



AIATSIS
AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT
ISLANDER STUDIES

Guide to the tutorial

Talkin names: An introduction to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander personal names

Learning Outcomes

- Knowledge of the ATSI LIRN (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Resource Network) protocols
- Understanding the conventions used when establishing headings for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Names

Running the tutorial

Flash player plug-in required - downloadable free of charge from
<http://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/>

Resources

Bibliography and links – Aboriginal names

- Eastern and central Arrernte to English dictionary
John Henderson , Veronica Dobson. Alice Springs, N.T. : IAD Press, 1994
- Kinship and skin names. Central Land Council.
http://www.clc.org.au/People_Culture/kinship/kinship.html
- Aboriginal breastplates : a history of Aboriginal breastplates. National Museum of Australia online exhibition.
http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/aboriginal_breastplates/
- About names. AIATSIS Family History Unit.
http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/fhu/docs/3_FHU_names.pdf
- Draft IFLA guidelines for names. NoP Australia, 2009

Bibliography and links – Torres Strait Islander names

- Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Straits (1898), *Reports of the Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Straits* University Press, Cambridge, 1901-1935.
- Loban, Frank 2007, *Ngalpun adhabath a goeygayil bangal (our sea, our future): an examination of Torres Strait Protected Zone Joint Authority principles and Torres Strait Islander needs and aspirations for the Torres Strait fisheries, from a Torres Strait Islander perspective.* <http://eprints.jcu.edu.au/4829/2/02whole.pdf>
- Mabo : the native title revolution
http://www.mabonativetitle.com/mer_28.shtml
- Pascoe, Bruce & Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies 2008, *The little red yellow black book : an introduction to Indigenous Australia* Aboriginal Studies Press, Canberra.
- Ray, Sydney H 2001, *Dictionary of Torres Strait languages* Rams Skull Press, Kuranda, Qld
- Torres Strait Regional Authority <http://www.tsra.gov.au/>

AIATSIS Library skin name conventions

Skin names are kinships terms and are part of social organisation. With skin names people know their responsibilities and their role in relationships with others. By using skin names people identify others as mothers, fathers, uncles, aunts, cousins, potential marriage partners, etc., and adapt their behaviour towards others accordingly. Almost every aspect of communication with other Aboriginal people on a day to day basis is conducted in accordance with kinship ties.

With skin names, the convention we follow when cataloguing or indexing is illustrated in the following examples.

In the next two examples Nakamarra is the skin name

- If the skin name follows a single forename the skin name functions as a surname.

Nina Nakamarra
Becomes
Nakamarra, Nina

- If the skin name is in the **middle** of the personal name we treat it as part of the forename structure.

Nancy Nakamarra Nelson

Becomes

Nelson, Nancy Nakamarra

In the next example Tjapaltjarri is the skin name

- If the skin name is at the **end** of the personal name and is preceded by a name which can function as a surname it becomes part of a compound surname.

