty &amp; Strong</b> (One Who Deals Justly )
Adiba ah deeb'uh	<b>Polite; Poetic</b>
Afaf ah faf'	<b>Chastity; Purity</b>
Afifa ah fee'fuh	<b>Virtue; Chaste</b>
Afra af'rah	<b>White; Ivory</b>
Afsanna af sah'nah	<b>Tale; Story (Persian)</b>
Ahd ah'd	<b>Pledge; Promise; Knowledge</b>
Ahiyda ah hee'duh	One Who Keeps Her Vows
Aida eye'duh	<b>Benefit; Profit</b>
Aini eye'nee	<b>Spring; Source</b>
Aisha eye'shuh	<b>Alive; Prospering</b>
Aiymelek <b>eye mel'lek</b>	Mohammad's Chief Wife; Angel of the Moon

Alifa ah lee'fuh	<b>Tamed</b>
Alika a lee'kuh	<b>Most Beautiful (Swahili)</b>
Aliya ah lee'yuh	<b>Exalted; Highest Social Standing</b>
Almasa/ Almaza al mah'zuh	<b>Diamond</b>
Amaal ah mall'	<b>Hope; Aspirations</b>
Amala ah mall'uh	<b>Hope; Aspirations</b>
Amar ah'mar	<b>Moon</b>
Amara ah mar'uh	<b>Our Moon; Eternally Beautiful</b>
Amani ah man'ee	<b>Wishful</b>
Amatulla ah mah'tool uh	<b>Servant of God</b>
Amina/ Ameenah ah mee'nuh	<b>Reliable; Trustworthy; Mohammad's Mother</b>
Amira ah meer'uh	<b>Princess</b>

Anadil an'ah deel	<b>Nightingale</b>
Anan an nan'	<b>Clouds</b>
Anbar an'bar	<b>Perfume; Ambergris</b>
Anish/ Aneesh an neesh'	<b>Friend; Companion</b>
Andali an doll'ee	<b>Nightingale</b>
Angham an yam'	<b>Tunes; Melodies</b>
Anjoom ahn'joom	<b>Stars</b>
Anthea an thee'uh	<b>Flowery (Greek)</b>
Asia aye'see ah	<b>Sad One</b>
Assia ah see'uh	<b>Person of Strength</b>
Angela an'gell uh	<b>Angel</b>
Anissa an nee'suh	<b>Intimate Companion; Good Natured; Pious</b>

Aquilla ak'ee luh	<b>Intelligent</b>
Arifa are'ree fuh	<b>Knowledgeable</b>
Aruba ah roo'buh	<b>Loving Woman</b>
Arwa are wah'	<b>Mountain Doe</b>
Alnisa al nis'uh	<b>Forgetful</b>
Ahsmah ahs mah'	<b>Excellent</b>
Ahsifa ah'see fuh	<b>Storm</b>
Ashaki ah shah'key	<b>Beautiful (W. African)</b>
Ashiya ah she'uh	<b>Prophet Mohammad's Favored Wife</b>
Asma ahs'mah	<b>Beautiful</b>
Atira uh tee'ruh	<b>One Who Loves Fragrant Things</b>
Atiya ah tee'yuh	<b>Gift; Present</b>

Ayana ah yawn'uh	<b>Beautiful Flower (Ethiopian)</b>
Ayperi eye peer'ee	<b>Moonfairy (Turkish)</b>
Aysel eye'sell	<b>Like the Moon</b>
Azhaar ahs ha are'	<b>Blossoms; Flowers</b>
Azima ah zee'muh	<b>Great</b>
Aziza uh zee'zuh	<b>Dear; Cherished One</b>
Azouri ah zoo'ree	<b>One from Azouri</b>
Azza ahz'zuh	<b>Young Gazelle; Strong, Bright</b>



# B

Please note that the sound of "B" and "P" in the Arabic language are sometimes so close as to be indistinguishable to the Western ear.

Badawia	<b>Bedouin Girl</b>
bad uh wee'uh	
Badria	<b>Like a Full Moon</b>
bad ree'uh	
Bahia	<b>Radiant</b>
bah hee'uh	
Bahira	<b>Dazzling; Brilliant</b>
bah'hee rah	
Bahija	<b>Splendor; Joyful; Happy</b>
bah'hee juh	
Bahlula	<b>Fond of Religion</b>
bah loo'luh	
Banan	<b>Fingertips</b>
ban nan'	
Badra	<b>Full Moon</b>
bad'ruh	
Baraka	<b>Shining; Soul</b>
bar ah'kuh	
Baria	<b>Innocent</b>
bah ree'uh	

Bariyyah	<b>Excelling</b>
bah ree'ee uh	
Bashira	<b>Bearer of Good News</b>
bah shear'uh	
Basila	<b>Brave</b>
bah'see luh	
Basima	<b>Smiling One</b>
bah'see muh	
Basma	<b>A Smile</b>
bass'muh	
Batta	<b>Duckling</b>
ba'tuh	
Batul	<b>Ascetic Virgin</b>
bah tool'	
Bedre	<b>Full Moon</b>
bed'der	
Belana	<b>A Kind of Thistle</b>
bell ann'uh	
Benazir	<b>Unique One (Persian)</b>
ben'ah zeer	
Bentreshyt	<b>Harp of Joy</b>
ben tresh't	
Bilquis	<b>Queen of Sheba</b>
bil'queez	

<b>Bibi</b>	<b>Diminutive of "B" Names</b>
bee'bee	
<b>Binnaz</b>	<b>Charming One (Turkish)</b>
bee'naz	
<b>Burlanti</b>	<b>Brilliant</b>
bur lan'tee	
<b>Bushara</b>	<b>Goodness</b>
boo shar'uh	
<b>Bushra</b>	<b>Good News</b>
boosh rah'	
<b>Buthayna</b>	<b>Beautiful; Tender of Body</b>
boo thay'nuh	

# C

Please note that names starting with the letter "C" may be better expressed with "K".

