

This is the list of Russian names corrected as of February 7, 2008.

Abram, Avram, Авраám (m) ah-BRAHM, ah-VRAHM [av-`ram] Yiddish form of Abraham 'father of a multitude.' Bible, Genesis. First of the Patriarchs. {Abrasha}**.

Adskhan Адсхан (m) ahts-KAHN, [ats-`kan]. Turkic 'khan, knight, prince' *.

Afanasyi Афанáсий (m) ah-fa-NAH-see, [a-fa-`na-si] < Greek, 'immortal.' {Afonya} *.

Agaphya Агафья (f) ah-GAH-fya [a-`ga-fja] from Greek *agápe* 'brotherly love', 'good, noble person' *.

Agnessa Агнесса (f) ah-GNEH-sah, [a-`gne-sa] < Greek *agnos* 'pure, chaste.' It is also possible to postulate a derivation from the Greek *agăthós* 'good.' St. Agnes was martyred in the 4th century. {Agnessochka, Agus'ka, Agusya} *.

Agrapena Аграпена (f) ah-grah-PYEH-nah [a-gra-`pje-na]. Variant of Agrippina (see next) *.

Agrippina Агриппина (f) ah-gree-PEE-nah [a-gri-`pi-na] < old Roman family name. Name of the mother of the Emperor Nero and also an early Christian martyred saint. {Gylya} *.

Aleftina Алевтина (f) ah-lyef-TEE-nah [a-`lef-`ti-na]. Arabic 'very beautiful.' {Alya, Aliona} **.

Aleksey Алексей (m) ah-LYEK-syay, [a-`lek-sje] < Greek 'to protect.' {Aleshen'ka, Alyosha, Alyoshen'ka, Iyalik, Lapa,

Lenya, Lesha, Leshen'ka, Leshka, Luoshen'ka, Lyokha, Lyonya, Lyosha, Lyoshik, Lyolya}****.

Alexander Александр (m) ah-lyek-SAHNDR [a-ʎek-`sandr] < Greek *alexein* 'protector of men.' {Aleksasha, Alik, Aliosha, Lyosha, Pushkin, Sakha, Sakher, Sanka, Sanya, Sasha, Sashulyk, Sashjen, Sashka, Sashechka, Sashen'ka, Sasher, Sashok, Sashulya, Sashunya, Sashusya, Shura, Shurik, Shurka, Shurochka}****.

Alexandra Александра (f) ah-lyek-SAN-drah [a-ʎek-`san-dra]. Feminine form of Alexander. {Sasha, Sashenka, Aleksa, Sashenka, Shura, Shurik, Shurka, Shurtk, Shurochka}***.

Ali Али (m) AH-lee [a-li] < Arabic, 'the highest.' **.

Alina Алина (f) ah-LEE-nah [a-`li-na]. A form of Adelaide which itself is a French form of Old German *Adelheit*, 'nobility' {Alinochka, Alya}*.

Alisa Алиса (f) ah-LEE-sah [a-`li-sa]. English < Old French < Old German 'of noble kind', possibly a form of Alexandra. {Alisochka, Lisa}*.

Alla Алла (f) AHL-la [a-la]. One suggestion is that it is a short form of Alexandra. Another that it is < Greek *alla* 'other', possibly by extension 'the only one.' {Alka, Allochka, Allusya}**.

Anastasia, Anastasiya Анастасия (f) ah-na-stah-SEE-yah, [a-na-sta-
`si-ja] < Greek *anástasis* 'resurrection.' {Asya, Asulya,
Asyanya, Nasten'ka, Nastentsiya, Nastukha, Nastulya, Nastya,
Nastyona, Nastyusha, Tosen'ka}***.

Anatoliy, Anatoly, Anatolyi Анатолий (m) ah-nah-TOH-lee [a-na-`to-li]
< Greek *anatolé* 'sunrise, east, dawn.' {Tolechka, Tolen'ka,
Tolik, Tolunchik, Tolusha, Tolya, Tolyasha}***.

Andrey Андрей (m) Andréy, ahn-DRYAY [an-`drjej] < Greek *andreios*
'brave, manly'. {Andreyka, Andron, Andrukha, Andryusha,
Andryushka, Andryushen'ka, Drunya}***.

Anfisa Анфиса (f) ahn-FEE-sah [an-`fi-sa] < Greek *ánthos* 'flower'
{Anya, Fisa}*.

Anna Анна (f) AHN-nah [`an-na] < Greek form of < Hebrew *hannāh*
'gracious.' Probably associated by tradition with most
Russians (and hence its spread) with the mother of the Virgin
Mary. {Aniuta, Anechka, Annushka, An'ul'ka, Anuta, Anya,
Anytik, Njura, Njurochka, Njushen'ka, Njusya, Nura, Nurka,
Nurochka, Nusha, Nuta, Nutochka}****.

Anton АНТОН (m) ahn-TOHN [an-`ton]. Russian form of Antony,
Anthony < Latin *Antōnius* name of an old Roman family. Meaning
uncertain. {Antosha, Antoshen'ka}**.

Antonina АНТОНИНА (f) ahn-tah-NEE-nah [[an-ta-`ni-na]. Feminine form of
Anton {Anton, Anya, Tonechka, Ton'ka, Tonya, Tosik, Tosya}***.

Arif Ариф (m) ah-RIF [a-`rif]. Arabic 'wise, knowledgeable.'*

Arkady Аркадий (m) ahr-KAH-dee [ar-`ka-di] < Greek *Arkadios*, a region in the Greek Peloponnesus. Popularity in Russia due to St. Arkadios, 4th century bishop. {Arkan, Arkasha}**.

Arly Арли (m) AHR-lee [a-`ri] < Alexander? {Alik}*.

