THE TREATMENT OF ISLAMIC TOPIC
IN THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SUBJECT HEADINGS

BY

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AUGUST, 1986

CERTIFICATION

This thesis entitled The Treatment of Islamic Subject headings in the Library of Congress Subject Headings by Muhammad Maude Adamu meets the regulations governing the award of the degree of Master of Library Science (MLS) of Ahmadu Bello University, and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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BY

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A Thesis submitted to the Postgraduate School, Ahmadu Bello University, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Master of Library Science (M.L.S.) Degree.

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DECLARATION

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my

wife and children

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful'

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ABSTRACT

The current state of Islamic heading in the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) and observations on them from the Islamic perspective constitutes the central focus of this study. With the wide spread adoption of the List by libraries with substantial collection of Islamic literature, it has become increasingly important to point out its limitations and suggest solutions to the problem so that effective subject headings can replace the existing inadequate ones.

Subject headings relating to Islam in the List were searched and later recorded for subsequent analysis. The analysis centred on the priopriety, bias and imprecision of the collected headings.

The outcome of the investigation clearly established cases of bias and prejudices among some Islamic subject headings in the List like Muslims, Black . There are also instances of religious bias in favour of Christianity confirming the pro-Christian posture of the List. The study has also revealed that some existing Islamic headings in the LCSH are too broad to allow for use in the identification of materials on specific topics.

To conclude the study, it has been pointed out that to provide an effective access to Islamic literature through subject headings, would require not only the modification of the LCSH to suit Islam but a completely new approach to the problem by means of creating a specialised Islamic subject headings scheme.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

The establishment of modern libraries as one of the positive legacies of the colonial rule in Nigeria, has ushered in not only a new zeal in the acquisition of a variety of materials but also the introduction of long established tools for the systematic organisation of such materials. Among the tools imported for use in the early colonial libraries included the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme, the Bliss classification scheme as well as the Sears list of subject headings. For some time, up to the attainment of independence in 1960, these tools had dominated the scene of cataloguing and classification in Nigerian libraries.

However, a few years after the achievement of independence, remarkable and sweeping changes took place especially with regard to academic libraries, in respect of the tools they use. As a reflection of new influences permeating the Nigerian Library scene, in particular influences from the United States, the Library of Congress Classification Scheme (LCC) and its companion, the Library of Congress subject headings (LCSH) quickly replaced the Bliss classification that was hither to in use in Nigerian University libraries, such as Kashim Ibrahim Library, Ahmadu Bello University and the Ibadan University Libraries.[1] The Nnamdi Azikiwe Library of the University of Nigeria Nsukka pioneered the introduction of LCC to the Nigerian Library Scene.[2] In the late 1970's when new universities of Port-Harcourt, Ilorin, Sokoto, Calabar, and Maiduguri were established, the LCC and LCSH became the favourites for adoption. Even the new Universities of technology established in the early 80's, some of which were later reduced to branches of the older universities in 1984, found the

popularity of these tools irresistable and hence joined their elder counter parts in adopting them. This development has led to the situation whereby almost all the major academic libraries in Nigeria now use these tools in the organisation of their materials.[3]

Apart from materials in other disciplines, some major academic libraries in Nigeria, have developed substantial stock of Islamic materials. Such libraries include those of Ahmadu Bello, Ibadan, Sokoto, Maiduguri, Bayero and Ilorin University libraries. They are all using the LCC and LCSH. Even in Arab and other muslim countries where collections of libraries are over-whelmingly Islamic in nature, both LCC and LCSH gained acceptance.[4]

The popular adoption of the LCSH by many libraries could not have been a blind venture plunged into without hesitation. LCSH must have possessed certain qualities that endeared it to so many libraries. As an example, it is considered to be more comprehensive and provides greater specificity on subjects. The stable and assured maintenance of the List by the LC is another factor that keeps on attracting potential users to the List.