Calista            **Most Beautiful (Greek)**

kal list'uh

Charis            **Grace (Greek)**

char'is

Chala            **Fortress; Castle**

shah'luh

# D

Daima <b>die'muh</b>	Always (Turkish)
Dahab duh'hab	<b>Gold</b>
Dalal duh la'	<b>Spoiled Family Favorite</b>
Dalia doll'ee uh	<b>Grapevines</b>
Dalila dah lee'luh	<b>Guide; Sign; Token</b>
Dania dan'ee uh	<b>Close to the Heart</b>
Daria dar'ee uh	<b>Knowledgeable</b>
Darwisha dar vee'shuh	<b>Dervish</b>
Dawara dow'are uh	<b>Adventurer</b>
Defne deaf'nee	<b>Laurel (Turkish)</b>
Delilah dee lie'luh	<b>Beautiful Hair (Hebrew)</b>

Daniz	<b>Sea (Turkish)</b>
duh neez'	
Didi	<b>Diminutive of "D" Names</b>
dee'dee	
Dina	<b>Judgement</b>
dee'nuh	
Dilber	<b>Attractive (Turkish)</b>
deal'bear	
Dolunay	<b>Full Moon (Turkish)</b>
doe loo'nay	
Duhaa	<b>Morning Forenoon</b>
doo'ha ahh	
Dunia	<b>World</b>
doo'nee uh	
Durdana	<b>Pearl (Persian)</b>
dur dah'nuh	
Durra	<b>Pearl (Arabic)</b>
doo'rah	
Durriya	<b>Glittering</b>
doo'ree uh	

# E

Electra ee leck'truh	<b>Shining One (Greek)</b>
Emel ee'mel	<b>Ambition</b>
Enaba an ah'buh	<b>A Wine-red Fruit</b>
Enayat en aye'at	<b>Nurturing</b>
Ermine air mean'	<b>Confident (Turkish)</b>

# F

Faaria fuh are'ee uh	<b>Tall One</b>
Fadda faud'duh	<b>Silvery</b>
Faddeya fad dee'uh	<b>Sacrificer</b>
Fadila faw deal'uh	<b>Virtue; Refinement; Moral Excellence</b>
Fadiya fa dee'yuh	<b>Silver</b>
Fadwa faud wah'	<b>Self-sacrifice</b>
Faghira faw gear' uh	<b>Jasmine blossom</b>
Fahima fah hee'muh	<b>Smart; Intelligent One</b>
Faiza fah eye'zuh	<b>Victor</b>
Fairuz fay rooz'	<b>Turquoise</b>
Fajar fah'jar	<b>Dawn</b>



Fakria fak ree'uh	<b>Glory; Honor</b>
Falak fall'ack	<b>Star</b>
Faliyha fall lee'ha	<b>Successful</b>
Farasha far ash'uh	<b>Butterfly</b>
Farha far'ha	<b>Glad</b>
Ferhanna far'ha nuh	<b>Joyful One</b>
Farida far ee'duh	<b>Unique; Matchless</b>
Fariha far ee'hah	<b>Joyful; Cheerful</b>
Farukka far oo'kuh	<b>Justice</b>
Fatiha fuh tee'ha	<b>A Light Color</b>
Fatima fah'tee muh	<b>Weaned Babygirl</b>
Fatin fah'tin	<b>Captivating; Charming</b>

Fatura	<b>Beginning of Creation</b>
fah too'rah	
Fawzia	<b>Successful</b>
faw zee'uh	
Fellaha	<b>Country Girl</b>
fell la'hah	
Ferial	<b>A Modern Name</b>
ferry all'	
Feriyya	<b>Tall</b>
fair ree'uh	
Fifi	<b>Diminutive of "F" Names</b>
fee'fee	
Fikriy/ Fikriya	<b>Smart; Meditative One</b>
fik ree'uh	
Firdaws	<b>Paradise</b>
fear'doz	
Firuz	<b>Turquoise (Turkish)</b>
fear'ooz	
Foweyah	<b>Benefits</b>
fow aye'uh	
Fowkiya	<b>Upper Hand</b>
fow key'uh	
Fulla	<b>Jasmine (Arabic)</b>
full'luh	

# G & Gh

Galbayaz gal bay'ez	<b>Turkish Name</b>
Gamatat guh mal'at	<b>Many Beautiful Attributes</b>
Ghada ghah'duh	<b>Beautiful</b>
Ghadiya gha'dee uh	<b>Always Returns</b>
Ghaliyba gha'lee	<b>Winner</b>
Ghaliylah gha lee'luh	<b>Trapped One</b>
Ghalya ghah'lee	<b>Precious; Rich</b>
Ghamera gham'rah	<b>Zenith of Joy</b>
Ghamira gha'mere uh	<b>Rich in Good Things</b>
Ghania ghan'ee uh	<b>Pretty Woman</b>
Ghariybah gha ree'buh	<b>Foreign One</b>

