

Simplified Spellings of Ge‘ez Words

Simplified	Original
Afonso Mendes	አፍንክ ጃፎንስ, head of the Catholic Mission in Ethiopia from 1622 to 1632
Aksum	አክሱም Aksum, ancient city in the northern Tigré region
Amhara	አምሐራ Amḥara, Ethiopian people and central Ethiopia region
andemta	አንድምታ andəmta, word for textual exegesis
Begemder	በጌምድር Bāgemdər, lake district in the Amhara region
Beta Israel	ቤተ ክርስቲያን Betä ʿIsraʾel, Ethiopian Jews
Beta Lehem	ቤተሌህም Betä Ləḥem, Ethiopian town in the Amhara region, where the priest Giusto da Urbino and the scribe Gäbrä Maryam lived
Betsega Habta Egziabher	በጸጋ ሀብተ አግዚአብሔር Bā-Ṣägga Habtä ʿEgziʾabḥēr, the son of Zärʾa Yaʿʿaqob
Destaye	ደስታየ Dəstaye, second grandson of Zärʾa Yaʿʿaqob
Enbaqom Qala Wald	ዕንባቆም ቃለ ወልድ ʿEnbaqom Qalä Wäld, sixteenth-century Ethiopian-Yemeni abbot and author
Enfraz	አንፍራዝ ʿEnfraz, lake district in the Amhara region
EOTC	Ethiopian Orthodox Tāwəḥədo Church
Eseteye	ዕሢትየ ʿEṣetəyā, eldest granddaughter of Zärʾa Yaʿʿaqob
Estifanos	አስጢፋኖስ ʿEṣṭifanos, fifteenth-century founder of the EOTC reformation movement of the Däḳiqä ʿEṣṭifanos (Stephanites)
Ewostatewos	ኤምስጣቴምስ Ewosṭatewos, fourteenth-century Ethiopian religious leader and saint
Fantaya	ፈንታየ Fäntayä (also called Wälättä Peṭros), Lord Habtu’s noble daughter-in-law
Fasiladas	ፋሲለደስ Fasilädäs, king of Ethiopia from 1632 to 1667
fidal	ፊደል fidäl, name of the script used to write Ge‘ez and other Ethiopian languages
Gabra Maryam	ገብረ ማርያም Gäbrä Maryam, nineteenth-century scribe of Abb 215
Gabriel	ገብርኤል Gäbrəʾəl, biblical archangel
gadl	ገድል gädl, book about a saint’s life, literally meaning ‘striving’, ‘struggle’
Ge‘ez	ግዕዝ Gəʿəz, ancient liturgical and scholarly Ethiopian language
Gojjam	ጎጃም Goġġam, region to the south of Lake Ṭana
Gondar	ጎንደር Gondär, historical capital of Ethiopia, in the Bāgemdər district
Habtu	Habtu, a wealthy man, Zärʾa Yaʿʿaqob’s patron and Wäldä Ḥəywät’s father
hatata	አተታ ḥatäta, word for ‘inquiry’, ‘investigation’, ‘exploration’
<i>Hatata Walda Heywat</i>	አተታ ወልደ አይወት Ḥatäta Wäldä Ḥəywät, the second <i>Hatata</i>

