

## Religious Aspects of Topics H 1998

**BACKGROUND:** *Until 1981, several different types of headings were used to bring out the religious aspects of an inherently non-religious topic:*

- (1) [topic] (in religion, folk-lore, etc.)
- (2) [topic]–Moral and religious aspects–[particular religion or denomination]
- (3) [topic] ([particular religion or denomination])
- (4) [topic] and religion [or vice versa]; or [topic] and [particular religion or denomination] [or vice versa]

*In 1981, three new subdivisions were created for use under topics. The purpose was to consolidate the above practices into a uniform method of designating a topic dealt with from the religious standpoint. For the technique of providing for the folkloric aspect of topics formerly covered by headings of the type [topic] (in religion, folk-lore, etc.), see H 1627.*

**I. General rule.** As the standard means of designating works that discuss the religious or ethical aspects of a topic that is not inherently religious or ethical, use one or more of the following three subdivisions under the topic:

–Religious aspects–[religion or denomination]

*The subdivision –Religious aspects is free-floating only under headings that are covered by pattern headings where it is established. It must be established under all other headings. Each use of a further subdivision by religion or denomination also must be editorially established.*

–Mythology (May Subd Geog)

*This subdivision is free-floating under topical headings.*

–Moral and ethical aspects (May Subd Geog)

*This subdivision is free-floating under non-religious or non-ethical topical headings.*

**Religious and ethical topics.** Do not use these subdivisions under topics that are inherently religious or ethical. Inherently religious topics may, however, be further subdivided by appropriate free-floating subdivisions from H 1095, or by names of denominations or religions **where established** (cf. H 2015).

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### 2. –*Religious aspects*.

*a. General rule.* Use this subdivision under non-religious or non-ethical topics to designate works that discuss the topic from the religious standpoint, for example, its occurrence as a theme in religious beliefs and practices, its importance in religious doctrines, or the relationship in general between the topic and religion. *Examples:*

650 #0 \$a Birds \$x Religious aspects.  
650 #0 \$a Sex \$x Religious aspects.

Do not use –**Religious aspects** under classes of persons or ethnic groups for works on the religious life or religions of those classes or groups. For the religious life of specific classes of persons, use the subdivision –**Religious life** in accordance with instructions in H 2015.5. For works on the religion(s) of specific ethnic groups, use the subdivision –**Religion** in accordance with instructions in H 1997.

Do not interpose geographic subdivisions between the topic and the subdivision –**Religious aspects**. Bring out place by assigning an additional heading of the type [topic]–[place]. *Example:*

*Title: Christian views on abortion in the United States.*  
650 #0 \$a Abortion \$x Religious aspects  
\$x Christianity.  
650 #0 \$a Abortion \$z United States.

For provisions regarding the usage of existing “and” headings involving religion, see sec. 5.c., below.

*b. Establishing the subdivision in the subject authority file.* Establish each usage of this non-free-floating subdivision, unless free-floating usage is authorized by the lists in H 1147-H 1200.

Do not make a UF reference from [topic]–**Religious aspects** to an obsolete form of heading, such as an “and” heading or a heading with a parenthetical qualifier designating a religion or denomination.

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### 2. –*Religious aspects.*

#### *b. Establishing the subdivision in the subject authority file. (Continued)*

If necessary for the work being cataloged or for existing **bibliographic** records, also establish a further subdivision for a particular religion or denomination.

*Note:* Until July 2018, either or both of the following multiple subdivisions were established instead of a subdivision for a particular religion or denomination.

150 ## \$a [topic] \$x Religious aspects \$x Buddhism,  
[Christianity, etc.]

[The above multiple subdivision authorized the free-floating usage of religions or sects after **-Religious aspects.**]

150 ## \$a [topic] \$x Religious aspects \$x Baptists,  
[Catholic Church, etc.]

[The above multiple subdivision authorized the free-floating usage of Christian denominations after **-Religious aspects.**]

*c. Subdividing by other subdivisions.* Treat headings of the type **[topic]–Religious aspects** as religious headings. If required for the work being cataloged, further subdivide these headings by the subdivisions provided for use under religious topics in H 1095, such as **–Comparative studies; –History of doctrines; –Meditations.**

*d. Assignment of additional headings.* When assigning a heading of the type **[topic]–Religious aspects–[name of religion or denomination]**, assign as an additional heading the name of the religion or denomination with appropriate topical subdivision, if any (cf. H 2015). *Example:*

*Title:* Catholic theology pertinent to women's lib.

