What's in a Name?

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W3C Internationalization Activity

Capturing a person's name

First name

Last name
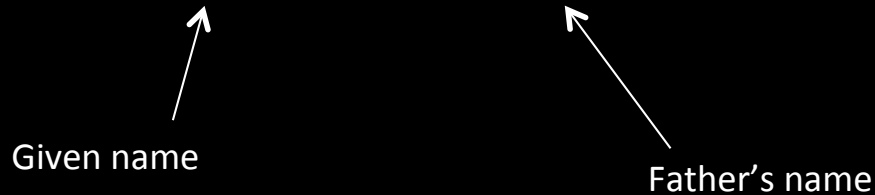
Recommendations…

YOUR PROFILE
Family name

Other/given names

- Ask yourself whether you really need to have separate fields for given name and family name.

- Make input fields long enough to enter long names.

- Try to avoid using the labels 'first name' and 'last name' in non-localized forms.
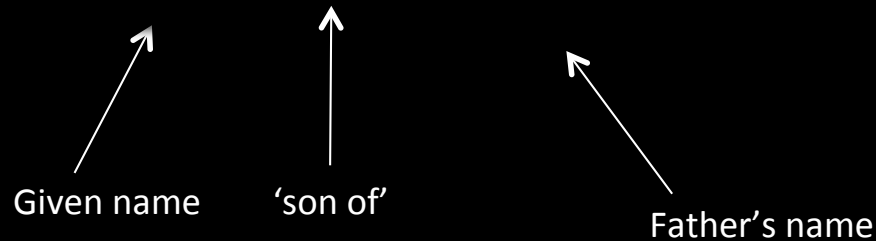
Given name & patronymic

Björk Guðmundsdóttir

Given name

Father's name

You call her:
- Björk
- Björk Guðmundsdóttir

Isa bin Osman

Given name   'son of'   Father's name

You call him:
- Mr. Isa
- Encik Isa

Different order of parts

毛泽东
Mao Ze Dong

Family name

Generational name

Given name

毛泽民　Mao Ze Min
毛泽覃　Mao Ze Tan
毛泽紅　Mao Ze Hong

You call him:

- 毛泽东先生
  Mao Ze Dong xiān shēng

- 泽东
  Ze Dong xiān shēng

Fred Yao Ming
Fred Ming Yao

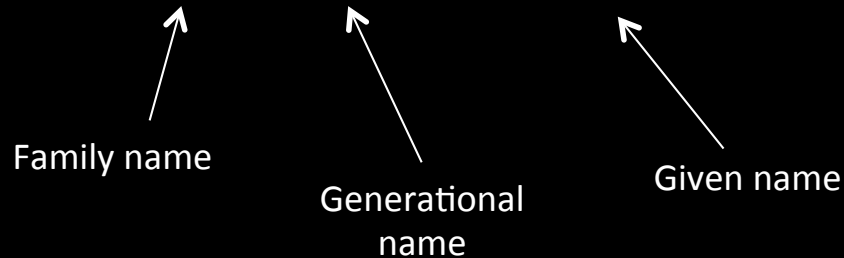# Different order of parts

First name   Last name

毛泽东
Mao Ze Dong

Family name

Generational name

Given name

毛泽民 Mao Ze Min
毛泽覃 Mao Ze Tan
毛泽紅 Mao Ze Hong

You call him:

- 毛泽东先生
  Mao Ze Dong xiān shēng

- 泽东
  Ze Dong xiān shēng

田中花子 **Tanaka Hanako**
Herman Iván

Multiple family names

de
María-Jose Carreño Quiñones

Given name

Family name from Father

Antonio Carreño Rodríguez

Family name from Mother

María Quiñones Marqués

You call her:

- Señorita Carreño

José Eduardo Santos Tavares Melo Silva

Variant word forms

male

Борис Николаевич Ельцин

Given name

Father's name

Family name

female

Наина Иосифовна Ельцина

Given name

Father's name

Family name

Inheritance of names

First name | | Last name

Isa bin Osman + Zaiton

Husband → Isa

Wife → Zaiton

You call her:
- Mrs Zaiton
- Mrs Isa

Manuel Pérez Quiñones + Maria Padilla Falto

Pedro Pérez Padilla   Encarna Pérez Padilla

Mixing it up

Velikkakathu Sankaran Achuthanandan
V. S. Achuthanandan

Family name   Father's name   Given name

Aditya Pratap Singh Chauhan

Given name   Father's name   Surname   Caste name

Madurai Mani Iyer

Town name   Given name   Caste name

Mixing it up

Abu Karim Muhammad al-Jamil ibn Nidal ibn Abdulaziz al-Filistini

Father of Karim,
Muhammad (given name),
The beautiful,
Son of Nidal,
Son of Abdulaziz, the Palestinian