However the widespread adoption of the LCSH by Nigerian Libraries and else where in the Third World countries has not been a smooth and rosy exercise. Certain peculiarities of the List which might not have been given serious thought or were simply ignored at the initial stages of adoption begun to emerge later. Peculiarities such as the fact that the List evolved in the Western cultural environment influenced and shaped by the political and cultural milieu there, as well as its being based on literary warrant in relation to the LC, and its conception of the user as a christian protestant have all been factors that could limit its application in the Third World countries including

Nigeria. Many topics of crucial importance to these countries, such as their history, archaeology, geography literatures and languages have only been briefly treated and even this scanty treatment appears to be distorted. Like the treatment of Third World topics the treatment of topics in Islamic studies is grossly inadequate in the LCSH. The insufficient number of subject headings allocated to Islam appears to belittle the position and eminence of an area of study that had long existed and generated substantial literature even before the establishment of LC itself. But on criticism of this sort the advocates of LCSH do not hesitate to point out to the fact that the List having being based on the Literary warrant of the LC could not have covered Islam adequately because the LC might not have had large collection of Islamic literature to allow for detailed specification. That sounds a valid argument but on the other hand, what reasons have accounted for the use of biased and offensive terminologies such as Mohammedanism and Mohammedan up to the seventh edition of the List? On this it is usually pointed out that large scale changes are avoided, even when they are necessary, on the ground of costs involved. There is no doubt about it that the LC is aware of the weakness and deficiences of this tool and that partly explains the rationale behind the publication of quarterly additions and changes. Such changes as were approved and sanctioned were designed to improve the image of List and make it more acceptable to those who criticise it. However the changes have been gradual and too slow to make any substantial positive impact, that is urgently needed. With this state of affairs users of the LCSH in the libraries of the Third World countries and also in relation to women's literature generally are severely constrained and handicapped in their bid to provide detailed specification and accurate headings.

The absence of detailed and comprehensive headings regarding Islam in the LCSH, is most apparent and strikingly conspicuous. Apart from the Islamic headings scattered all over the two volume 9th edition, the largest concentration of headings are located under the descripters ISLAM and MUSLIM.

Although the meagre Islamic headings (see appendix 1) reflect the holdings of the LC on Islam, which according to Berman may not necessarily be quarrelled with; they give an indication of lack of indepth analysis of Islamic literature. People familiar with the vast and extensive Islamic Literature now available and considering the possibility that a lot of it will find access to the LC, will consider this sketchy treatment most unjustified. Even the steady increase of muslims in the US. which is about 4%[6] and the publication of more Islamic materials there, keeping aside developments in the rest of the muslims world should warrant a change in the scope of Islamic subject headings. But generally, except for the piecemeal additions and changes and the subsequent new editions, LC, through the LCSH has not been performing up to expectation of Muslims.

The adoption of the LCSH by libraries of the Third World countries as had been pointed earlier, inspite of its obvious inadequacies, appeared to be a necessary evil that has been

tolerated and an instance of one of the paradoxes of librarianship in these countries. It is however heartening to note that librarians either as individuals or collectively through their respective library associations are making serious efforts to remedy the situation. Such efforts are directed towards the modification of the LCSH or drawing up home list of subject headings.[7]

Subject headings lists whether adopted ones such as the LCSH or locally compiled ones constitute an aspect of the larger subject of cataloguing designed to provide access to materials in libraries. In the broad sense of it cataloguing consists of "descriptive cataloguing which may include, in addition to bibliographic descriptions, the choice and form of author headings and subject cataloguing which result in the assignment of classification numbers and subject headings."[8] Assignment of subject headings is one of the common activities that cut across most libraries. This activity is important and taken seriously due to the recognition of the fact that patrons often do come to the library with a subject in mind. It is therefore the most sensible thing to do to provide subject headings that will assist such readers to locate the required subjects or documents. The subject headings when properly arranged as part of the catalogue do not only identify subjects or documents sought but also "make known the presence of material on allied subjects"[9] This use of the subject headings we have described usually refers to a situation where there is a dictionary catalogue

with all the entries such as author, title, series and subject interfiled to form a single alphabetical arrangement.

