

# 名字背后的故事 How names can tell painful stories

Hello. This is 6 Minute English from BBC Learning English. I'm Neil. **And** I'm Beth.

大家好。这是BBC英语六分钟。我是尼尔。我是贝丝。

In every language, there's one word which has special power over us: our name.

在每种语言中，都有一个词对我们有特殊的影响力：我们的名字。

Our senses, feelings **and** whole identity are closely linked to our name.

我们的感官、感受和整个身份与我们的名字密切相关。

Yet strangely, our name isn't usually something we choose – it's given to us by our parents.

但奇怪的是，我们的名字通常不是我们自己选择的，它是由父母赋予的。

But what if the name you were given at birth doesn't fit? Maybe you simply don't like it, or maybe there are bigger reasons for wanting to change your name, reasons connected with historical injustices, or unfair events in the past.

但是，如果出生时的名字不合适怎么办？也许你只是不喜欢它，或者有更大的原因想要改名，比如与历史不公正或过去不公平事件有关的原因。

In this programme, we'll be meeting two people whose family history has caused them to consider changing their name.

在本节目中，我们将认识两位因家族历史而考虑改名的人。

**And**, as usual, we'll be learning some useful new vocabulary as well.

和往常一样，我们也会学习一些有用的新词汇。

Sounds good, Beth, but first I have a question for you. My name – Neil – is a British name **and** was given to me at birth. But names change a lot between cultures **and** religions.

听起来不错，贝丝，但首先我有一个问题要问你。我的名字尼尔是一个英国名字，是我出生时取的。但名字在不同文化和宗教之间会有很大差异。

Many Muslim boys are named Mohammed, Indian boys are often called Ram or Krishna, **and** in Mexico, some boys are named Jesus.

许多穆斯林男孩都叫穆罕默德，印度男孩通常被称为拉姆或克里希纳，而在墨西哥，一些男孩则叫耶稣。

So according to a recent global survey, what is currently the world's most popular boys' name? Is it: a) Jesus? b) Mohammed? or, c) Noah? Hmm, I guess it's Mohammed.

那么根据最近的一项全球调查，目前世界上最受欢迎的男孩名字是什么？是：a)耶稣？b)穆罕默德？还是c)诺亚？嗯，我猜是穆罕默德。

## 添加的词汇

### and

英: /ænd/ 美: /ænd/

conj. 和，与；而且；然后；就；但是

### signify

英: /ˈsɪgnɪfaɪ/ 美: /ˈsɪgnɪfaɪ/

v. 表示；说明；预示；表达，表示，显示（感情、意愿等）；（通常用于疑问句或否定句）具有重要性；要紧



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OK Beth, I'll reveal the answer at the end of the programme. In Britain, a person's first name is also called their Christian name, **and** in Christianity, many names have a religious meaning.

好的，贝丝，我将在节目结束时揭晓答案。在英国，一个人的名字也被称为他们的教名，在基督教中，许多名字都有宗教意义。

The name John, for example, means 'God is good'. Anderson Jeremiah is the Bishop of Edmonton. He was born in South India, but he doesn't have a traditional Indian sounding name.

例如，约翰这个名字的意思是“上帝是好的”。安德森·耶利米（Anderson Jeremiah）是埃德蒙顿的主教。他出生于印度南部，但他的名字听起来不像传统的印度名字。

Here, Bishop Jeremiah explains the roots of his name to BBC World Service programme, Heart **and** Soul:

杰里迈亚主教向BBC世界服务节目《心灵与灵魂》解释了他名字的根源：

It was the name of one John Anderson. He was the first educational missionary who came **and** worked **and** set up several schools in South India, who had very noble ambitions,

这是约翰·安德森的名字。他是第一位来到南印度工作并建立了几所学校的教育传教士，他有着非常崇高的抱负，

but also as with any missionaries, he was a big collaborator of the colonial establishment at that point in time, so he has a very a strong baggage that goes with it.

但与任何传教士一样，他也是当时殖民机构的重要合作者，因此他有着非常强烈的包袱。

So, Anderson is my Christian name, **and** Jeremiah is my dad's name.

所以，安德森是我的教名，耶利米是我父亲的名字。

Bishop Anderson Jeremiah's name comes from another man, John Anderson, a Christian missionary during the British empire.

安德森·耶利米主教的名字来自另一个人，约翰·安德森，他是大英帝国时期的一名基督教传教士。

The history of the British empire in India is controversial with many views on all sides.

大英帝国在印度的历史充满争议，各方观点各异。

Bishop Jeremiah thinks that some of the empire's missionaries were noble, meaning admirable or morally good.