Arsentiy Арсентий (m) ahr-SYEHN-tee [ar-`sjen-ti]. Variant of Arsenij < Greek *Arsenios* 'brave, courageous'. Popularity due to St. Arsenius the Great, 5th century saint. {Arsya}*.

Artemiy Артемий (m) ahr-TYEH-meey [ar-`tje-mij]. Russian derivation < Greek *Artemis*, goddess of the moon and hunting, equivalent to the Roman Diana. 4th century saint. {Tyoma}**.

Artyom Артем (m) ahr-TYOHM [ar-`tjom]. See: Artemiy previous.
{Tuoma, Tyoma}**

Asya Ася (f) AH-syah [a-`sja]. Affectionate form of Anastasia or Anna. Also an independent name. {Asusha, Asunta}**.

Avgusta Августа (f) ahv-GUH-stah [av-`gu-sta]. Feminine form of Latin *Augustus* 'venerable, grand.'*

Bella Бэла (f) BEHL-lah [b-`el-la]. Short form of Spanish Isabella, which itself is derived from the Hebrew *elisheva* 'God is my oath.' See: Elizabeta (below). A 2nd root is that it is from French (*belle*) or Italian (*bello*) meaning 'beautiful'*

Boris Борис (m) bah-REES [ba-`ris]. Two possible sources: (1) < Tartar *Bogoris*, 'small' or (2) Slavonic *bor*, 'battle.' Name

of a 10th century Russian saint. {Bob, Borenka, Borenok, Borik, Borusya, Borya, Boryushka}***.

Bronislava Бронислава (f) brah-nee-SLAH-vah [bra-ni-`sla-va]. Feminine form of Bronislav, combination of Slavonic elements *bron*, 'armor, protection' and *slav* 'glory.' {Slava}*.

Daniil ДАНИИЛ (m) dahn-nee-EEL [da-ni-`il] < Hebrew *Daniel* 'God is my judge.' {Danya, Danyasha, Den, Dunyasha, Zaika}**.

Darya Дарья (f) DAHR-yah [`da-rja] < Greek *dareîos* from the name of the Persian King Darius. {Danya, Daryusha, Dasha, Dashik}**.

David ДАВИД (m) dah-VEED [`da-vid] < Hebrew 'beloved.' {Gusya}*.

Denis (Dennis), Денис (m) DEH-nees [`dɛ-nis]; **Denise** (f) deh-NEE-zuh [dɛ-`ni-zə]. French form of the Greek *Dionusios*, the Greek god of wine. Also a saints' name. {Deniska, Denichka, Denya, Dinya}**.

Dimitryi ДИМИТРИЙ (m) dee-MEE-tree [di-`mi-tri] < Greek *Dēmētrios*, < *Dēmētēr* Greek goddess of fertility. Famous 4th century saint. {Dadik, Dima, Dimon, Dimulia, Dimulyk, Dimchik, Dimochka, Mimya, Mityai, Mitenka, Mitya}***.

Dinara Динара (f) dee-NAH-rah [di-`na-ɾa] < Arabic *dinar* (Arab monetary unit). By extension can be understood as 'wealthy.' {Dina, Dinarik, Dinochka}*.

Efim ЕФИМ (m) yeh-FEEM [jɛ-`fim]. Short form of Euphemios < Greek *eúphēmos* 'of good voice, fair speech.' {Fima}**.

Efrosinya Евфросинья (f) yef-rah-SEE-nyah [jɛf-ra-`si-na] < Greek *euphrósúnē*, 'cheerful.' {Fros'ka}*

Egor Игорь (m) YEH-gohr [jɛ-gɔr]. Vernacular variant of Georgiy < Greek *geōrgós* 'farmer.' See: Georgiy below. {Garik, Igoryok, Igoryuk}*

Ekaterina Екатерина (f) yeh-ka-tyeh-REE-nah [jɛ-ka-tjɛ-`ri-na].

Russian form < Greek. Clear etymology not known. However, the name has been associated by folk-etymology with the Greek *katheros*, 'pure.' 4th century saint of this name martyred in Alexandria. {Katya, Katyen'ka, Katyusha, Katyushka, Katyushen'ka, Katrinushka, Katyookha, Ket, Kitty}***.

Elena Елена (f) yeh-LYEH-nah [jɛ-`λɛ-na] < Greek (*h*)*élen*, daughter of Zeus, meaning 'Greek, educated' by extension 'the bright one, the shining one.' Associated with St. Helena, mother of Emperor Constantine. {Lena, Lenka, Lenchka, Lenusya, Lyalya, Ljolya}****.

Elfrida Эльфрида (f) yel'FREE-dah [jel-`fri-da] (pronunciation not certain). Old English elements *elf* 'elf, supernatural being' + *frid*, 'strength.' {Elya}*

Elizaveta Елизавета (f) yeh-lee-zah-VYEH-tah [jɛ-li-za-`vjɛ-ta] < Hebrew *elishava* 'God is my oath.' Bible, the wife of Aaron, the high priest. New Testament, mother of John the Baptist.

Also the name of two saints. {Lilya, Liza, Lizan'ka, Lizaveta, Lizochka, Lusechka}**.

Emmanuil ЭММАНУИЛ (m) ehm-mah-noo-EEL [ɛ-ma-nu-`il] < Hebrew *Ee-mah-noo ehl* (*imanu-ēl*) 'God is with us.' {Monya}*.

Erik Эрик (m) EH-reek [`ɛ-rik] < Old Norse *ei* 'ever' + *rikr* 'ruler of all', 'always ruler.' Associated with Eric the Red, 10th century Norwegian explorer. {Erya}*.