650 #0 \$a Feminism \$ x Religious aspects \$x Catholic Church.

610 20 \$a Catholic Church \$x Doctrines.

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3. **–Mythology.** Use the free-floating subdivision **–Mythology** (*May Subd Geog*) under non-religious or non-ethical topics to designate works that discuss the topic as a theme in mythology. *Example:*

650 #0 \$a Rice \$x Mythology

Assign headings subdivided by **–Mythology** rather than **–Religious aspects** to works that discuss the religious implications of a particular theme in mythology. If, however, it is necessary to designate a particular religion or denomination, do so by assigning the additional heading [*topic*]**–Religious aspects**–[*name of religion or denomination*]. If the subdivision **–Religious aspects** has not yet been established under the topic, establish it **and also establish** the required subdivision for the religion or denomination.

Bring out the particular mythology discussed by assigning additional headings of the type **Mythology, Greek; Jewish mythology**.

4. **–Moral and ethical aspects.** Use the free-floating subdivision **–Moral and ethical aspects** (*May Subd Geog*) under non-religious or non-ethical topics to designate works that discuss moral and/or ethical questions regarding the topic, for example, **Dancing–Moral and ethical aspects** (*May Subd Geog*); **Terminal care–Moral and ethical aspects** (*May Subd Geog*).

If a work also discusses the topic from the standpoint of a particular religion or denomination, assign an additional heading of the type [*topic*]**–Religious aspects**–[*religion or denomination*]. If the subdivision **–Religious aspects** has not yet been established under the topic, establish it, as well as the required subdivision for the religion or denomination. *Example:*

*Title:* *The birth control encyclical.*

650 #0 \$a Birth control \$x Moral and ethical aspects.

650 #0 \$a Birth control \$x Religious aspects \$x Catholic Church.

610 20 \$a Catholic Church \$x Doctrines.

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### 5. *When to use and when to cancel existing headings.*

*a. Headings with religions or denominations as parenthetical qualifiers.* Do not establish *new* headings of the following type:

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150 ## $a Amulets (Hinduism)
150 ## $a Faith (Judaism)
150 ## $a Prophecy (Christianity)
150 ## $a Children (Christian theology)
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Continue to use *existing* headings of this type if they are appropriate for the work being cataloged with respect to both the topic and the religion or denomination. If, however, it becomes necessary to establish a new heading in order to provide for a religion or denomination for which there is not an established heading, establish the new heading in the form **[topic]–Religious aspects–[religion or denomination]** and cancel all of the parenthetically qualified headings that have been established for the same topic.

*Note: The headings **God (Christianity)**, **God (Hinduism)**, and other similar headings for **God** with parenthetical qualifiers are authorized exceptions. New headings for **God** with parenthetical qualifiers may be established.*

*b. Religions or denominations under non-religious topics.* Change any existing provisions for subdividing a non-religious topic directly by particular religions or denominations when they are encountered. For example, the following heading was changed:

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150 ## $a Marriage $x Catholic Church
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Change such headings to incorporate the subdivision **–Religious aspects**, as described in this instruction sheet and in H 2015.

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### 5. *When to use and when to cancel existing headings.* (Continued)

*c. “And” headings.* In general, retain and assign only those “and” headings that refer to broad disciplines discussed from the standpoint of religion in general or of specific religions. *Examples:*

150 ## \$a Communism and religion  
150 ## \$a Buddhism and politics

Do not retain any “and” heading that incorporates the name of an individual denomination, for example, **Theater and the Russian Orthodox Church**. Change such headings to the preferred form [*topic*]-**Religious aspects**-[*name of religion or denomination*]. When changing an “and” heading, make a UF reference from the former heading to the new heading.

“And” headings of this type are now established less frequently than in the past since the preferred method of indicating the religious aspect of an inherently non-religious topic is now [*topic*]-**Religious aspects**-[*religion or denomination*].