Johnny Possum Tjapaltjarri

Becomes

Possum Tjapaltjarri, Johnny

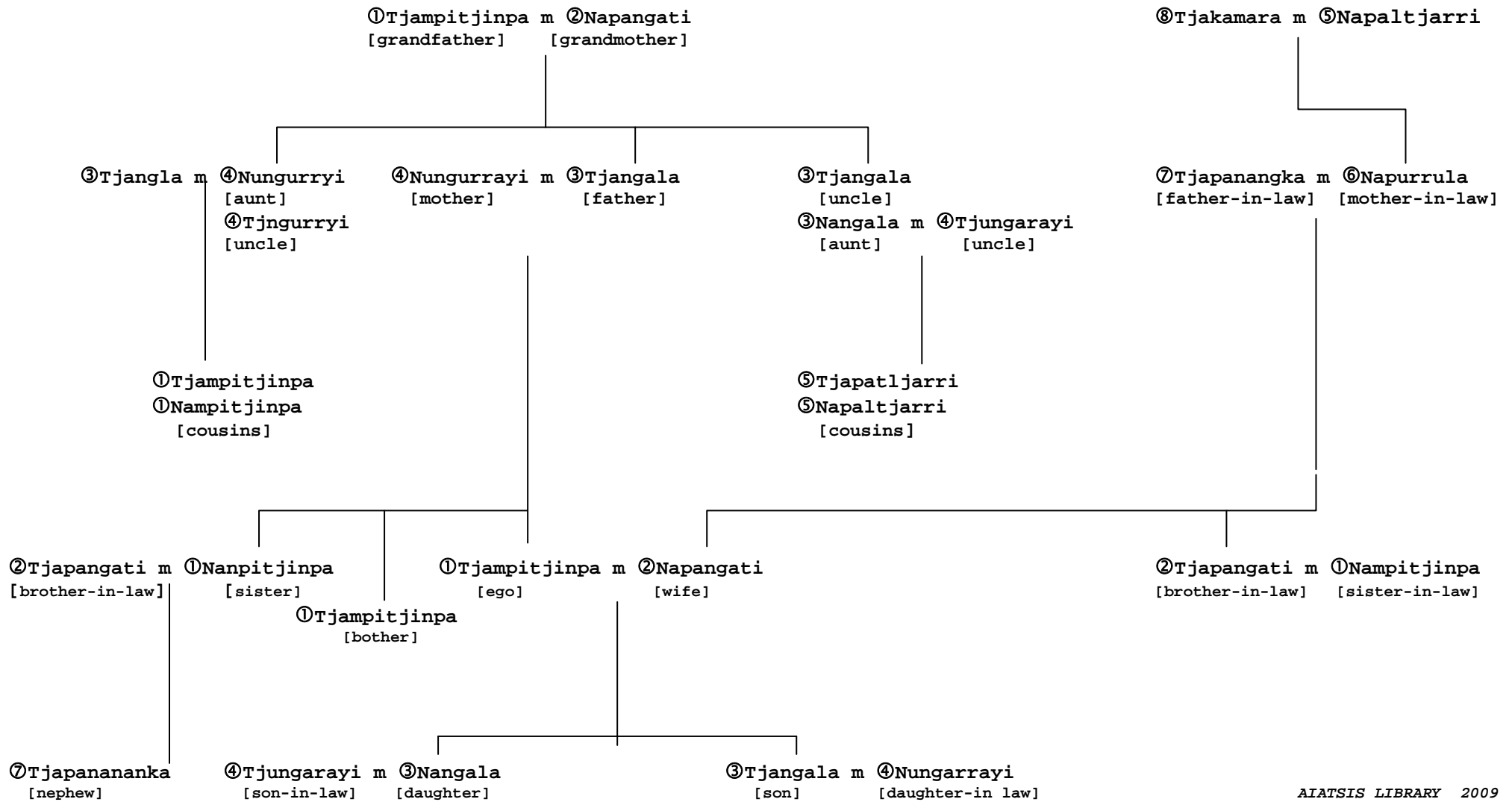
Examples of skin names with junior names

Warlpiri	Anmatyerr	Kaytetye	Warumungu	Alyawarr	Central Arrente
J/Napanangka Janama Ngamana	Penangk Tyanam Ngaman	Apenangke Tyaname Ngamane	J/Nappanangka		Penangke/ <i>Panunga</i>
J/Nungarrayi Jukurdayi Ngapita	Ngwarray Tywekertay Ngapet	Kngwarreye Tywekertaye Ngapete	Jungarrayi / Namikili	Kngwarrey	Kngwarraye / <i>Uknaria</i>
Ju/Napurrurla Jurlama Ngampurla	Pwerl Tywelam Ngamperl	Pwerle Tywerlame Ngamperle	Juppurla / Narrurlu	Apwerl	Perrurle/ <i>Purula</i>
J/Nangala Jangkarli Ngangkala	Angal Tyangkarl Ngangkal	Thangale Tyangkarle Ngangkarle	J/Nangali		Angale / <i>Ungalla</i>
J/Napaljarri Japalyi Ngalyirri	Peltharr Tyapaly Ngalyerr	Kapetye Tyapalye Ngalyerre	Japalyi / Naljarri	Apetyarr	Peltharre / <i>Bultara</i>
J/Napangardi Japayardi Ngampayardi	Pengart Tyapeyart Ngampeyart	Apengarte Tyapeyarte Ngampeyarte	J/Nappangarti		Pengarte / <i>Appungerta</i>
J/Nakamarra Jakarra Wajala	Akemarr Tyakarr Watyal	Akemarre Tyakarre Watyale	J/Nakkamarra	Akemarr	Kemarre / <i>Kumara</i>
J/Nampijinpa Jampirlka Ngampijakurdu	Ampetyan Tyamperl Mpetyakwert	Ampetyane Tyamperlke Mpetyakwerte	J/Nampin		Ampetyane / <i>Umbitchana</i>

- Note that Alyawarr has four skin groups only. Table courtesy of Harold Koch.
- Italics used for older spellings. Central Arrente information courtesy of Barry Cundy

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Comments and Suggestions

We welcome your feedback on this tutorial. We would also appreciate hearing from you if you have examples of skin names from other areas of Australia.

You can contact us at : library@aiatsis.gov.au

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