Ernest Эрнест (m) ehr-NEST [ɛr-`nɛst]. English form of German *Ernst* 'vigor, earnestness.' St. Ernst (14th century) was the first archbishop of Prague. Probably associated with the Oscar Wilde play *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Another association might be with Ernest Hemingway. (Ernestina, Er)*.

Evdokija, Evdokiya Евдокия (f) yehv-daw-KEE-yah [jɛv-dɔ-`ki-ja] < Greek, *eû* 'good, well' + *dóxa* 'credit, honor, glory.' By extension, 'satisfaction, particularly of God with the bearer of the name. {Dina, Dunya, Dusen'ka, Dusya}**.

Evgeniy Евгений (m) yehv-GYEH-nee [jɛv-`gjɛ-ni] < Greek *eû* 'well' + *genēs* 'born.' Name of a 4th century missionary bishop. Evgesha, Ganna, Gannik, Ganushkasee, Genechka, Genya, Jannulya, Zheka, Zhen'ka, Zhenya, Zhenechka, Xhenura, Zhenusha, Zhenys}***.

Evgeniya Евгения (f) yehv-GYEH-nee-yah [jɛv-`gjɛ-ni-ja]. See: Evgeniy (above). {Genya, Zhenya, Zhenechka, Zheshka}***.

Faina Фаина (f) fah-EE-nah [fa-`i-na]. < Greek *Phaeina* feminine form of *Phaeinos* 'bright, shining.' An attribute of Apollo. It is also a Yiddishised form of the East Slavic *Fanya*, also ultimately < the Greek. {Faya}*.

Feliks Феликс (m) FYEH-leefks [fjɛ-lik] < Latin, 'happy, fortunate, lucky.' Also used as a kinnui (link name) by Jews for Asher since one of the meanings of Asher is 'fortunate.' {Felya, Lutik}*.

Feoktista Феоктиста (f) feh-ahk-TEES-tah [fjɛ-ak-`tis-ta] < Greek *theós* 'God' + *ktístēs* 'founder, creator', 'God is the creator.' {Fenya}*.

Fyodor Фёдор (m) FYAW-dahr [fjɔ-dar] < Greek *theós* 'God' + *dóron* 'gift', 'God's gift.' {Faya, Feden'ka, Fedya, Vadik}**.

Galina Галина (f) gah-LEE-nah [ga-`li-na]. Uncertain origin. One interpretation is that it is a form of Elena. Another is that it is from the Greek *galéne* 'calm'. {Galechka, Galinka, Galka, Galochka, Galchonok, Galusha, Galya}***.

Ganei, Ganey Ганей (m) GAH-nee [gɑ-ni]. Possibly variant short form of Gennady*.

Gavriil Гавриил (m) gahv-ree-EEL [gav-ri-`il]. Russian form of Hebrew Gavriel *gavhri'ēl*, 'God is my strength.' {Ganya}*.

Gennady, Gennadi Геннадий (m) gyeh-NAH-deey [gjɛ-`na-dij]. Meaning and origin uncertain. Hanks and Hodges (130-131) think the

Greek *Gennadíōs* may come from a derivative of names like *Diogenes* or *Hermogenes*. We tend to think it more likely it is derived from the Greek *gennaíos* 'noble, high-born.' Saint's name. {Gena, Gesha, Genulya, Genya, Gnochka}**.

Genya Гена (f) GYEH-nyah [ˈgʲɛ-nɐ]. Form of Gennady*

Georgiy Георгий (m) gyeh-AWR-geey [gʲɛ-ˈɔr-gij] < Greek *geōrgós* 'farmer.' Name of several early saints. {Garya, Garik, Gosha, Zhora, Zhorik}**.

German Герман (m) GYEHR-mahn [ˈgʲɛr-mɐn] < Latin *Germanus* 'brother, one of kin.' {Gera}**.

Gleb Глеб (m) GLYEHb [gʲlɛb] According to Hanks and Hodges (137) < Old Norse *guf* 'god' + *leifr* 'life.' A saint's name. 'God of life'? Under God's protection? {Glebka, Glebushka}**

Grigoryi Григорий (m) gree-GAW-ree [gri-ˈgɔ-ri] < Greek *gregoréo* 'to be watchful'. Name of several early saints and popes. {Grisha, Grishen'ka, Grinya}***.

Gultchara Гяльчара (f) gyahl-TSCHA-rah [gjalˈtʃa-ɾa] < Iranian 'like a rose' *.

Gyena Хьена (f) GYEH-nah [ˈgʲɛ-nɐ]. Possibly the Russian form of the < Yiddish *Hanna* < Hebrew *Hanna* *.

Helen, Helena. See: Elena, above.

Igor See: Egor, above.

Iliya, Illya, Illia Илья (m) EEL-yah [ˈil-jɑ] < Greek form of the Hebrew *ēlīyāhū* 'the Lord is my God.' {Iljushka, Iluka, Ilusha, Ilushen'ka, Iluska, Lusya}**.

Inga Инга (f) EEN-gah [ˈin-gɑ]. Short form of Ingeborg. Scandinavian < Old Norse *Ing*, Norse god of peace, fertility, and prosperity*.

Inna Инна (f) EEN-nah [ˈin-na]. Affectionate form of a name ending in *-ina* such as *Khristina* or *Katerina*. Also an independent name. {Innochka, Innusha}**.

In(n)essa Инесса (Agnes) (f) een-NYEH-sah [in-ˈnjɛs-sɑ]. Russian form of the Latin *Agnēs* < Greek *agnós* 'pure, chaste.' St. Agnes was martyred in the 4th century. {Inna, Innulya, Innusya}*.

Iosif Иосиф (m) ee-YAW-seef [i-ˈɔ-sif] < Greek < Hebrew *yōsēf* 'God adds.' Bible, favored son of Jacob, New Testament, husband of Mary*.