Gharyyda gha ree'duh	<b>Singer</b>
Ghayda gay'duh	<b>Young; Delicate</b>
Ghezali gauze'all lee	<b>Deer; Gazelle</b>
Ghrada ghrah'duh	<b>Beautiful</b>
Ghrana ron'uh	<b>Sing</b>
Ghraniya ran'ee uh	<b>Attractive</b>
Ghralya rah'lee uh	<b>Expensive; Dear</b>
Ghusun goo soon'	<b>Boughs of Trees</b>
Ghuli goo'lee	<b>Rose (Persian)</b>
Ghulshan gool'shan	<b>Garden of Roses (Persian)</b>

# H

Haala ha a'luh	<b>Halo of Light</b>
Habiba ha bee'buh	<b>Beloved Woman; Darling; Sweetheart</b>
Hadia ha dee'uh	<b>Calm; Quiet; Valuable Person</b>
Hafiza hah fee'zuh	<b>Mindful</b>
Hafsa haf'suh	<b>Cub Lioness</b>
Hagar haj'jar	<b>Stone</b>
Hakima ha key'muh	<b>Wise</b>
Halah ha'luh	<b>Welcome</b>
Halima ha lee'muh	<b>Patient; Gentle; True; True Dream</b>
Hamda ham'duh	<b>Appreciative</b>
Hamdia ham dee'uh	<b>Quiet One; Gift</b>

Hamida ham ee'duh	<b>Praiseworthy</b>
Hamidiya ham ee'dee yuh	<b>Thankful</b>
Hana han'uh	<b>Happiness; Peace of Mind</b>
Hanan han ann'	<b>Loving; Tender; Mercy</b>
Hania han ee'uh	<b>Pleased; Happy</b>
Hanifa han ee'fuh	<b>Truly Thankful; Grateful</b>
Hanife han'ee fuh	<b>Lady (Turkish)</b>
Hasina has'ee nuh	<b>Lady with Beautiful Countenance</b>
Hasna has'nah	<b>Beautiful; Pretty</b>
Hassanna has san'uh	<b>Goodness</b>
Hayal high'al	<b>Dream (Turkish)</b>
Hayat high aught'	<b>Life</b>

Hayfa high'fuh	<b>Slender; of Beautiful Body</b>
Hazine ha zeen'	<b>Treasure (Turkish)</b>
Heba hay'buh	<b>Sky Spirit; Angel</b>
Heiama high'muh	<b>Meditative Mood; Daydream</b>
Hibah high'buh	<b>Gift; Spirit</b>
Hikma hick'muh	<b>Wisdom</b>
Hilala hi la'luh	<b>New Moon's Crescent</b>
Hind hin'd	<b>India</b>
Hoda who'duh	<b>Correct Guidance; Good Conduct</b>
Houriya ho ree'yuh	<b>Mermaid; Hour</b>
Howayda how eye'duh	<b>Thoughtful; Slow to Decide</b>
Howla how'luh	<b>Crossed Eyes</b>

Hulyia                    **Daydream (Turkish)**

    who'lee uh

Huria                    **Angel of Paradise**

    who ree'uh

Husn                    **Beauty**

    who soon'



# I

Ibtihaj ib tee'haj	<b>Joy, Delight</b>
Ibtisaam ip'tee sam	<b>Smiling One</b>
Ihsan eye'san	<b>Charity; Performer Good Deeds</b>
Ikram eek'ram	<b>kindness; generosity; hospitality</b>
Ilham ill ham'	<b>Intuition</b>
Illiana ill ee ah'nuh	<b>Lilly</b>
Iman ee man'	<b>Faith</b>
Imtiyaz im'tee yaz	<b>Excellence</b>
Imtithal im'tee thal	<b>Obedience; Politeness</b>
Inaam ee nam'	<b>Benefaction; Grace</b>
Inas ee nas'	<b>Mannerly; Genial Intimacy</b>

Inaya een eye'uh	<b>Concern; Care</b>
Inci een'she	<b>Pearl (Turkish)</b>
Intisar een'tee zar	<b>Triumph</b>
Insaaf in'saw off	<b>Justice; Fairness</b>
Iona ee oh'nuh	<b>A Purple Jewel (Greek)</b>
Ipek ip'ick	<b>Silk (Turkish)</b>
Iris eye'rees	<b>Iris Flower (Turkish)</b>
Isaaf eez'ah off	<b>Help; Aid</b>
Isla ees'luh	<b>Restoration</b>
Ismat iz'mat	<b>Protector</b>
Izdihar is'dee har	<b>Flourishing; Blooming</b>

# J

Jahan ja han'	<b>World</b>
Jahiyza jah'hee zuh	<b>Ready</b>
Jala jah'luh	<b>Clarity; Elucidation</b>
Jale jah lay'	<b>Drop of Morning Dew</b>
Jalila jah lee'luh	<b>Splendid; Exalted</b>
Jamila jah mee'luh	<b>Beautiful; Kind; Graceful; Lovely</b>
Jamra jem'ruh	<b>Burnt Embers</b>
Janan jan ann'	<b>Soul; Spirit</b>
Jawahir jaw wah'hear	<b>Jewels</b>
Jehan gee'han	<b>World (Turkish)</b>
Jenna gen'nuh	<b>Paradise</b>