Most libraries in the US including the LC use the LCSH for the construction of dictionary catalogues. But the LCSH could also be used in a slightly different way. In most academic libraries in Nigeria for example, at Kashim Ibrahim Library of Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, it is used for the compilation of subject indexes to the classified catalogue. It should however, be noted that whether LCSH is used to generate subject headings for the dictionary catalogue or as a means of providing subject index it still essentially remains as a tool employed to provide access to the literature of subjects and documents. But with regard to Islamic subject headings, we have earlier on observed that the LCSH, in its present form lacked specificity and comprehensiveness and by reason of these weaknesses the List will be deficient in its function to secure entrance and access for the retrieval of Islamic literature. To remedy this situation changes should be made in the content and scope of the List not only to reflect the existing realisites about the Islamic literature but also to make it responsive to users need. Islamic literature has been one of the most extensive and expansive areas of knowledge. For the purpose of this study Islamic literature encompasses that literature which is devoted to Islam or

slanted to Islam or Muslims and which emerged from the commencement of Prophet Muhammad's (pease be upon Him) mission to mankind in 571 AD to the present time and beyond.

The first and the foremost literary item of Islam is the Qur'an, that complete and eternal message of Allah to mankind. It was revealed to Prophet Muhammad in stages over a period of twenty three years (23) 610 - 632 AD. Apart from the text of the Qur'an, Tafsir literature, which is an exegesis of the Qur'an constitutes an integral segment of the Islamic literature.

The collection of Hadith which serves as a commentary on the Qur'an comes next in the historical evolution of Islamic literature. Hadith is the record of sayings and actions of Prohpet Mohammed as well as His silent approval of actions of others among His companions.

The conquest of Persian and parts of the Byzantine empires during the first and second centuries of Islam, brought the Muslims into direct confrontation with the currents of Greek thought and philosophy as well as with the Persian and Egyptian civilisations and scholarship. With their zeal for learning which first found expression in the Qur'an and Hadith sciences, the Muslims soon appropriated the intellectual heritage of their subjects and encouraged them to preserve and promote their (subjects) local traditions "so long as they did not conflict with Islam".[10] It was in this intellectual climate of desire and patronage of learning that the Muslim sciences especially in the areas of medicine, mathematics, astronomy, geography and philosophy emerged as a distinct contributions to the world civilisation and scholarship. It was this contribution packaged along with Arabic translation of Greek and Persian works

that the Muslim scholars transmitted to the Western world where the package was transformed into the basis for the present day modern European Civilisation and scholarship.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Majority of libraries that have adopted the LCSH for the organisation of their materials in Nigeria are concentrated in the universities and the polytechnics. With some of these, especially those in the Northern states of the country, where there is large concentration of muslims and Islamic studies is taught to the highest level of sophistication, the acquisition of Islamic materials is often one of the priority areas in collection development. Therefore, over the years, the result has been a growing number of Islamic works spread among Nigerian academic libraries.

Having stocked these Islamic materials, the question of processing them and making them accessible to readers comes into consideration. Tools like classification schemes, subject headings Lists and Thesauruses are usually used for this purpose. However almost all the tools available including the LCSH the subject of this study, are of foreign background, alien to Islam either unaware of the full range of its available literature or deliberately choose to ignore some aspects of it. The LCSH in particular, having originated from the LC in the United States has that indelible mark of Western cultural environment. The dominant point of view with regard to libraries in that cultural milieu is that average reader is presumed to be a christian and this notion

found reflection in the LCSH. These features of the LCSH have thrown libraries using it and having large Islamic collections into disillusion and dissatisfaction.

With regard to omission of subject headings it could be pointed out that certain concepts which constitute the subject of several Islamic works are conspicously missing from the LCSH 9th edition which is currently used. Examples of these concepts include Islamic banking, Islamic revivalist movements, Hadith-classification, Hadith-compilation, and Umma (Muslim community). On biases and prejudices, the heading Muslims, Black gives impression of racial bias. The objection to this kind of descriminatory heading is based on the ground that it is against the spirit of Islam to identify muslims on the basis of colour and also it undermines Muslims as a social group and convey and reinforce that attitude as long as it exists in the catalogue. It is the contention of this writer that, the manifestation of these anomalies in the LCSH in relation to Islam, constitute a challenge as well as a serious problem that need to be tackled. This study is an attempt in that direction albeit in a rudimentary manner.