Iozefina Жозфина (f) zhaw-zeh-FEE-nah [ʒɔ-zɛ-ˈfi-na]. Feminine form of Iosif. {Jozya, Osyā, Zhozya}*.

Iraida Ираида (f) eeh-rah-EE-dah [i-ra-ˈi-da] Feminine form of Greek *hērōs* 'hero.' {Raya}*.

Irina Ирина (f) eeh-REE-nah [i-ˈri-na] < Greek *eirēnē* 'peace.' Name of several saints in the Orthodox Church. Very popular name in

Russia. {Ira, Iren, Irka, Irinka, Irinushka, Irisha, Iriska, Irishka, Irok, Irochka, Risha, Trunchik}****.

Isaak Исаак (Isaac) (m) ee-SAH-ahk [i-`sa-ak]. Russian form of Hebrew *yitshāk* 'he will laugh.' Bible, Genesis, son of Abraham and Sarah born in their old age. {Isya}*.

Israil Израиль (Israel) (m) ee-zrah-EEL [i-zra-`il]. Russian form of Hebrew *yisrā'ēl* 'wrestled with God.' Bible, Genesis, name given to Jacob after he wrestled with the angel*.

Ivan Иван (m) ee-VAHN [i-`van] <Latin < Greek to Hebrew *yōchānān* 'God is gracious.' Bible, at least 9 figures with that name and more with the Greek New Testament version, *Jōannes*. {Ivanko, Ivashechka, Vanek, Vanechka, Vanya, Van'ka, Vanusha/Vanyusha/Vanushka, Vanyushechka}****.

Julia. See: Yulia, (below).

Kapitolina Капитолина (f) kah-pee-tah-LEE-nah [ka-pi-ta-`li-na].

Possibly the feminine form of the name Kapiton < Latin *Capito* 'big-headed.' 4th century missionary bishop. {Kapa}*.

Karina (f) kah-REE-nah [ka-`ri-na]. Russian form of Katherine possibly < Greek *katheros* 'pure', an early saint of this name martyred in Alexandria*. See: Ekaterina above.

Katerina (Katherine). See: Ekaterina above.

Katya Катя (f) KAH-tyah [ka-tja]. Affectionate form of Ekaterina*.

Kira Кира (f) KEE-rah [*'ki-ra*] < feminine form of *Kûros*, 'Cyrus.'
{Kirochka}*.

Kirill Кирилл (m) kee-REEL [*'ki-'ril*] < Greek *kúrios* 'lord, ruler.'
Name of the 9th century missionary who is credited with the
Russian alphabet. {Kiryunchik, Kiryusha}**.

Klara Клара (f) KLAN-rah [*'kla-ra*] < Latin *clārus* 'bright, shining,
clear' {Klarochka}**.

Klavdia, Klavdiya Клавдия (f) KLANV-dee-yah [*'klav-di-ja*]. Russian
form of the feminine form of Latin *Claudius*, Roman family name
< *claudus*, 'lame.' New Testament, St. Paul. {Klava,
Klavochka}**.

Konstantin КОНСТАНТИН (m) kahn-stahn-TEEN [*'kan-stan-'tin*] < Latin
constans 'constant, steady.' Name of the first Roman emperor,
288?-337, converted to Christianity. {Kitya, Kosten'ka,
Kostik, Kostya, Kotik, Kotunka, Kotya}***.

Kronid Кронид (m) KRAW-need [*'krɔ-nid*]. Appears to be derived from
the Greek *Krónos* 'Cronus, or Saturn'. Probably associated with
St. Kronides, a 3rd century martyr. {Kronya}*.

Ksenia, Kseniya Ксения (f) KSYAY-nyah [*'ksje-ɲa*] < Greek *xenia*
'hospitality.' {Ksyusha}**.

Larisa Лариса (f) lah-REE-sah [*'la-'ri-sa*]. Origin not clear. Name
of a Greek martyr venerated by the Orthodox Church. {Lara,
Lora, Larochka, Lialya}**.

Lazar Лазарь (m) LAH-zar [ˈla-zar] < Hebrew < *Ēli'ēzer* 'my God has helped.' Bible figure, servant of Abraham. Also, New Testament figures: (1) brother of Martha and Mary, raised from the dead by Jesus, (2) the beggar with sores*.

Lena Лена (f) LYEH-nah [ˈljɛ-na]. Short form of Elena (See: above). Used as an independent name. {Lusya}*.

Leonid Леонид (m) lyeh-ah-NEED [ˈɫɛ-aˈnid] < Greek *Leontōdēs*, 'like a lion.' Name of two Orthodox saints. {Lenya, Lyokha, Lyonetska, Lyon'chik}**.

Lev Лев (m) LYEHV [ˈɫɛv] < Greek *leōn* 'lion.' Name of several popes. Used by Jews as a kinnui (link name) for Yehuda (Judah). {Lyonya, Lyova, Lyoyushka}**.

Lidia, Lidiya, Lydia Лидия (f) LEE-dee-yah [ˈli-di-ja] < Greek 'woman from Lydia'. Region of Asia Minor. New Testament. {Lida, Lidok, Lidochka}**.

Lika Лёка (f) LEEH-kah [ˈli-ka]. Combined form of Lydia and Katherine. {Likunya, Likusya}*.

Lilya Лиля (f) LEEH-lyah [ˈli-lja] < Latin *lilium* 'lily'. {Lilechka, Lilya}**.

Lina Лена (f) LYEEH-nah [ˈljɛ-na]. Affectionate form of names with the suffix *-lina* such as Ekaterina, Elena, or Kristina*.

