

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS IN ETHIOPIAN LANGUAGES

This glossary lists all terms in Ethiopian languages mentioned in the articles of the publication following the spelling of the respective authors. Alternative ways of spelling are mentioned only in so far as they appear in the publication. If no language is mentioned in the explanation, the original language is Amharic.

- abbaa gada* (or *abba gadaa*), leaders of the Oromo social stratification (*gada*) system
- abuna*, patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church
- akako*, original members of the Shoa-Oromo, the Guji, the Arsi, the Gedeo and the Yem
- alaqa*, title used in the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church for a chief priest, the head of a monastery, as well as a highly educated member of the church
- awado*, hide workers among the Gedeo
- awrajja*, former administrative unit
- aylé* (or *ayle*), Wolayta term for slave
- azmari*, occupational singers
- baalle*, social stratification system of the Gedeo
- babi*, Aari term for ritual and political leader
- balabbat*, regional governor within the former semi-feudal system
- balimolla*, former king council of the Wolaita
- barjo*, Hamar term for good fortune, well-being
- baxxe*, Gedeo term for moiety
- boroje* (or *borojicho*), Sidama term for slave
- bulebula*, Gedeo term for honey water
- buuda*, power of the evil eye
- ch'at*, amphetamine-like stimulant native to the Horn of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula
- chinasha*, Wolayta term for woodwork craftsmen
- dalata* (or *delatb*), assimilated members of the Shoa-Oromo, the Guji, the Arsi, the Gedeo and the Yem
- dalla*, Gedeo harvest sacrifice
- degala*, Wolayta term for blacksmiths and tanners
- deraro*, harvest ritual of the Gedeo
- dibayu*, commemoration ceremony of the Gedeo
- ensete* (*ensete ventricosum*), 'false banana', Ethiopia's most important root crop
- enzatalanquw*, secret jargon of *azmari* children
- etanta*, farmers among the Konso
- fandaanano*, traditional religion of the Hadiyya
- farenji*, Amharic term for foreigner

- felifela*, Gedeo term for black magic  
*fiche*, Sidama New Year  
*fitawrari*, Ethiopian military title  
*fuld'o*, Konso term for self-support institution of craftworkers  
*gabbar* (or *gabbar*), tenant within the former semi-feudal system  
*gabaro*, assimilated members of the Shoa-Oromo, the Guji and the Arsi  
*gada* (or *gadaa*), age grade system of the Oromo  
*goqa*, Wolayta term for free peasant  
*gona*, original members of the Borana  
*gonfa*, traditional cloth of the Sidama  
*grazmach* (or *grasmadj*), Ethiopian military title  
*hadya*, assimilated members of the Shoa-Oromo, the Guji and the Arsi  
*harmota*, Konso term for people who are skilled in handicrafts  
*hayyuu*, Gedeo term for elder  
*jaqa*, Konso term for home-made beer  
*kallacha*, phallic power symbol of the *gada* leader  
*k'allu* (or *kallu*, *qalluu*), ritual leader among the Oromo  
*kati*, Basketo and Maale term for ritual and political leader, Wolaita term for king  
*kawo*, Wolaita term for king  
*kebelle* (or *kebele*), administrative unit under *woreda*  
*kebre negest*, literally 'glory of the kings', Ethiopian national epos  
*kjomesse*, Gedeo term for women's knife  
*lalibela* (or *hamina*), strolling singers who sing, beg and give blessings  
*lem*, Sidama term for fertile land  
*lij*, Ethiopian aristocratic and court title  
*lommanna*, elders in Hadiyya language  
*lubbo*, Gedeo term for soul  
*luwa*, age grade of the Sidama  
*masenqo*, one-string fiddle  
*mesqel*, Amharic term for cross, also church festival of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church  
*nakateta*, Konso term for traders  
*negusa negast*, literally 'king of kings', title of Ethiopian emperors  
*poqalla*, Konso term for clan and lineage head  
*qännyazmach*, Ethiopian military title  
*qeexala*, Gedeo ritual and dance conducted for ecological problems  
*ras*, Ethiopian aristocratic and court title  
*sabbu*, assimilated members of the Borana  
*songo*, Gedeo term for ritual and public place  
*taff*, Sidama term for bushland, forest and dry land  
*talata*, Sidama term for guest  
*tarre*, Gedeo magical charm  
*teff*, a species of lovegrass native to Ethiopia and Eritrea  
*tessamangu*, assimilated members of the Gedeo and the Yem  
*uraga*, Sidama term for heroic  
*waka*, wooden memorial statue of the Konso  
*wodesha*, Gedeo term for mourning ceremony

*woreda*, administrative unit under zone

*wul'la*, Sidama term for mourning ceremony

*xawd'a*, craftsmen and traders among the Konso

*xelta*, Konso social stratification system

*zar*, possession cult widely spread in the Horn of Africa and the adjunct Middle East

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