1.3 Scope

As indicated by the title this study is centred on the Islamic subject headings in the LCSH. As the LCSH deals with every subject in all its ramifications as presented in its literature, this study is going to be generally concerned with all the Islamic literature available to the writer but attention will particularly be directed on the subject headings derived from that literature. How then do we determine the scope of Islamic literature? An answer to this question might lean us to examining every document whose subject matter deals with Islam, but for our purpose it is sufficient to state that Islam embodies a comprehensive and detailed guidance touching on all aspects of the believer's life. Islam is a complete and independent ideology which "endeavours to regulate man's behaviour in every aspect of life by determining standards, laying down codes and laws and by setting concrete examples."[9] The subject matter of Islam therefore covers all the contemporary disciplines delineated by the existing classification schemes as well as the new one's emerging. Just mention any area of study from social sciences, humanities and science and technology Islam has a peculiar orientation, point of view and tries to regulate the behaviour of scholars in it. It is concerned with not only the results of investigations whether scientific or otherwise but also with the processes and conditions under which such investigations are carried out. It is therefore clear that the scope of

Islamic literature is overwhelming and extra orginarily pervasive. It should however be noted that many gaps exist in it especially in the area of science and technology and this explains the relative inactiveness of the muslims to present and alternative Islamic approach in these areas.

Inspite of the relative pervasiveness of the Islamic literature as stated earlier, this study will be limited to the concepts of Islamic literature in the LCSH and those that could be derived from the Islamic literature available to the writer.. as could be found especially among the academic libraries whether such materials are in Arabic or English.

1.4 Limitation

Although it is recognised that it is the accumulated amount of additions and changes that determine the publication of subsequent editions of the LCSH rather than the interval between one edition and another, it is nevertheless noted that the 9th ed appeared six (6) years after the 8th one. In the light of this six year interval, and the fact that more than six years have elapsed since the publication of the 9th ed. in 1980, it could reasonably be pointed out that the publication of the 10th ed is due. In the absence of information regarding the spectrum of changes that could be affected in the forthcoming 10th ed.it is possible that some of the suggested modifications in this study might be overtaken when the new edition is published.

The writer wishes to further point out that the recommended modifications of the LCSH on Islamic subject headings are not intended and infact cannot alter the recognised status of the List as a tool for application in general libraries. The modifications are by no means sufficient and detailed enough to be adequate for subject description in libraries entirely devoted to Islam and other specialised Islamic collections. For such libraries there is the absolute need for specialised Islamic subject headings list independent of the constraining structure of any existing list.

1.5 Significance of the study

The practice of librarianship all over the world has been facing stiff challenges in the wake of accelerated technological advancement. Readers become increasingly sophisticated in their information needs making it imperative upon librarians to improve upon current practices and techniques, keep phase with new developments or even expound new principles and theories that could extend the frontiers of the profession.

The urge to appraise, modify, or even replace the existing practices and techniques in librarianship is more urgent in the Third World countries, where tools as well as the techniques and methods of the profession are that which had their origin and were perfected in western cultural settings. Needless to point

out that these stock in trade have been tested over the years and found inadequate on several issues that are of crucial importance to these so called underdeveloped areas. The LCSH in particular, which is the focus of this study, and as one of the tools used in Nigerian libraries has long been noted for its unsatisfactory handling of the history, languages, literatures and archeology of Africa and Asia as well as the religions that originated from those continents other than Christianity. Islam in particular has not been given the sifficient and detailed treatment it deserved. This unfortunate situation demonstrates a distinct need for a far ranging revision of the LCSH with a view to making the necessary modifications in form of additions and changes relating to Islam. Such modifications when effected will boost the competence of librarians dealing with the literature of Islam and for the readers the benefits are even greater; they stand to gain increased accessibility to materials and more satisfaction in their interaction with libraries.