Lolita Лолита (f) lah-LEE-tah [la-`li-ta]. Short form of Dolores < Spanish cognate, 'sorrows', one of the titles of the Virgin Mary. {Lola}*.

Lubov Любовь (f) lyoo-BAWSH [lju-`bɔʃ] 'love.' Loan translation from the original Greek *agápe*. See: Agaphya (above). {Luba, Lubochka, Luban'ka, Lubushka, Lyubasha}***.

Ludmila Людмила (f) lyud-MEE-lah [ljud-`mi-la] <Old Slavonic *lud* 'people' + *mila* 'love, grace' = 'loved by people.' Bohemian saint who was martyred in the 10th century. {Lyuda, Lyudochka, Lyusya, Lyusen'ka, Lulya, Mila, Milochka}*.

Lukeriya Лукерья (f) loo-KYEHR-yah [lu-`kjer-ja] <Latin *lux* 'light'? {Lusha}*.

Magomed Магомед (m) mah-GAW-myehd [ma-`gɔ-mjed]. Russian form of Muhammad 'praised'*. Note: the *h* sound is different in Russian. Names from other languages often have a *g* replacing an *h*.

Maiya Маёя (f) MAH-yah [`ma-ja] <Latin, *Māia*, Roman goddess, one of the Pleiades loved by Zeus and mother of Hermes. Said to have given her name to the month of May*.

Maksim, Maxim МАКСИМ (m) mahk-SEEM [mak-`sim]. Short form of Maksimilian (Maximilian) <Latin *maximus*, 'the greatest.' Another root is that it is the blending of Maximus and Aemiliānus (meaning uncertain). But the name of a famous Roman

general Maximus was given to the son of Emperor Friedrich III)
{Maxik, Maximushka}*.

Manazai Маназай (m) mah-nah-ZAY [*`ma-na-zai*]. Pronunciation
uncertain, meaning unknown*.

Marek (Mark) Марк (m) MAHRK [*`mark*]. Russian form of Mark < Latin
Mārs 'war-like.' New Testament author of the Gospel that bears
his name. {Marka, Marik, Marochka}*.

Margarita Маргарита (f) mar-gah-REE-tah [*mar-ga-`ri-ta*] < Greek
margaron 'pearl'. {Margo, Rima, Rita, Ritochka}**.

Mariya Мария (f) mah-REE-yah [*ma-`ri-ja*]. Russian form of Mary <
Hebrew *Miryām*, meaning uncertain. New Testament, mother of
Jesus. {Manya, Manyash, Mari, Marochka, Marusen'ka, Marusya,
Masha, Mashen'ka, Mashka, Mashulya, Mukha, Musya,
Musienka}****.

Mariam Мариам (f) mah-ree-YAHM [*ma-ri-`jam*] < Hebrew *Miryām* meaning
uncertain. Bible, sister of Moses and Aaron. {Masha}*.

Marina Марина (f) mah-REE-nah [*ma-`ri-na*]. Possibly derived from
Latin *Marius*. Another widely held view is that it means 'of
the sea.' Possible popularity of this name in Russia may be
the influence of Princess Marina of Greece. {Marisha,
Marishka, Musen'ka}**.

Mark Марк (m) A form of Marek above. Mahrk, [mark] <Latin *Mārs* 'war-like. New Testament author of the Gospel that bears his name**.

Martemyan Мартемьян (m) mahr-teem-YAHN [mar-tim-`jan]*. Listed in Benson (169) as a less frequent male name. Shown in Unbegaun (53, 59) as < Greek *Μαρτινανός*. Meaning not given*.

Mikhail Михаил (m) mee-kha-EEL [mi-xa-`il] <Hebrew 'Who is like God.' An archangel. Also an important religious figure in Christianity. While a Jewish name originally, was not commonly used by Jews in Russia. {Mikele, Mikha, Mikhryut, Mikhryutka, Miniok, Minya, Misha, Mishanya, Mishen'ka, Mishulya, Mishunya, Mishya, Mishulya, Mishutka}****.

Mitrofan Митрофан (m) mee-trah-FAHN [mi-tra-`fan] < Greek *Mētrophanēs* < *méter* 'mother' + *phaínein* 'to show, appear.' Meaning uncertain. Early bishop. {Mitrosha}*.

Moisey Моисей (Moses) (m) moy-SYAY [mɔi-`sje] < Hebrew *Mōshe*. Meaning uncertain. Bible. Leader who brought the Israelites out of Egypt. Known as 'the Lawgiver'*.

Musa Муза (f) MOO-sah, MOO-zah [`mu-sa], [`mu-za] < Greek *moūsa* 'muse' ** .

Nadezhda Надежда (f) nah-DY EZH-dah [na-`djɛz-da] 'hope.' Name of Lenin's wife. {Dadenka, Naden'ka, Nadulya, Nadusha, Nadya, Nadyusha, Nadyusho, Nadyuska, Nadyushen'ka}***.

Natalia, Nataliya, Natalya, Natalyia Наталья (f) nah-TAL-yah [na-
 `ta-ʎa] < Late Latin < Natālia < *natālis diēs* 'birthday of the
 Lord', i.e., Christmas. Associated with a 4th century saint.
 {Habibi, Nanechka, Nata, Natalochka, Natalya, Natasha,
 Natashen'ka, Natashik, Natashka, Natik, Natka, Natochka,
 Natalochka, Natulechka, Natulya, Natusya, Natysya, Tasha,
 Tata, Tatochka, Tusik, Tulya, Tusya, Tysya}***.

Nikita Никита (m) nee-KEE-tah [ni-`ki-ta] < Greek *Anikētos*
 'unconquered.' Name associated with Nikita Krushchev, Russian
 premier. Also the name of an early pope. {Nika, Nikitushka}**.