耶利米主教认为，帝国的一些传教士是高尚的，意味着令人钦佩或道德高尚。

But nevertheless, John Anderson was part of a violent **and** exploitative empire.

但尽管如此，约翰·安德森还是暴力和剥削帝国的一部分。

Bishop Jeremiah uses the word baggage to describe the beliefs, especially outdated or unhelpful beliefs, which influence how people think.

耶利米主教用包袱这个词来描述影响人们思维方式的信仰，尤其是过时或无益的信仰。

Emotional baggage tends to influence the feelings of one individual, while historical baggage can affect whole societies.

情感包袱往往会影响一个人的感受，而历史包袱则会影响整个社会。

In India, names serve an important purpose: to **signify** social status.

在印度，名字起着重要的作用：表明社会地位。

Low-status Indians, including Bishop Anderson's grandparents, escaped social discrimination by converting to Christianity **and** taking another, Christian, name.

地位低下的印度人，包括安德森主教的祖父母，通过皈依基督教并取另一个基督教名字来逃避社会歧视。

But elsewhere in the British Empire, names were connected with something completely unchristian: slavery.

但在大英帝国的其他地方，名字与完全非基督教的东西有关：奴隶制。

Black British writer, Professor Robert Beckford, is an activist theologian at the University of Winchester.

英国黑人作家罗伯特·贝克福德（Robert Beckford）教授是温彻斯特大学的激进神学家。

His surname – Beckford – is a slave name, passed down from his enslaved African ancestors in 18th century Jamaica.

他的姓氏贝克福德是一个奴隶名字，由18世纪牙买加被奴役的非洲祖先传下来。

Here, Professor Beckford talks to BBC World Service programme, Heart **and** Soul, about his decision to name his son, Micah:

贝克福德教授在接受BBC国际服务节目《心灵与灵魂》采访时谈到了他给儿子取名弥迦的决定：

My son is named Micah, Micah Beckford, after one of the prophets, so I do like the idea of people in the Biblical tradition who speak truth to power, who ruffle people's feathers, who challenge the injustice.

我的儿子名叫弥迦，弥迦·贝克福德，以一位先知的名字命名，所以我很喜欢圣经传统中那些敢于直言、敢于激怒他人、敢于挑战不公的人。

I haven't thought of giving myself a biblical name. I could never find a name that really resonated with me.

我从未想过给自己起一个圣经名字。我永远找不到一个真正能引起我共鸣的名字。

The phrase to speak truth to power describes times when people non-violently resist an oppressive force, such as a government or corporation, by telling the truth.

to speak truth to power这个短语描述了人们通过讲真话以非暴力方式反抗压迫（如政府或公司）的时代。

**And** if you ruffle someone's feathers, you upset or annoy them.

如果你ruffle someone's feathers，你就让他们感到不安或恼怒。

Maybe it's not so much your name, as what you do with it that counts. Anyway, it's time to reveal the answer to your question, Neil.

也许重要的不是你的名字，而是你用它做了什么。无论如何，是时候揭晓你问题的答案了，尼尔。

Yes, I asked you which boys' name is currently the world's most popular, **and** you guessed Mohammed, which was... the correct answer!

是的，我问你哪个男孩的名字是目前世界上最受欢迎的，你猜是穆罕默德，这是正确答案！

Right, let's recap the vocabulary we've learned, starting with injustice, a situation lacking fairness or justice.

好吧，让我们回顾一下学过的词汇，从injustice开始，injustice是一种缺乏公平或正义的情况。

In British English, your Christian name is your first name, the name you were given at birth. The adjective noble means admirable or morally good.

在英式英语中，你的教名是你的名字，是你出生时的名字。形容词noble的意思是令人钦佩或道德高尚。

Baggage refers to beliefs **and** feelings, especially outdated or unhelpful ones, which influence how someone thinks.

baggage指的是信仰和感受，尤其是过时或无益的信仰和感受，它们会影响一个人的思维方式。

The idiom speak truth to power describes when people non-violently resist an oppressive force, such as a government or corporation, by telling the truth.

成语speak truth to power描述的是人们通过讲真话非暴力地反抗压迫，例如政府或公司。

**And** finally, to ruffle someone's feathers means to upset or annoy them.

最后，to ruffle someone's feathers意味着让他们心烦意乱或恼怒。

Once again, our six minutes are up, but remember to join us again next time for more trending topics **and** useful vocabulary, here at 6 Minute English. Goodbye for now! Bye!

六分钟课程又结束了，但请记得下次继续加入我们，在六分钟英语中了解更多热门话题和实用词汇。暂时再见！再见！

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