The question of further exploiting the potential for increased accessibility to materials in Nigerian libraries, now need more attention than ever before. The current phenomenon of literature explosion in almost all fields of studies and in individual countries has been one of the current noticeable positive developments in the field of Islam. Apart from new titles emerging from publishing houses daily, a great number of works in Arabic and hitherto inaccessible to readers who

do not understand the language , are now being translated into Hausa, Yoruba, English and other languages relevant to the Nigerian libraries. The fact that a good number of these materials are acquired by these libraries, further adds to the problem of searching for required items encountered by readers. This is especially so in the light of the application of inadequate tools to describe the materials. The seriousness of this situation demands that we re-examine the tools we use, in this case the LCSH, subject it to close scrutiny and consequently tailor it to our own needs or alternatively recommend to its publishers the changes that should be effected to suit our convenience. This study is designed to be a contribution towards the latter choice.

1.6 Objectives of the study

Going through the literature of librarianship that emanated from Nigeria and else where it could be observed that the area of subject headings generated little publications compared with the other aspects of the profession. This situation exists inspite of all pervasive literature explosion in almost every area of study. This state of affairs does not in any way reflect the relative importance of subject headings in a library organisation; for in most libraries subject headings are used either as tools for the identification of individual documents where dictionary catalogue is maintained or as a means of compiling subject indexes that guide readers to subjects in the classified catalogue.

The central focus of this study, that is to say, the Islamic subject headings in the LCSH experience even greater paucity of literature. Whereas some efforts have been made to critically examine and expose the biases and short comings of the LCSH on subject headings relating to the Third World countries generally, not much has been written in particular on Islamic Subject headings. It is this background as well as the prevailing dominance of the LCSH in Nigerian academic libraries that prompted this writer to attempt this contribution with the hope that it will draw the attention of librarians, arouse and stimulate further dialogue on the neglected theme. Meanwhile, the objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To present a contribution in an area of knowledge that has received little attention from practioners and scholars of librarianship.
2. Communication, dissemination and retrieval of information have for long been among the major social responsibilities of all categories of libraries. With this in mind and this study being centred on the issue of access to information in the field of Islam, it is aimed at enhancing the process of bibliographical searches in that area.
3. The study also seeks to examine the Islamic subject headings in the LCSH, assess the degree of their biases and inadequacies in the form of omissions, broad

headings and offensive terminologies and forward recommendations for the improvement of the unfortunate situation.

1.7 Assumptions

The present writer holds the following assumptions in respect of this study:

1. The existing subject headings in the LCSH are inadequate in describing works on Islam.

2. The Islamic subject headings in the LCSH restrict and constrain access and retrieval of Islamic materials and consequently limit the progress and lower the quality of research in the field of Islam.

3. The LCSH is biased in its treatment of Islamic subject-headings.

1.8 Methodology

Generally, this study is library research oriented. The subject headings relating to Islam in the LCSH will be identified and collocated for the purpose of subsequent examination. The headings will be analysed in the light of their propriety, specificity and bias against Islam. Omissions will also be noted. On the basis of the analysis to be carried out, existing Islamic subject headings in the

LCSH will be retained, modified or rejected. Where necessary alternatives will be given to replace the rejected headings. Such alternatives and the basis for acceptance or modification will be derived from the current literature of Islam. Having decided upon the changes that will be made recommendations will be made for their incorporation into the subsequent edition of the LCSH.

Examples of subject headings now in the LCSH to be retained include Hadith, Islamic ethics and Mi'raj and some of those to be modified are Islamic Empire - History - 622 - 661 and the form of spelling of "Koran" to be substituted by the more correct version i.e. "Qur'an".

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CHAPTER TWO

2.1 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Analysis and critique of the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) mainly relating to the Third World countries, women, children and minorities currently dominate the literature of subject headings. This trend will not surprise any one conversant with the popularity as well as the weaknesses and shortcomings of the List. It reflects the awareness and concern of librarians over the unsatisfactory state of affairs with regard to subject headings as manifested in the LCSH, a tool that has recorded wide usage. It was this awareness that prompted Monica[1] while making observation on the adoption of subject headings in Nigerian Libraries to comment thus:

> the LCSH in particular contains large amount of material which is unwanted here, but many headings that are required in Nigeria do not exist. This again means additions and modifications for the Nigerian cataloguer.