Nikolai, Nikolay Никита (m) nee-kah-LYE (-lai pronounced as "lye" or "lie")
 [ni-ka-`lai] Russian form of Nicholas < Greek *nikē* 'victor' +
laos 'people' = 'victory of the people.' Name of a 4th century
 saint. Also associated with the last czar. {Kolen'ka, Kol'ka,
 Kolya, Kolyai, Kolyan, Kolyunja, Lado, Nika, Nikolasha,
 Nikolashka, Nikolen'ka, Nikolka, Nikusya}****.

Nina Нина (f) NEE-nah [ni-na]. Short form of Antonina (above).
 Also an independent name. {Ninok, Ninochka, Ninulya, Ninus'ka,
 Ninusen'ka}***.

Oksana Оксана (f) ahk-SAH-nah [ak-`sa-na] < Greek *xenia*
 'hospitality' *.

Oleg Олег (m) ah-LYEG [a-`ʎeg]. Russian form of Scandinavian *Helge*,
 originally meant 'prosperous.' Later came to mean 'holy.'

Name not approved by the Orthodox Church. {Alik, Alusha, Olezhek, Olezhka}**.

Olga Ольга (f) AWL-gah [ˈɔl-ga]. Russian feminine equivalent of Oleg. But, unlike Oleg was approved by the Orthodox Church because of St. Olga of Kiev, a 10th century saint. {Alenka, Aliona, Lyalya, Lyolya, Lyolyok, Olechka, Olen'ka, Olezhek, Olgunya, Olgusha, Olgushka, Olka, Olushka, Olya}****.

Pavel Павел (m) PAH-vyel [ˈpa-vjel]. Russian form of Latin *paulus* 'small.' New Testament name associated with St. Paul. {Pasha, Pashka, Pashulya, Pava, Pavlik, Pavlusha, Pavlushka}***.

Pelageya Пелагея (f) pyay-lah-GYEH-yah [pje-la-ˈgje-ja] < Greek name *Pelagios* < *pélagos* 'of the sea.' {Palaga, Pelaga, Polen'ka, Polina, Polinka, Polya}**.

Philip Филипп (m) fee-LEEP [fi-ˈlip] < Greek *phílos* 'love' + (*h*)*íppos* 'horse' = 'lover of horses.' Two prominent figures: (1) New Testament, one of the 12 Apostles, (2) father of Alexander the Great. {Philya}*.

Polina (Paulina) Полина (f) pah-LEE-nah [pa-ˈli-na]. Form of Latin *paulus*. See: Pavel, above. {Polen'ka, Polinochka, Polya}**.

Praskovia, Praskovya ПРАСКОВЬЯ (f) prahs-KAWV-yah [pras-ˈkɔv-ja] < Greek *prosdokētós*, 'expected.' {Pana, Pasha, Parasha, Parashka}**.

Prokhor Прохор (m) PRAW-khar [ˈprɔ-xar] < Greek *pro* 'ahead' + *khoreúein* 'line of dancers, singers' = 'the leader in a line of dancers. Associated with St. Prochorus. New Testament. Bishop of Nicomedia. {Pronya}*

Prokophij Прокофий (m) prah-KAW-fee [pra-ˈkɔ-fi]. Russian form of Prokopij < Greek *Prokopios* < *prokóptein* 'success, advance.' 4th century Greek saint. {Pronya}*.

Pyotr Пётр (m) PYAW-tr [ˈpjɔ-tr] < Greek *pétros* 'rock.' New Testament. Chief of the Apostles. First bishop of Rome. {Pepik, Petechka, Petro, Peten'ka, Petrusha, Petyunchik, Petunya, Petya, Peyunt}***.

Rafael, (Raphael) Рафаил (m) rah-fah-EEL [ra-fa-ˈil] < Hebrew *rephā'ēl* 'God has healed.' Name of the angel of healing. Also, the name of a Levite in I Chronicles. {Raph, Rapho}*.

Raisa Раиса (f) rah-EE-sah [ra-ˈi-sa]. Uncertain Greek origin. Name of a 4th century Christian martyr. Raechka, Raika, Raya, Rayusha}**.

Ra'uf Рауф (m) RAHOOF [ˈrauf]. Arabic *ra'ūf* 'compassionate, merciful.'*

Rebekka (Rebecca) Ревекка (f) ryeh-VYEH-kah [rjɛ-ˈvjɛ-ka] < Hebrew *rivka* 'noose.' Bible. Wife of Isaac. Mother of Esau and Jacob*.

Rimma РИММА (f) REE-mah [*`ri-ma*]. A feminine form of Roman. See:

Roman (below). {Rimka}**.

Robert Роберт (m) RAW-bert [*`rɔ-bert*]. English < French < German

hrod 'fame' + *berth* 'bright.' {Rob}*.

Roman Роман (m) rah-MAHN [*ra`man*] < Latin *Rōmānus* 'Roman.' Name of

several early saints. {Roma, Romka}**.

Rostislav Ростислав (m) rahs-tis-LAHF [*ras-tis`laf*] < Old Slavonic

rosts 'usurp' + *slav* 'glory.' {Slava}*.

Roza Роза (f) RAW-zah [*`rɔ-za*] < Latin *rōsā* 'rose'**.

Ruslan Руслан (m) roo-SLAHN [*ru`slan*]. Meaning unknown. Name of a

character in Alexander Pushkin's poem 'Ruslan and Ludmila'

{Rusya}*.

Rustam Рустам (m) ROOS-tahm [*`rus-tam*] < Persian 'tall, big,

strong'*. Rostam (slightly different spelling) was a major figure in Iranian folklore who unwittingly killed his own son. Matthew Arnold told the story in his famous poem "*Sohrab and Rustam.*"

Salame Саламэ (f) sah-LAH-meh [*sa`la-mɛ*] < Hebrew *shālōm* 'peace.'