Jessina jes see'nuh	<b>Flower</b>
Jennat jen nat'	<b>Many Joys of Paradise</b>
Johara joe har'uh	<b>Diamond; Jewelry</b>
Johari joe har'ee	<b>A Jewel</b>
Joumana jum mah'nuh	<b>Silver Pearl</b>
Jowada joe whad'uh	<b>Filly; Little Horse</b>

# K

Kadife ka'dee fuh	<b>Velvet (Turkish)</b>
Kafiyya koo'fee uh	<b>Satisfactory</b>
Kariyyah ka ree'uh	<b>Charitable; Enough</b>
Kamila kam'ee luh	<b>Perfect</b>
Kamilliya kam me'lee uh	<b>Camillia Flower</b>
Kanwal kan wall'	<b>Water Lilly</b>
Karam care am'	<b>Of Noble Nature</b>
Karima care ree'muh	<b>Generous</b>
Kasima kah'see muh	<b>One Who Shares</b>
Kawkab cow'cob	<b>Satellite</b>
Kawthar cow'ther	<b>A River in Paradise</b>

Kufiya koo'fee uh	<b>Enough; Satisfactory</b>
Khadia kuh dee'uh	<b>A Court Case</b>
Khadija kuh dee'juh	<b>Seeker of Privacy; 1<sup>st</sup> wife of Mohammed</b>
Khalida hal'ee duh	<b>Immortal One</b>
Khaldia hal dee'uh	<b>Everlasting</b>
Kharifa har ee'fuh	<b>Autumn</b>
Khadin ha dean'	<b>High Born</b>
Khadima ka dee'muh	<b>Maiden</b>
Khawla how'luh	<b>Servant; Entertainer</b>
Khayria care ee'uh	<b>Charitable</b>
Khulud coo lood'	<b>Immortality</b>
Khurfadan cur'fuh dan	<b>Historical Name (Turkish)</b>

Kralice  
cra lease'

**Queen (Turkish)**

# L

Labiba luh bee'buh	<b>Intelligent</b>
Lahluba luh loo'buh	<b>Fiery</b>
Lale lay'el	<b>Tulip (Turkish)</b>
Lamis lam mees'	<b>Soft to Touch</b>
Lamia lam'me yuh	<b>Shining</b>
Lamya lam'yuh	<b>Dark-lipped</b>
Latifa la tee'fuh	<b>Gentle; Pleasant</b>
Layla lay'luh	<b>Night; Evening</b>
Leylak lay'lack	<b>Lilac Flower</b>
Lida lee'duh	<b>Mythology: mother of Helen of Troy</b>
Lina lee'nuh	<b>Tender One</b>



**Lili**                      **Diminutive of “L” Names**

lee'lee

**Lubina**                **flexible**

loo bee'nuh

**Lulu**                    **Pearl**

loo'loo

**Lulwah**              **Pearl**

lool wah'

**Lutfia**                **Gentle**

lute fee'uh

# M

Maaroofa ma roof'uh	<b>Favor</b>
Mabruka ma brew'kuh	<b>Congratulations</b>
Mahaila ma hale'uh	<b>Marrow</b>
Marwa mar'wuh	<b>Spring of Water</b>
Modifa moe dee'fuh	<b>Hostess</b>
Madiha mah dee'hah	<b>Commendation; Praise</b>
Maha ma'hah	<b>Deer; Gazelle</b>
Mahasin ma ha'sin	<b>How Beautiful !</b>
Mahdiya ma dee'uh	<b>Righteously Guided</b>
Mahin ma heen'	<b>Moon-like</b>
Maharima ma ha ree'muh	<b>Beautiful; Moon-like (Persian)</b>

Mahbuba ma boo'buh	<b>Beloved</b>
Mahsati ma saw'tee	<b>Lady of the Moon</b>
Mahtab ma taub'	<b>Moonlight (Persian)</b>
Mahziya ma zee'uh	<b>Lucky</b>
Majda maj'duh	<b>Respected</b>
Majdia maj dee'uh	<b>Noble</b>
Majeeda ma gee'duh	<b>Glorious; Powerful</b>
Malak mahl ack'	<b>Angel</b>
Malika ma lee'kuh	<b>Young Queen</b>
Manal man al'	<b>Receiver; Mana from Heaven</b>
Manan man ann'	<b>Kind; Gracious</b>
Manar man are'	<b>Guiding Light</b>

Mansura man soo'ruh	<b>Supported Victor</b>
Maram mar am'	<b>Aspiration</b>
Mardiya mar dee'ee uh	<b>Blessed</b>
Maridha ma reed'ha	<b>Patient</b>
Marjanna mar jah'nuh	<b>Coral (Persian)</b>
Maryam mary'am	<b>Mother of Jesus</b>
Marzuka mar zoo'kuh	<b>Gifted by God</b>
Masaa mis'uh	<b>Evening</b>
Masouda muh soo'duh	<b>Fortunate; Lucky</b>
Matamida mah tam'ee duh	<b>Trust in God</b>
Mavis mah vees'	<b>Blonde (Turkish)</b>
Mawiya mah wee'uh	<b>Essence</b>

