BACKGROUND: The subdivision –Religious life and customs is used under names of countries, cities, etc., for works on the religious customs, practices, etc., of these places. This instruction sheet provides guidelines for assigning this subdivision.

1. General. Assign the free-floating subdivision –Religious life and customs under names of countries, cities, etc. Examples:

651 #0 $a Asia $x Religious life and customs.
651 #0 $a Brazil $x Religious life and customs.
651 #0 $a California $x Religious life and customs.
651 #0 $a New York (N.Y.) $x Religious life and customs.

2. By period. Do not use the subdivision –History after –Religious life and customs (see H 1647). If period subdivisions have been established and are appropriate for the work, assign headings of the type [place]–Religious life and customs–[period subdivision] to works on the history of the religious customs, etc., in a place during a particular period. Example:

651 #0 $a Germany $x Religious life and customs $y Middle Ages, 843-1517.

Establish new period subdivisions under headings of the type [place]–Religious life and customs as needed, except if the place in question is a city or town.

3. By religion or denomination. Assign headings of the type [religion or denomination]–Customs and practices and [place]–Religious life and customs to works on the customs and practices of an individual religion or denomination in a particular place. Example:

Title: Popular expressions of Catholicism in Mexico today.
610 20 $a Catholic Church $z Mexico $x Customs and practices.
651 #0 $a Mexico $x Religious life and customs.