Popular name at the time of Jesus. Name of two New Testament figures*.

Samuil Самуил (Samuel) (m) sah-moo-EEL [*sa-mu`il*] < Hebrew *shmūēl*

'God heard' or 'His name is God'**.

Seda Седá (f) SYEH-dah [*`sjɛ-da*]. Armenian 'spirit of the forest'*.

Semyon Семен (m) syehm-YAWN [sjɛ-`mjɔn]. Russian form of Simeon < Hebrew *shī`mōn* ([God] heard.' 2nd son of Jacob. Also associated with several New Testament figures. {Senya, Senechka, Zambik, Zyama}**.

Serafima Серафима (f) syeh-rah-FEE-mah [sjɛ-ra-`fi-ma] < Hebrew *serāphīm* 'burning ones' originally referring to the angels guarding the throne of God. {Fima}*.

Sergey, Sergei Сергей (m) syehr-GAY [sjɛr-`gej]. Russian from a Roman family name. Meaning uncertain. Associated with St. Sergius of Radonezh, famous 14th century Russian saint. {Seryozha, Seryozhechka, Seryozhen'ka, Sergunya, Sergun'ka, Serik, Seryoga}****.

Shanifa Шанифа (f) shah-NEE-fah [ʃa-`ni-fa]*. Meaning unknown.

Sofya, Sophia Софиа (f) saw-FEE-yah [sɔ-`fi-ja] < Greek *sophós* 'wisdom.' {Masjavick, Sonya, Sonyechka, Sophinka, Sophochka}**.

Stalina Сталина (f) stah-LEE-nah [sta-`li-na]. Feminine form of Stalin < *stal* 'steel.' Influenced by Joseph Stalin whose original name was Iosif Vissarionovich Dzhugashvili*.

Stanislav Станислав (m) stah-nee-SLAHF [sta-ni-`slaf] Slavic *stan* 'government' + *slav* 'glory' = 'glorious government.' St. Stanislaus (Polish form), 11th century saint, bishop of Cracow. {Slava, Stas, Stasik}**.

Stepan Степан (m) styeh-PAHN [stjɛ-`pan] < Greek *stéphanos* 'crown.'

New Testament. First Christian martyr. {Styopa, Styopan}**.

Svetlana Светлана (f) sveht-LAH-nah[sfɛt-`la-na] < Slavonic

translation of the Greek *phōtiné* 'light.' St. Photine was a martyred saint. Also associated with a figure in John: 4, New Testament. {Lyalya, Setka, Sveta, Svetik, Svetlanochka, Svetulik, Svetulya, Svetlyachok, Svetochka, Vetochnka}***.

Svyatoslav Святослав (m) sfyah-tah-SLAHF [sfja-ta-`slaf] <Old

Slavonic *svyanto* 'bright' + *slav* 'glory.' {Slava}*.

Taisiya Таисия (f) tah-EE-syah [ta-`i-sja]. Russian form of the

Greek *Thēssa*, originally referring to 'a poor girl, one obliged to go out for hire' (Liddell and Scott, 1964, 89) by extension 'bond' or 'bonded.' {Taika, Tain'ka, Taya, Tayona, Tayonochka}**.

Tamara Тамара (f) tah-MAH-rah [ta-`ma-ra]. Russian form of the

Hebrew *Tāmārā* 'date palm tree.' {Tamarochka, Toma, Tomik, Tamochka}***.

Taras Тарас (m) tah-RAHS [ta-`ras] <Greek *Tarasíos*. Meaning

uncertain. Name associated with St. Tarasius, bishop of Constantinople. It can also refer to the town known as Tarentum. {Bulba}*.

Tatyana/Tatiana Татьяна (f) tah-TYAH-nah [ta-`tja-na] <Latin

Tātiānus, an old Roman family name. Meaning uncertain. {Lucy,

Ljubasha, Ljubushka, Talka, Tanechka, Tan'ka, Tan'kin,
Tanurochka, Tanushka, Tanya, Tanyusha, Tata, Tatyanus}****.

Timur Тимур (m) tee-MOOR [ti-'mur] Turkic 'iron.' The root of the name is found in Tamerlane, the great Tartar conqueror, 1335-1405. The *lane* is traced to *lenk* 'lame.' {Timochka, Timosha}*.

Vadim ВАДИМ (m) vah-DEEM [va-'dim]. Origin uncertain, possibly from Vladimir. (See: below). {Vadik, Vadya}**.

Valentin ВАЛЕНТИН (m) vah-lyehn-TEEN [va-ljen-'tin] <Latin *valens* 'healthy. Name of a 3rd century Roman martyr. {Valik, Valen'ka, Valyusha}**.

Valentina ВАЛЕНТИНА (f) vah-lyehn-TEE-nah [va-ljen-'ti-na]. Feminine form of Valentin above. {Valya, Valyechka, Valyusha, Valy'}****.

Valeria Валерия (f) vah-LYEH-rah [va-'lje-ri-ja], Feminine form of Valery, below. {Alya, Lera, Lerochka, Vaka}**.

Valerian Валерьян (m) vah-lyeh-ree-YAHN [va-lje-ri-'jan]. Variant of Valery, next. {Valerik, Valya}**.

Valery, Valeryi Валерий (m) vah-LYEH-ree [va-'lje-ri] <Latin *valere* 'to be strong', a Roman clan name. {Lerchik, Valera, Valerik, Valerochka, Valya, Volya, Vol'ka, Vyalya}***.

