BACKGROUND: In subject heading practice two types of headings have been used for works discussing named dynasties and royal houses:

[ . . . ] dynasty
[ . . . ], House of

The terminology used in reference sources usually determines which of the two types of headings to use. The heading [ . . . ] dynasty is generally used for non-European royal houses; [ . . . ], House of for European royal houses. The heading [ . . . ], House of is used for an individual royal house, that is, a ruling family of a monarchy. Works that discuss several royal houses of a region or country are assigned the heading for the region or country in question with the free-floating subdivision –Kings and rulers.

Individual aristocratic or noble families are established as [ . . . ] family, for example, Malatesta family: Tokugawa family. For guidelines concerning establishing family names, see H 1631. For dukes, counts, and earls, see sec. 3, below.

In some instances, named dynasties and royal houses are also used as period subdivisions, for example, China–History–Han dynasty, 202 B.C.-220 A.D.; France–History–House of Valois, 1328-1589. Since headings of this type emphasize a specific historical period rather than an individual dynasty or royal house, this instruction sheet does not discuss period subdivisions consisting of named dynasties or royal houses.

In the past, some named dynasties were established in a form similar to headings for classes of persons, for example, Abbasids, Buwayhids. These headings may be changed to the form [ . . . ] dynasty as they are encountered.

1. [ . . . ] dynasty.

a. Form and usage of headings. Establish named dynasties as straight phrase headings consisting of the adjectival form of the name of the dynasty and the English word dynasty. Do not use the vernacular equivalent of the word dynasty. Add whenever possible the span of years of a particular dynasty. Tag these headings 100, with first indicator 3 and second indicator blank.

Do not use –Biography or –History after [ . . . ] dynasty headings.
1. [ . . . ] dynasty.  (Continued)

   b. References.  In addition to appropriate 400 fields, add a 551 (broader term) field with the heading [country]–Kings and rulers.  Examples:

   100 3# $a Malla dynasty
   551 ## $w g $a Nepal $x Kings and rulers

   100 3# $a Achaemenid dynasty, $d 559-330 B.C.
   400 3# $a Achaemenians
   400 3# $a Achaemenidae
   400 3# $a Achaemenids
   400 3# $a Hakhamanishiya
   551 ## $w g $a Iran $x Kings and rulers

2. [ . . . ], House of.

   a. Form and usage of headings.  Establish individual royal houses as inverted phrase headings consisting of the name of the royal house and the English phrase House of.  Do not use the vernacular equivalent of the phrase House of.  Tag these headings 100, with first indicator 3 and second indicator blank.

   For works that discuss the members of the ruling family of a monarchy, use either the appropriate [ . . . ], House of heading or [name of ruler]–Family, if the work discusses solely the immediate family of a particular ruler.

   For works that discuss specific types of royalty of a country, use the free-floating subdivision –Kings and rulers under the country, or the headings Emperors (May Subd Geog) Queens (May Subd Geog), Princes (May Subd Geog), Princesses (May Subd Geog), or Sultans (May Subd Geog).

   For works that discuss persons or offices associated with a royal household, use the heading Royal household (May Subd Geog).

   Do not use –Biography or –History after [ . . . ], House of headings.
2. [. . . ], House of.

b. References.

(1) UF references. Add appropriate 400 fields providing variant forms of the name. Also add 400 fields with the un inverted form of the heading and its variants.

(2) Broader terms. Add a 551 (broader term) field with the heading [country of origin]–Kings and rulers or [country most closely identified with royal house]–Kings and rulers. Do not make broader terms from [country]–Kings and rulers to indicate countries ruled by the particular royal house.

Examples:

100 3# $a Anjou, House of
400 3# $a Angevins
400 3# $a Angio, House of
400 3# $a House of Angio
400 3# $a House of Anjou
551 ## $w g $a France $x Kings and rulers

100 3# $a Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, House of
400 3# $a Coburg, House of
400 3# $a House of Coburg
400 3# $a House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha
551 ## $w g $a Germany $x Kings and rulers
a. Form of heading. Establish individually named houses of dukes, counts, or earls as inverted phrase headings. Such headings are based on a place name followed by a comma and the phrase Dukes of, Counts of, or Earls of, as appropriate. Do not use the vernacular equivalents of the phrases Dukes of or Counts of. Tag these headings 100, with first indicator 3 and second indicator blank.

Although such headings normally include a place name, do not convert the name to an RDA form. For example, use the form Spoleto, Dukes of rather than Spoleto (Italy), Dukes of.

b. References.

(1) UF references. Add a 400 field with the straight form of the heading for the specific noble house.

(2) Broader terms. Add a 550 (broader term) field with the heading Nobility–[country].

Examples:

100 3# $a Devonshire, Dukes of
400 3# $a Dukes of Devonshire
550 ## $w g $a Nobility $z England

100 3# $a Parma, Dukes of
400 3# $a Dukes of Parma
550 ## $w g $a Nobility $z Italy

100 3# $a Toulouse, Counts of
400 3# $a Counts of Toulouse
550 ## $w g $a Nobility $z France

100 3# $a Gloucester, Earls of
400 3# $a Earls of Gloucester
550 ## $w g $a Nobility $z England
4. Assignment of headings. In accordance with the provisions of H 1330 and H 1845 for biography and historical materials, generally assign an additional heading for place, with subdivisions designating the special emphasis of the work. Examples:

Title: Biographies of the Shah kings of Nepal.
600 30 $a Shah dynasty, $d 1768-
651 #0 $a Nepal $x Kings and rulers $v Biography.

Title: Gupta civilization: a study in Indian civilization.
600 30 $a Gupta dynasty.
651 #0 $a India $x Civilization $y To 1200.

Title: The Romanovs; three centuries of an ill-fated dynasty.
600 30 $a Romanov, House of.
651 #0 $a Russia $x Kings and rulers $v Biography.

Title: The House of Medici: its rise and fall.
600 30 $a Medici, House of.
651 #0 $a Florence (Italy) $x History $y 1421-1737.
650 #0 $a Nobility $z Italy $z Florence $v Biography.

Title: The iconography of the House of Windsor.
600 30 $a Windsor, House of $v Pictorial works.
651 #0 $a Great Britain $x Kings and rulers $v Pictorial works.
650 #0 $a Queens $z Great Britain $v Pictorial works.
650 #0 $a Princes $z Great Britain $v Pictorial works.
650 #0 $a Princesses $z Great Britain $v Pictorial works.

Title: Personal events from the lives of the Coburgs of Belgium.
600 30 $a Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, House of.
651 #0 $a Belgium $x Kings and rulers $v Biography.
4. Assignment of headings. (Continued)

Do not assign an additional heading for place if the subject assigned would be too broad in scope to be of value for retrieval purposes. For example, the heading Europe–Kings and rulers is not assigned to the following work:

Title: Saxe-Coburg-Gotha kings of Europe.
600 30 $a Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, House of.

If [name of ruler]–Family is assigned because a work discusses solely the immediate family of a ruler, assign the additional heading [. . . ], House of as well as headings for place with appropriate subdivisions. Example:

Title: The last of the Romanovs : Czar Nicholas II and the murder of his family.
600 00 $a Nicholas $b II, $c Emperor of Russia, $d 1868-1918.
600 00 $a Nicholas $b II, $c Emperor of Russia, $d 1868-1918 $x Family.
600 30 $a Romanov, House of.
650 #0 $a Emperors $z Russia $v Biography.
651 #0 $a Russia $x History $y Nicholas II, 1894-1917.

5. Subdivisions used under individual dynasties, royal houses, etc. See H 1120.