May/Mai my	<b>Month of May</b>
Maymuna may moo'nuh	<b>Auspicious; Blessed</b>
Maysa may'suh	<b>Walking Proudly</b>
Maysun may soon'	<b>Crescent Moon</b>
Mayyada may yah'duh	<b>Swinging Step</b>
Meiad may odd'	<b>Returning</b>
Melina meh lee'nuh	<b>A Song (Greek)</b>
Melissa meh lee'suh	<b>Honey Bee (Greek)</b>
Menekse meh neck'suh	<b>Violet Flower (Turkish)</b>
Mercan mer can'	<b>Coral (Turkish)</b>
Mersin mer seen'	<b>Myrtle (Turkish)</b>
Melantha meh an'thuh	<b>Dark Flower (Greek)</b>

Mirvet mere vet'	<b>A Famous Dancer (French)</b>
Mimi mee'mee	<b>Diminutive of "M" Names</b>
Mina mee'nuh	<b>Enamel (Turkish)</b>
Minnet mee net'	<b>Gratitude (Turkish)</b>
Moira moy'ruh	<b>Goddess of Destiny (Greek)</b>
Mona moo'nuh	<b>Hope</b>
Monshara moan shar'uh	<b>Cheerful</b>
Montaha moan tah'ha	<b>Infinity; Ultimate Heaven</b>
Morada more ah'duh	<b>Beloved</b>
Morgana more gan'uh	<b>Coral</b>
Moselly moe sell ee'	<b>Amusing</b>
Mufida moo fee'duh	<b>Useful</b>

Muhjah	<b>Soul; Essence; Wave</b>
moe'huh juh	
Mumina	<b>Pious Believer</b>
moo mean'uh	
Munira	<b>Radiant; Shining; Illuminating</b>
moo near'uh	
Mushira	<b>Advising; Counsel</b>
moo shear'uh	
Mushtari	<b>Jupiter, the Planet</b>
moosh tar'ee	
Musaada	<b>God-given Happiness</b>
moo say odd'uh	
Mutaa	<b>Pleasure</b>
moo tah' ah	

# N

Naamat na ah'met	<b>Blessings; Gifts of God</b>
Nabania na ban'yuh	<b>Nabiha Derivative</b>
Nabiha na bee'huh	<b>Intelligent</b>
Nabila na bee'luh	<b>Noble</b>
Nada nah'duh	<b>Morning Dew</b>
Nadhira nahd heer'uh	<b>Lively; Bright of Face</b>
Nadhiya nahd hee'yuh	<b>Lively; Pretty</b>
Nadia nah' dee uh	<b>The Calling One</b>
Nadida nah dee'duh	<b>Rival</b>
Nadima nah dee'muh	<b>Amusing Companion; Entertainer</b>
Nadira nah dee'ruh	<b>Rarity; Precious</b>



Nadwa nod'wah	<b>Council</b>
Nafilla nah'feel uh	<b>Hard to Surpass</b>
Nafisa nah fee'suh	<b>Precious Thing; Gem Refined &amp; Pure</b>
Naghat nah jat'	<b>Survivor</b>
Nahla nah'luh	<b>Drink (of Water)</b>
Nahid nah'heed	<b>Venue (Persian)</b>
Naia n eye'uh	<b>Water Sprite (Greek)</b>
Naifa knife'uh	<b>Old Arabic Name</b>
Naila n eye'luh	<b>Obtainer; Acquirer</b>
Naima n eye'muh	<b>Peaceful Life; Blessing; Tranquil; Amenity</b>
Naiyymah n eye ee'muh	<b>Blessing; Loan</b>
Naja nah'juh	<b>Success; Safe; Rescued</b>

Najan nah'jan	<b>Success</b>
Nawset now'set	<b>Intent Listener</b>
Naymouna n eye moo' nuh	<b>Tranquil Hope</b>
Nazaha no zah'ha	<b>Honesty; Purity</b>
Naziha nah zee'ha	<b>Honest</b>
Nazik nah'zeek	<b>Cute; Precise; Neat</b>
Nazima nah zee'muh	<b>Organized</b>
Nazira nah zee'ruh	<b>Matching; Equal</b>
Nazli naz'lee	<b>Egyptian Queen Mother; Coquettish (Persian)</b>
Nazimyyah nah mee ee'uh	<b>Organizer</b>
Nayyira n eye ee' ruh	<b>Shinning; Brilliant</b>
Nefes nef'ees	<b>Breath (Turkish)</b>

Nefsi nef'see	<b>Wonderful (Turkish)</b>
Nehan ne hahn'	<b>Happy Woman (Turkish)</b>
Nehayat neigh high'at	<b>Motherly</b>
Nejmia nej mee'uh	<b>Astrologer</b>
Nerjis nur'jis	<b>Daffodil (Turkish)</b>
Nesma nes'muh	<b>Summer Breeze</b>
Nibal nee'ball	<b>Arrows</b>
Nidah ni dah'	<b>Call from Heaven</b>
Nihai nee high'	<b>Finale</b>
Nilofar nee'low fer	<b>Lotus Blossom</b>
Nisima nee see'muh	<b>Summer Breeze</b>
Niylam nigh'lamb	<b>Precious Blue Stone</b>