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<i>Hatata Zara Yaqob</i>	ሐተታ ዘርአ ያዕቆብ <i>Ḥatāta Zār’a Ya’aqob</i> , the first <i>Hatata</i>
Kristos Samra	ክርስቶስ ሠምራ <i>Krastos Šāmra</i> , fifteenth-century Ethiopian woman saint
Matsehaf Bet	መጽሐፍ ቤት <i>Mäšḥaf Bet</i> , EOTC school stage of studying exegesis
me’eraf	ምዕራፍ <i>mə’əraf</i> , the Divine Office, the prayers that believers pray each hour of the day
Medhanit	መድኃኒት <i>Mädhanit</i> , Zär’a Ya’eqob’s daughter-in-law
Metekku	ምትኩ <i>Mätəkku</i> , Wäldä Həywät’s other name
Michael	ሚካኤል <i>Mika’el</i> , biblical archangel
Nahase	ነሐሴ <i>Nähase</i> , Ethiopian calendar month roughly corresponding with August
Nebab Bet	ንብብ ቤት <i>Nəbab Bet</i> , EOTC school stage of learning to read
Pawlos	ጳውሎስ <i>Pawlos</i> (Paul), sixteenth-century Ethiopian monk
Qeddase Bet	ቅዱሴ ቤት, EOTC school stage of studying liturgy
Qene	ቅኔ <i>qəne</i> , word for poetry and rhetoric
Qene Bet	ቅኔ ቤት <i>Qəne Bet</i> , EOTC school stage of studying rhetoric and poetry
Qwarit	ቋሪት <i>Qwarit</i> , district in the west of Gojjam
Salus	ሠሉስ <i>Šälus</i> , Tuesday
samenna warq	ሰምና ወርቅ <i>sāmenna wärq</i> (wax and gold), rhetorical mode of double meaning
<i>Sanuy</i>	ሰኑይ <i>Sänuy</i> , Monday
sewasew	ሰዋሰው <i>səwasəw</i> (ladder), word for grammar
Shewa	ሸዋ <i>Šäwa</i> (also spelled <i>Sewa</i> in the HZY), region in southern Ethiopia
Sime’on	ሰምዖን <i>Səmə’on</i> , sixteenth-century Ethiopian nobleman and author
Susenyos	ሱስነዮስ <i>Susənyos</i> , king of Ethiopia from 1606 to 1632
<i>Ta’ammera Maryam</i>	ተ’አምረ ማርያም <i>Tä’ammərä Maryam</i> , the <i>Book of the Miracles of Saint Mary</i>
Takkaze	ተክሢ <i>Täkkäzi</i> , also spelled as ተክሢ <i>Täkkäze</i> and transcribed as Tekeze, a river in northern Ethiopia
Takla Haymanot	ተክለ ሃይማኖት <i>Täklä Haymanot</i> , nineteenth-century Ethiopian Catholic priest and author
Tana	ጣና <i>Tana</i> , huge lake in the Amhara region
Tesemma	ተሰማ <i>Təsämma</i> , other name of Wäldä Gäbrä’el, younger son of Lord Habtu
Tewalda Madhen	ተወልደ መድኅን <i>Təwäldä Mädḥən</i> , fifteenth century author of a saint’s life
Teqemt	ጥቅምት <i>Təqəmt</i> , Ethiopian calendar month roughly corresponding with October
tergwame	ትርጓሜ <i>tərgwame</i> , word for textual interpretation

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Tewahedo	ተዋሕዶ Tāwahaḍo, word for ‘oneness’, used in የኢትዮጵያ ኦርቶዶክስ ተዋሕዶ ቤተ ክርስቲያን (Ethiopian Orthodox Tāwahaḍo Church)
Tigré	ትግሬ Təgre or ትግራይ Təgray, region in northern Ethiopia
Walatta Petros	ወለተ ጳጥርስ Wälättä Pētros (also called Fäntayä), Lord Habtu’s noble daughter-in-law
Walda Gabriel	ወልደ ገበርኤል Wäldä Gäbrä’el, one of Lord Habtu’s younger sons
Walda Giyorgis	ወልደ ጊዮርጊስ Wäldä Giyorgis, patron of a pre-Abb 234 HZY manuscript
Walda Heywat	ወልደ ሕይወት Wäldä Həywät (also called Mätəkkū), author of the second <i>Hatata Inquiry</i> HWH
Walda Michael	ወልደ ሚካኤል Wäldä Mika’el, first-born son of Lord Habtu
Walda Yosef	ወልደ ዮሴፍ, Wäldä Yosef, scribe of pre-Abb 234 HZY manuscript
Warqe	ወርቄ, Wārqe, Zär’a Ya’əqob’s other name
Weddase Maryam	ወዳሴ ማርያም Wəddase Maryam, famous hymn devoted to Mary
Yaqob	ያዕቆብ Ya’əqob (Jacob), common name
Yetbarak	ይትባረክ Yətbārāk, Zara Yaqob’s eldest grandson
Yohannes	ዮሐንስ Yoḥannās (John), seventeenth-century Ethiopian king
Yostos	ዮስጦስ Yosṯos (Justus, Giusto, Justin), name Giusto da Urbino went by in Ethiopia
Zara Yaqob	ዘርአ ያዕቆብ Zār’a Ya’əqob, also called Wārqe, author of the first <i>Hatata Inquiry</i> , HZY; this seventeenth-century Ethiopian author is not to be confused with the fifteenth-century Ethiopian emperor of the same name
Zema Bet	ዜማ ቤት Zema Bet, EOTC school stage of studying music and hymnody

