THE FAMILY

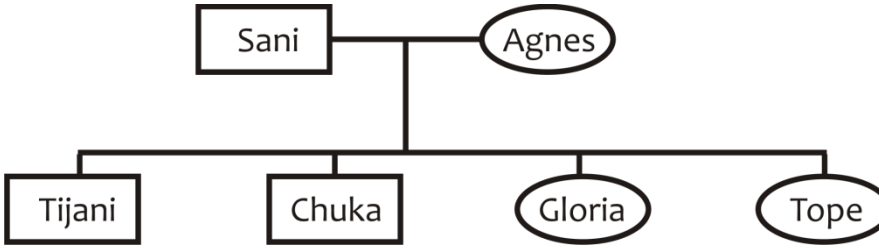
A family is a group of people who are closely related by blood. A family usually originates from the coming together of man and woman through marriage.

Types of Family

The two major types of family are: (i) nuclear, (ii) extended family.

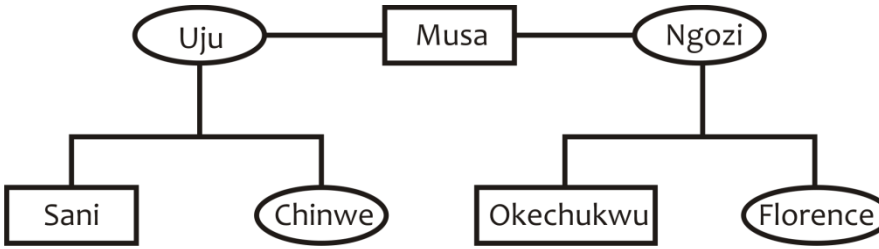
A nuclear family is a simple family made up of parents and their children. Members include husband, wife or wives, and their children.

There are two kinds of nuclear family: monogamous nuclear family and polygamous nuclear family. Monogamous nuclear family consists of a man, his wife and children. For example: below is an illustration of a monogamous nuclear family;



Sani married one wife Agnes, and had four children Tijani, Chuka, Gloria, and Tope.

Polygamous (nuclear) family consists of husband, wives and their children. For example: the chart below shows a polygamous nuclear family.

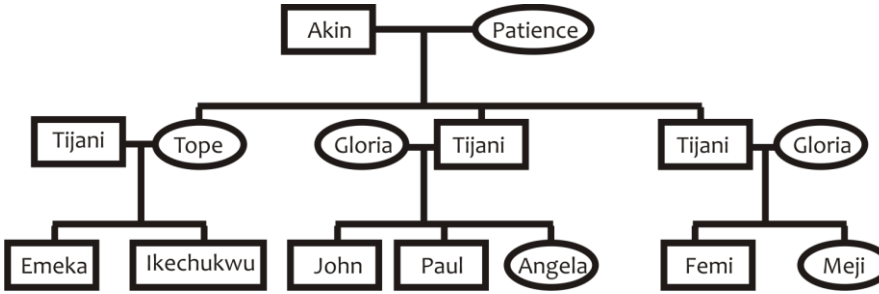


Musa has two wives: Uju and Ngozi. Musa has two children with Uju: Sani and Chinwe and has two also with Ngozi: Okechukwu and Florence.

In a polygamous family, children from the same mother are known as full brothers/sisters. In nuclear family, adopted children are taken as members of the family though they have no blood link with the parents or other children.

Extended Family

Extended family includes all the people that are related by blood, the father or mother. An extended family is made up of many nuclear families. For instance, Akin married Patience and gave birth to Musa, Chinwe, and Kola. Musa married Amina and they had John, Paul, and Angela as children. Kola married Fumilayo and they had two children: Femi and Meji. Mike and Chinwe also have two children: Emeka and Ikechukwu.



Kola is uncle to John, Paul and Angela. Musa is also uncle to Femi and Meji. Chinwe is aunt to John, Paul, Angela, Femi and Meji. Femi is nephew to Musa and Chinwe.

Meji is niece to Musa and Chinwe. Emeka and Okechukwu are also nephews to Musa and Kola. John and Paul are also nephew to Kola and Chinwe, while Angela is niece to Kola and Chinwe.

Akin is the grandfather to John, Paul, Angela, Femi, Meji, etc. have children, Akin becomes the great grandfather to their sons and daughters; while

Patience becomes their great grandmother. Akin is also father-in-law to Mike, Amina and Fumilayo.

Some extended family relationship includes:

1. **Uncle**: the brother of one's mother or father.
2. **Aunt**: the sister of one's mother or father.
3. **Nieces**: the daughters of one's brother or sister.
4. **Nephews**: the sons of one's brother or sister.
5. **Grandfather**: the father of one's father or mother.
6. **Grandmother**: the mother of one's father or mother.
7. **Great-grandfather**: the father of one's grandparents.
8. **Great-grandmother**: the mother of one's grandparents.
9. **Father-in-law**: the father of one's husband or wife.

10. **Mother-in-law**: the mother of one's husband or wife.
11. **Sister-in-law**: the sister of one's husband or wife.
12. **Brother-in-law**: the brother of one's husband or wife.
13. **Cousins**: the children of one's uncle or aunt.

When our relations like uncles, aunts, cousins, etc. are from our mother's side, they are known as maternal relations, but when they are from our father's side, they are known as paternal relations.