Noha no'ha	<b>Ending; The End</b>
Nouna noon'ah	<b>Dimpled Chin</b>
Nour new'r	<b>Light</b>
Nudar new dar'	<b>Gold</b>
Nuha new hah'	<b>Intelligence; Wisdom</b>
Nur new'r	<b>Gleam of Light</b>
Nura nur'uh	<b>Light</b>
Nurai/Nuray nur'aye	<b>Moonlight (Turkish)</b>
Nurhan nur'han	<b>Bright Woman</b>
Nusayba new say'buh	<b>Related; Relative</b>
Nuzha news'ha	<b>Pleasure Trip; Picnic; Excursion</b>
Nyad/Naiad nigh'ad	<b>Water Sprite (Greek)</b>

Nyla  
nigh'luh

**The Nile River**

Nyssa  
nees'uh

**Goal (Greek)**

# 0

Odeh/Odia oh dee'uh	<b>Chamber Maid</b>
OdeIIa oh deel'uh	<b>Melody (Greek)</b>
Ohaiyla oh high'luh	<b>Kitten</b>
OlfaH ohl' fuh	<b>Love; Familiar</b>
Omaiya oh my'uh	<b>Historic Age in Islam</b>
Osaiyma oh say'muh	<b>Fate; Kismet</b>

# P

Parvin                    **Constellation Pleiades**  
par veen'

Phedra                   **Shinning One (Greek)**  
fay'druh

Phila                    **Love (Greek)**  
fill'uh

Philana                 **One Who Loves All Mankind (Greek)**  
fill an'uh

# Q

Quamar                 **The Moon**  
kam'er

# R

Rababa	<b>A White Cloud; Musical Instrument</b>
rah bah'buh	
Rabba	<b>Most Comfortable</b>
rah'buh	
Rabiah	<b>Springtime; Garden With Well Spring</b>
rah bee'uh	
Radeyah	<b>Content; Satisfied</b>
rah'dee uh	
Radifa	<b>Saudi Name</b>
rah dee'fuh	
Radwa	<b>Satisfied; Proper Name of a Mountain</b>
rad'wah	
Rafa	<b>Happiness; Prosperity</b>
rah faw'	
Rafia	<b>Dignified; Lofty</b>
rah fee'uh	
Rafiqua	<b>Woman Companion</b>
rah fee'kuh	
Raghd	<b>Pleasant</b>
raw'gd	
Rahima	<b>Merciful; Compassionate</b>
raw hee'muh	



Rahiyfah rah hee'fuh	<b>Sensitive</b>
Raidah ride'uh	<b>Leader</b>
Raiyhanah ray ee han'uh	<b>Bouquet</b>
Rajaa rah jah'	<b>Hope</b>
Rajia rah'jee uh	<b>One Who Hopes</b>
Rakkiya rock'key uh	<b>Civilized; Advanced</b>
Ramia ram'mee uh	<b>"Kills" With Her Eyes</b>
Ramiza ram mee'zuh	<b>Derivative of Ranzia</b>
Ramzia ram zee'uh	<b>Symbolic</b>
Rana rah'nuh	<b>To Gaze; Look</b>
Rand ran'd	<b>A Fragrant Tree</b>
Raniyah ran'nee uh	<b>Gazing; Clairvoyant</b>

Rayfia ree fee'uh	<b>Perfume</b>
Rasha raw'shah	<b>Young Gazelle</b>
Rashana/ Rashanda raw shaun'uh/ raw shaund'duh	<b>Shining; Brilliant</b>
Rashida raw she'duh	<b>Wise; Mature; Dazzling</b>
Rasieh raw'see uh	<b>Top; Head High</b>
Rasmia ras mee'uh	<b>Very Formal</b>
Raufa raw oo'fuh	<b>Merciful; kind</b>
Rawasa raw was'uh	<b>A Sharp Thing</b>
Rawda r au'duh	<b>Garden</b>
Rawiyda row wee'duh	<b>Storyteller; Poetry Reciter</b>
Rayya ray'uh	<b>Aroma; Fragrance</b>
Razhat rah zat'	<b>She Returns</b>

Razia	<b>Sweet; Agreeable; A Muslim Princess</b>
rah'zee ah	
Reda	<b>To Be Satisfied</b>
ray'duh	
Rekan	<b>Steady; Confident</b>
reck ann'	
Reyah	<b>Wind</b>
ree'yuh	
Ribhiya	<b>Winner</b>
reb hee'uh	
Rim	<b>Gazelle</b>
ream	
Rima	<b>White Antelope</b>
ream'uh	
Riri	<b>Dimintive of "R" Names</b>
ree'ree	
Roda	<b>Garden</b>
row'duh	
Roshanna	<b>Light of the Sky</b>
row shawn' uh	
Rowiyah	<b>On Who Acts to Satisfy Longings</b>
rowy'uh	
Rubiha	<b>Spring</b>
rue bee'huh	

Ruqayyah rue kay'yah	<b>Highness; Prophet's Daughter's Name</b>
Rusia rue see'uh	<b>Daughter of Russia</b>
Ruru rue'ru	<b>"R" Name Diminutive</b>
Ruwayda rue way'duh	<b>Walking Gently</b>
Rya rye'uh	<b>Dream (Turkish)</b>