Although this statement refers to the Nigerian situation generally, it directly touches on the difficulty of the cataloguer dealing with Islamic materials whereby a lot of headings he requires are not provided in the LCSH.

When Nigerian Libraries using the LCSH experience difficulties in assigning headings to their Islamic materials we may by inference assume that libraries in Arab countries using the LCSH and having greater concentration of Islamic materials get confronted with even more serious problems. While reviewing the problem in Arab countries Nabil narrated how libraries there started grappling with the challenge posed by the issue of subject headings. In particular he referred to three library seminars, one held in Beirut in 1959, one in Cairo in 1962 and another one in Riyad in 1973. Among other things these seminars recommended establishing tools and standards for descriptive cataloguing, subject headings and classification.[2] Inspite of this recommendation the issue of subject headings in particular has not received much attention. In this regard Nabil states "of all the recommendations made at Beirut, Cairo and Riyad Seminars in 1959, 1962 and 1973 respectively subject headings have seen the least progress"[3]. Generally the approach of Arab libraries to the problem of subject headings varied considerably, while some of them adopted the LCSH in its original form, others have translated it into Arabic and yet others like the National Library of Egypt, have drawn their own home made Lists.

Among the Ghanaian libraries the subject heading scene is no less varied. Kisiedu pointed out that

> while the Balme library uses the LCSH by itself as an alphabetical subject index to its classified catalogue, Kumasi and Cape Coast (University libraries) have shown greater foresight and have compiled their own alphabetical subject indexes to their classified files.4

The situation with these three libraries generally describes the situation with Ghanaian libraries with some having home made Lists and others adopting the LCSH, in some cases with modification. These individualistic tendencies however, did not go down well with Kisiedu when she lamented that

> This may be praiseworthy practice, but it does not ensure uniformity of terminology in the establishment of subject headings, which is the ultimate end towards which cataloguers of various libraries should be working.5

Certainly a tendency towards adhoc and uncoordinated policies in the area of subject headings will inhibit local library cooperation much less of international Cooperation.

In India and Pakistan assignment of subject hendings is either based on chain procedure or the adoption of the LCSH and the Sears List. But because the LCSH generally, provides greater coverage of the orientalia it gained wider acceptance. However, the noticeable edge LCSH has over the Sears List did not save it from the usual criticism. It has been described as a tool which lacked

"insight into the quality of oriental life and society".[6] In particular the absence of relevant headings to oriental libraries in the LCSH has made Castwell[4] to state that "the challenge of librarianship posed by orientalia is much more profound and far reaching than is normally recognised."[7] To meet the challenge he further added will require a truer insight into the subject and more intellectual creativity and self criticism and transformation than most people have seen the need for. In his own view oriental librarianship is such complex and enormous task that could not be satisfactorily handled by the Library of Congress alone. Subject experts in collaboration with the LC would need to work together to provide satisfactory tools for the effective organisation and retrieval of orientalia in general and Islamic materials in particular.

In an analysis of the form and structure of the subject headings in Arabic literature Islamic literature inclusive, Aman[8] looked into the issue of subject headings beyond the narrow confines of practical expediancy concerned with expansion and modification of the LCSH. He based his analysis on home made Arabic subject headings of the National Library of Egypt and the University of Jordan Library. He discovered that the majority of the headings consist of two words noun and adjective and foreign words account for 6% of the Egypt List. Aman delved into the theoretical aspects

of subject headings by drawing a Code for Arabic Subject cataloguing -- a document that will provide guidance on the subject analysis of Arabic materials. He recommended the establishment of a Unified List of Arabic subject headings. He also called for the introduction of integrated catalogues that will incorporate works in Arabic and other languages under one standard Arabic subject headings. If these recommendations are taken seriously and implemented libraries in the Arab world as well as those in other countries like Nigeria having large collections of Arabic and Islamic studies would have been relieved of their struggle to find suitable headings for large number of titles in their collections.