Nicknames and such

Thaksin Shinawatra

You call him:

- Maew (แม้ว)

Nguyễn Tấn Dũng

Family name   Given name

You call him:

- Mr. Dung

Ambiguity in written forms

東海林賢蔵

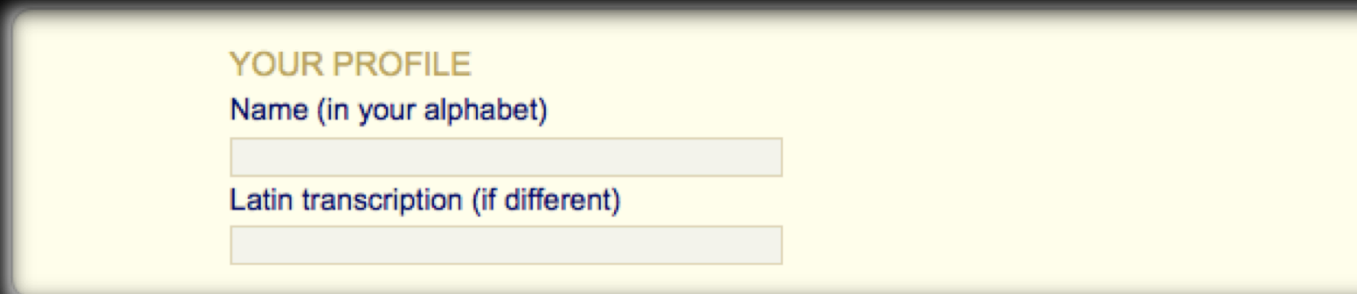You call him:

- Tōkairin(?) Kenzo
- Shōji(?) Kenzo

東海林賢蔵
庄司賢蔵
庄子賢蔵
小路賢蔵

You call him:

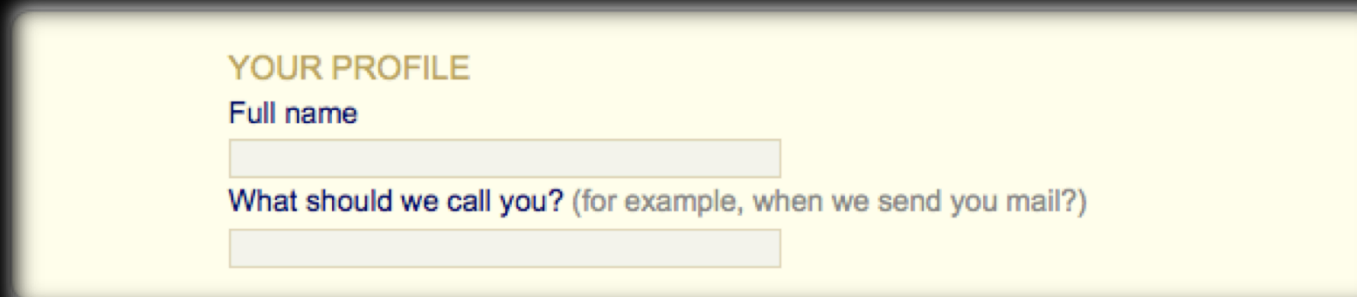- Shōji-san

Recommendations...

YOUR PROFILE

Name (in your alphabet)

Latin transcription (if different)

- If you hope to get Latin- or ASCII-only, you need to tell the user

- You may want to store the name in both Latin and native scripts, in which case you probably need to ask the user to submit their name in both native script and Latin-only form, using separate fields.

Recommendations...

YOUR PROFILE
Full name

What should we call you? (for example, when we send you mail?)

- Ask separately, when setting up a profile for example, how that person would like you to address them.

Personal names around the world
http://www.w3.org/International/questions/qa-personal-names

The fact is, there are many more issues

- People defining forms or ontologies need authoritative information about what fields they should be using.

- They also need authoritative guidance about how to approach the problems of handling personal names.

- There are similar issues and requirements for dealing with addresses.