# S

Saada saw ah'duh	<b>Lucky; Happy One</b>
Sabah sah bah'	<b>Morning</b>
Sabba sab'bah	<b>Eastern Wind</b>
Sabiha sah bee'ha	<b>Handsome Woman</b>
Sabira sah'beer uh	<b>Patience</b>
Sabra saw'bruh	<b>One Who is Patient</b>
Sadia sah'dee uh	<b>Happy</b>
Sadiqua sah dee'kuh	<b>Sincere Friend</b>
Sadira sah dee'ruh	<b>Lotus Tree</b>
Sadiya sah dee'yuh	<b>Lucky</b>
Safaa sah fawh'	<b>Cleanness; Clarity</b>

Safi	<b>Clear; Clean; Pure</b>
sa' fee	
Safia	<b>Untroubled; Serene; Best Friend</b>
sah fee'uh	
Safira	<b>Sapphire Gemstone; Ambassador</b>
sah fee' ruh	
Saffiyra	<b>Unveiled Face</b>
saf fear uh	
Sagheera	<b>Slender One</b>
sah gear'uh	
Sahar	<b>Dawn</b>
saw' h are	
Sahara	<b>Magical One; Good Witch</b>
saw har'uh	
Saher	<b>Lovely One</b>
saw hair'	
Sahera	<b>One Who Passes the Night Awake</b>
sah' her uh	
Sahira	<b>Well Spring with a Constant Flow</b>
sah hear'uh	
Sahla	<b>Flowing; Lovely</b>
sah' huh	
Sahra	<b>Party Girl; Entertainer</b>
sah'rah	

Saida sigh ee'duh	<b>Happy; Lucky</b>
Saifa sigh ee'fuh	<b>Summer</b>
Saima say ee'muh	<b>Your Fate</b>
Sakina suh key'nuh	<b>Early Morning; Tranquil</b>
Salama sal lam'uh	<b>Safety</b>
Salha sal'huh	<b>Good; Right</b>
Saliha sal lee'huh	<b>Good; Useful</b>
Salima sal ee'muh	<b>Faultless; Flawless</b>
Salma sal' muh	<b>Peaceful; Safe</b>
Salwa sal'wah	<b>Quiet Enjoyment; Solace</b>
Samah/ Samaah suh mah'	<b>Generosity</b>
Samar sam'are	<b>Evening Conversation</b>

Samara sam mar'uh	<b>Dark Skinned One</b>
Samia sah'mee uh	<b>Exalted</b>
Samiha sam ee'uh	<b>Forgiving One</b>
Samina sah mee'nuh	<b>Healthy Girl; Plump</b>
Samira sam mere'uh	<b>Conversationalist; Storyteller</b>
Samiya sam'ee yuh	<b>Elevated; exalted; Lofty</b>
Samoura suh mur'uh	<b>Dark Beloved</b>
Samra sam'ruh	<b>Dark One</b>
Sana san ah'	<b>Resplendent</b>
Saniya sah nee'yuh	<b>Brilliant Light</b>
Sanobar suh oh'ber	<b>Pine Tree</b>
Sara saw'ruh	<b>Princess</b>



Sauda	<b>Saudi Princess; The Color Black</b>
sah oo'duh	
Sawsan	<b>Lily Flower</b>
sow'san	
Sefa	<b>Pleasure (Turkish)</b>
sef uh	
Sefira	<b>Traveler</b>
sef fee'ruh	
Seher	<b>Breaking Dawn (Turkish)</b>
seh'her	
Selwa	<b>Companionship</b>
sell'wuh	
Selvi	<b>Cyprus (Turkish)</b>
sell'vee	
Serap	<b>Mirage (Turkish)</b>
sair'ub	
Sese	<b>"S" Name Diminutive</b>
see'see	
Sevgili	<b>Darling One (Turkish)</b>
sev gee'lee	
Seyyal	<b>Traveler (Turkish)</b>
say yal'	
Shabanna	<b>Like the Night</b>
shaw bon'nah	

Shahina	<b>Falconess</b>
shaw hee'nah	
Shadia/	
Shadiya	<b>Singer</b>
shod dee'uh	
Shahala	<b>Brown (as Eyes)</b>
sha hall'uh	
Shaharazade	<b>Famous Persian Storyteller</b>
shaw'hair uh zodd	
Shahira	<b>Famous One</b>
shaw hee'ruh	
Shakeela	<b>Comely; Shapely</b>
shaw key'luh	
Shakira	<b>Contented</b>
shuh key'ruh	
Shalabiya	<b>Cute</b>
shall uh bee'uh	
Shamaama	<b>Scent of Atar (Perfume)</b>
sha mah'muh	
Shamsa	<b>Sun; Sunny</b>
sham'suh	
Shameena/	
Shaminah	<b>Sweet Breeze</b>
sha mee'nuh	
Sharifa	<b>Honest; Noble</b>
sha ree'fuh	

Shariyka sha ree'kuh	<b>Partner</b>
Sharwa shar'wah	<b>Good Bargain</b>
Shathe shay'thee	<b>Aroma; Fragrance</b>
Shazadi shah zah'dee	<b>Princess (Persian)</b>
Shirin sheer in'	<b>A Legendary Beauty</b>
Shukriya shoe kree'uh	<b>Thankful</b>
Shurook shoe roo'k	<b>Sunrise</b>
Siddiqah see deek'uh	<b>Promise Keeper</b>
Siham see ham'	<b>Arrows</b>
Simsim sim'sim	<b>Sesame</b>
Sokkara So car'uh	<b>Sugar</b>
Soraya sore roy'uh	<b>Queenly</b>