Writing on the Arabic library resources in US El-hadi[9] observed that "Although valuable manuscript collections found their way into early American research libraries large portions of them are still unknown and in assessible because of inadequate organisation and lack of guides and catalogues". Although lack of qualified staff had contributed to this problem, absense of a comprehensive and detailed subject headings on Arabic materials in a library situation where dictionary catalogue is used would obviously frustrate the efforts made to organise the Arabic materials.

In 1973 Doris[10] directed her search light on the weakness of the LCSH in relation to Black studies. She selected relevant materials from a particular library and

analysed them in an attempt to determine the level of adequacy of subject analysis given them through the use of LCSH. Her findings indicate that the subject analysis was grossly inadequate and that more than half of the materials selected could not be retrieved effectively through the LCSH. The study pointed to the need for an alternative subject heading List that ensure maximum retrieval output for users of Black studies materials.

Right from the inception of the critique of the LCSH in the late 1960's over its biased posture women librarians in US as a collective interest group, in a self styled spokesmen of ferminism have not been left behind in voicing their disenchantment regarding the manner topics relating to women generally were unjustifiably treated. They organised themselves and set up a committee in 1974 on Sexism and subject headings under the sponsorship of American Library Association. The committee set out to expose the biased headings in the LCSH in relation to women and suggest remedy to the anomalies. In the preface of the thesaurus which the committee presented as the remedy to the LCSH, its leader stated

> We are not the first critics of the List. (LCSH) It had long been criticised for exhiviting bias either actively through the use of biased terminology, or passively through the absence of terms to adequately cover concepts. The Library of Congress has not been

> impervious to this criticism but its response is usually slow and often inadequate.[11]

The thesaurus, which the committee had produced was presented to the Library of Congress for effecting changes and additions as well as deletions in the LCSH with regard to women headings. The publication had the blessing and recognition of both the Library of Congress and the American Library Association. The highlights of the thesaurus is no doubt the statement of six principles for the establishment of the subject headings relating to people. A summary of these principles runs as follows:

1. The authentic name of ethnic, national religious, social or sexual groups should be established if such a name is determinable.

2. In establishing subdivisions for use with the names of peoples, consider the connotation, in addition to the denotation of the word structure of the subdivision. Avoid words which connotes inferiority or peculiarity.

3. The wording and structure of headings for minority or other groups should not differ from headings for the majority. Avoid all AS and IN constructions.

4. Be specific and current.

5. Do not use subsuming terminology. Do not establish headings for some but not all classes of people or peoples.

6. Do not allow huge files of undifferentiated cards to accumulate under a heading. Specific subject headings and general subdivision reduces this tendency.

These principles would be of interest to curious librarians as well as those wishing to compile home subject headings or contribute to the modification of existing subject headings like the LCSH. Even though the thesaurus "On equal terms" has been designed and proclaimed to remedy and offset the biased treatment of LCSH of women topics, a glance through it will reveal that it has committed and is guilty of the same shortcomings it set out to correct. The thesaurus depicts women generally as either christians or Jewish; Women of other religions including Islam and the peculiar topics related to them have been completely ignored. While there were entries like Christian women, christian sisters, christian life and Jewish women, Jewish life there were no corresponding entries under the descripters MUSLIM or ISLAMIC. Infact the terms MUSLIM and ISLAMIC are cosopicously absent from the thesaurus. At best the thesaurus could only help improve the retrieval of materials related to women in Europe and America and possibly the rest of the world where Christianity is dominant.

In one of the most detailed analysis of the biases of the LCSH mainly concerning the people of the Third World countries women and minorities generally, Berman[12] touched on issues that arouses frustration and spark fiery range in the minds of cataloguers concerned with the materials of these underated peoples! Berman conveyed the feelings about the LCSH in Third World countries when he stated "In the realms of headings that deal with people and cultures-- in short with humanity the LC List can only "satisfy" parochial, jingoyist Europeans and North Americans, white-hued at least norminally christian (and probably protestant) in faith..."[13] In addition to that, LC List "reflects a host of untenable— indeed obsolute and arrogant -- assumptions with respect of young people and women" Berman's exposition on the biases of the LCSH did not stop at making general criticisms he cited examples from headings on races, nationalities religion, ethnic groups, youth and sexism. For each example of biased heading an alternative one has been suggested.