Varnaz Варназ (m) vahr-NAZ [var-'naz]. Respondent reports that it is an Armenian name meaning 'victor'*

Varvara Варвара (f) VAHR-vah-rah [**var-va-ra**] <Greek *bárbaros* 'not Greek, barbarian, foreign.' {Varya}*.

Vasilisa Василиса (f) vah-see-LEE-sah [**va-si-'li-sa**]. Feminine form of Vasilyi*.

Vasilyi Василий (m) vah-SEE-lee [**va-si-'li**] < Greek *básíleios* 'kingly.' Associated with 4th century theologian, St. Basil the Great. {Vasen'ka, Vasilyok, Vasunchik, Vasya, Vas'ka}***.

Veniamin Вениамин (m) vehn-yah-MEEN [**ven-ja-'min**] < Hebrew *bēnyāmēn* 'son of my right hand.' Bible. 12th son of Jacob. {Venichka, Ven'ka, Venya, Vinik}**.

Vera Вера (f) vyeh-RAH [**vje-ra**] 'faith. {Veranchik, Verochka, Verus'ka, Verunchek, Verunchik, Verusya, Verunchik, Veri, Verik, Verochka}***.

Veronika Вероника (f) vyeh-RAH-nee-kah [**vje-'ra-ni-ka**]. Meaning not clear. One view is that it < Late Latin *veraiconica* 'true image' < *verus* 'true' + *iconicus* 'image.' Name associated with the saint who wiped Jesus' face on the road to Calvary*.

Victoria, Viktoriya Виктория (f) veek-TAW-ryah [**vik-'tɔ-rja**]. Feminine form of Viktor, below. {Vika, Vikunchik, Vikusya}**.

Viktor Виктор (m) VEE-ktahr [**vi-ktar**] < Latin *victor* 'conqueror.' {Vik, Viten'ka, Vitunchik, Vitunya, Vitusha, Vitusya, Vitya, Vityok}**.

Vilen Вилен (m) vee-LYEHN [vi-`λɛn]. Combination of letters from Vladimir Ilyich Lenin {Vilya}*.

Violetta Виолетта (f) vee-aw-LYEH-tah [vi-ɔ-`λɛ-ta] <Old French *violette* < Late Latin *violetta*, diminutive of *viola* 'violet.' {Veta}*.

Vitaliy, Vitaly Виталий (m) vee-TAH-lee [vi-`ta-li] <Latin *vita* 'life.' Name of several early saints. {Vit, Vilya, Vitalik, Vitalya, Vitya}**.

Vladimir Владимир (m) vlah-DEE-meer [vla-`di-mir] <Old Slavonic 'world ruler.' Important 10th-11th century saint who brought Christianity into Russia. {Dzhonya, Valodya, Valodushka, Vladyasha, Volodechka, Volodya, Volya, Vovik, Vovok, Vova, Vovka, Vovedza, Vovochka}****.

Vladislav Владислав (m) vlah-dee-SLAF [vla-di-`slaf] < Old Slavonic *volod* 'rule' + *slav* 'glorious.' Slava, Slavik, Vladik}.*.

Vladlen Владлен (m) vlahd-LYEN [vlad-`λɛn] < combination of letters from Vladimir Ilyich Lenin. {Valya, Valechka}*.

Volf Вольф (Wolf) (m) VAWLF [vɔlf] < German *wolf* 'wolf.'*.

Vsevolod Всеволод (m) fsyeh-vah-LAWD [fɛɛ-va-`lɔd] < Old Slavonic *vse* 'all' + *volod* 'rule.' {Seva, Sevik, Sevka}**.

Vyacheslaph, Vyacheslav Вячеслав (m) fyah-chehs-LAHF [fja-tʃɛs-`laf] < Old Slavonic *ventie* 'more' + *slav* 'glorious.' {Slava, Slavik, Slavochka, Slavusha}**.

Yakov Иаков (Jacob) (m) YAH-kawf [**`ja-kɔf**] < Hebrew *yāhāhkōv*

'supplanter, heel.' Bible. Name of the Patriarch (Jacob) born grasping the heel of his twin brother, Esau. Son of Isaac. {Yasha, Yashenka}**.

Yasher Яшер (m) YAH-shehr [**`ja-ʃer**]. Persian-Azeri 'lives

forever.' {Yasha, Yashenka}*.

Yulia, Yuliya, Yulya Юлия (f) YOO-lee-ah [**`ju-li-a**] < Latin, Roman

clan name. {Yul'ka, Yulenska, Yulechka, Yulyasha}**.

Yuri, Yury (m) YOO-ree [**`ju-ri**] < Greek *geōrgós* 'farmer.'

{Yurasha, Yurik, Yurka, Yuro, Yurok, Yurochka}****.

Zakhra Захра (f) ZA-khrah [**`za-xra**]. Arabic *Zahrah* 'flower'*

Zelik Зелик (m) ZEH-leek [**`zje-lik**]. < German *Selig* 'happy.' This is

a kinnui (Jewish link name) for Asher, 8th son of Jacob.

Bible*.

Zhanna Жанна (f) ZHANN-nah [**`zan-na**]. Russian form of the French

Jeanne, feminine form of *Jean* [John] < Latin < Greek < Hebrew *yōchānān* 'God is gracious.' {Zhannochka}*.

ZH as z in azure.

Zinaida Зинаида (f) zee-nah-EE-dah [**zi-na-'i-da**] < Greek *Zeús* 'Zeus',

father of the gods. Name of two saints of the Orthodox Church.

{Zina, Zinaidik, Zinochka, Zinochka, Zinulya, Zinushka}**.

Zoya Зоя (f) ZAW-yah [**`zo-ja**] < Greek *zōē* 'life.' {Zoen'ka, Zoin'ka,

Zoyukha, Zoyushka}**.