Souzan sue zahn'	<b>Burning; Fire</b>
Suha sue ha'	<b>Soft</b>
Suhad sue had'	<b>Happiness</b>
Suhayla/ Suhaila sue hay'luh	<b>Star</b>
Suhayma sue hay'muh	<b>Small Arrow</b>
Suhayr sue hair'	<b>Lovely</b>
Sula/Sulaf sue'luh; sue'loff	<b>Fame; Past Glory</b>
Sumiya sue mee' yuh	<b>Similar</b>
Summer/ Sumar Summ'er	<b>Happy Feelings</b>
Suraya/ Soraya sue rye'uh	<b>A Turkish Queen; Constellation Pleiades</b>
Susu soo'soo	<b>"S" Name Diminutive</b>

# T

Tabitha tab ith'uh	<b>Doe; a Deer (Greek)</b>
Tafida tuh fee'duh	<b>Sacrificer</b>
Tahira tah'hee ruh	<b>Pure; Chaste</b>
Tahiya tah hee'uh	<b>Greeting</b>
Taja tah' jah	<b>Crown</b>
Taliba tal ee'buh	<b>Knowledge Seeker</b>
Tamra tam'ruh	<b>Date Palm (Persian)</b>
Tamam tam am'	<b>Complete; Perfect</b>
Tamima tam mee'muh	<b>Rustam's Wife in Famous Poetry</b>
Tamriyhenna tam'ree hen uh	<b>Henna Plant</b>
Tarana tar rah'nuh	<b>Melody (Persian)</b>

Tareefa tar ee'fuh	<b>Unique</b>
Taslimah tahs lee'muh	<b>Salutation; Greeting</b>
Tayyiba tah yee'buh	<b>O.K.; Agreeable</b>
Thameena the mean'uh	<b>Valuable</b>
Thalia thal'ee uh	<b>To Bloom (Greek)</b>
Thana they'nuh	<b>Thankfulness</b>
Thara they'rah	<b>Wealth</b>
Thurayya thoo ray'uh	<b>Constellation Pleiades</b>
Toma too mah'	<b>Good Taste</b>
Tomader/ Tomadar too' mah dar	<b>Turkish Name</b>
Towheyda tao day'duh	<b>Egyptian Name</b>
Tufa too fawh'	<b>Present; Gift</b>

# U

Umayma            **Young Mother**  
oo my'muh

Usaima            **Exalted**  
oo say'muh

# V

(None)

# W

Wadiya wah dee'yuh	<b>Gentle</b>
Wafaa wa fah'uh	<b>Honesty; Faithfulness</b>
Wafiqa wah fee'kuh	<b>Successful</b>
Wafiyya wah fee ee'yuh	<b>Loyal; Faithful</b>
Wahba wah'buh	<b>Gift</b>
Wahiba wah hee'buh	<b>Giver; Donor</b>
Wajiha wah jee'huh	<b>Eminent; Distinguished</b>
Walida wall lee'duh	<b>Newborn Girl</b>
Warda/ Wardeh w are'duh	<b>Rose</b>
Wasila wah seal'uh	<b>Inseparable Friend</b>
Wasisa wah see'suh	<b>Saudi Name</b>



Widad wee'dad	<b>Friendship; Love</b>
Wijdan weej dan'	<b>Ecstasy; Sentiment</b>
Wisal wee sal'	<b>Communion in Love</b>

# X

Xenia                    **Woman; Stranger**  
see'nee uh

# Y

Yamina                **Right Hand**  
ya mee'nuh

Yasmin/

Yasamina            **Jasmine Flower**  
yaz mean'; ya z uh mee'nuh

Yesim                 **Jade Stone**  
yes eem'

Yumn                 **Good Fortune; Success**  
you'mun

# Z

Zafira	<b>Victorious; Successful</b>
zah fear'uh	
Zahia	<b>Brilliant; Gorgeous; Magnificent</b>
zah hee'uh	
Zahira	<b>Shining; Radiant; Luminous</b>
zah hee'rah	
Zahrah	<b>White Blossom; Splendor</b>
zah'rah	
Zahria	<b>Shining; Bright</b>
zah ree'uh	
Zaineb/ Zeineb	<b>Fragrant Tree; Daughter of the Prophet</b>
zay'neb	
Zakia/ Zakiyah	<b>Intelligent; Pure</b>
zack key'uh	
Zambak	<b>Lily (Turkish)</b>
zam'bak	
Zarifa	<b>Graceful</b>
zar ee' fuh	
Zayna/ Zeyna/Zeina	<b>Beautiful</b>
zay'nah	

Zeenat/ Zeinat zay nat'	<b>Adornments; Most Wonderful</b>
Zina zee'nuh	<b>Decorations</b>
Zizi zee'zee	<b>"Z" Name Diminutive</b>
Zohar zo'har	<b>Shining; Brilliant</b>
Zubayda zoo bay'duh	<b>Cream of the Crop; The Best</b>
Zuhra zoo'ruh	<b>Venus</b>
Zuhairah zoo hare'uh	<b>Radiant; Shining</b>
Zulaika zoo lie'kuh	<b>Amazing Beauty</b>