Concerning religion Berman has noted that the descripter Mohammedan which featured in previous editions of the LCSH has been removed in the 7th edition and replaced with Muslim or Islamic where appropriate.[14] However, the 8th ed. of the List is still preponderant with the Christian oriented topics. One example cited by Berman concerns the heading CONVERTS[15] the scope notes for which read "Here are entered works on converts to Christianity. Works on converts to other religions

are entered under the name of the religion". The point of contention here is that while the general heading has been reserved for Christianity, materials on converts to all other religions are scattered giving the impression that Christianity occupies a most prominent position which warrants such a favour.

The 9th ed. of the LCSH which was published after the appearance of Berman's book made some changes concerning the heading converts.[16] But the changes do not alter the fundamental question of Christian bias evident in the heading. The 9th ed. still reserves the main heading converts to Christianity while converts to other religions including Islam remain under the terms denoting the adherents of each religion for example Muslim Converts.

Berman acknowledged the fact that his work only dealt with few cases of biases in the LCSH and therefore called on all those "unsatisfied with the List as it is and determine that such a basic tool should represent the best insights and information at our command" to proceed from where he stopped and "locate, examine and report... to the library periodicals and LC itself any further outlandish or unjustifiable forms as well as recommending totally new heads required by our fast changing times."[17] This is a challenge to all librarians but it is more directed to the librarians of Third World countries who are most affected by non coverage of their holdings by the LCSH.

A study conducted by Christ[18] made a lot of revelations on the form and structure of the LCSH with regard to Social sciences. Christ selected samples of social science concepts from International Encyclopaedia of the social sciences and compared them with the corresponding subject headings in the LCSH with a view to assessing the extent of matching between the two. He discovered that of the 665 social science concepts selected only 280 or 42% have matching subject headings in the LCSH. This indicatesthat a substantial number of social science concepts are not provided for in the LCSH and this has serious implication for retrieval of materials. The study also observed that "Given a social science term that is multi-word or corporate term such as "behavioural science" or "public interaction" it is highly unlikely that it will have a subject heading referent in the Library's subject catalogue".[19] This points to the fact that the LC favoured the use of single word terms as its subject headings. Yet another finding of the study is that the LCSH mainly comprise of common language terms and that technical and scientific language of the social science is often avoided. The study also noted the limited use of interdisciplinary terms in the LCSH.[20] The implication of this measure is the restriction of bibliographic access to interdisciplinary literature of the social science. The general result of the study pointed to the inadequacy of the LCSH to meet the needs of social science scholars in terms of retrieval of relevant literature.

While commenting generally on the existing general subject headings Coates cautions librarians against the blind adoption of either the LCSH or Sears List. The two according to him are "purely retrospective in conception and offer no solutions to the problem of developing subjects.."[21]

Hykin's work which brought together, in elaborated form, the policies and decisions that shaped the LC's subject heading programme, which culminated into the publication of the LCSH has raised issues worthy of consideration. He stated "One of the most serious weaknesses of the headings now found in our catalogues is that the terms chosen are not derived from precise knowledge of the approach used by many readers of different backgrounds".[22] Since the approach of readers say in Nigeria is not known and the LC may not be in a position to know that, if Nigerian libraries adopt the LCSH they should appreciate its possible short-comings as far as their needs are concerned. In continuation with the same argument Hykin added that "List of Subject headings do not necessarily provide equally for all fields of knowledge since they include as a rule only headings as the library which has issued the List has had occasion to apply to books it has added to its collection". Libraries just taking off could benefit immensely from this statement in that it alerts them to examine the LCSH, in the light of the type of collection they would want to build before making a final decision on whether or not to adopt the LCSH.

In giving his own criticism of the LCSH Fosket warned us that

> It is clear that LCSH and its companion classification are by no means perfect tools, both suffer from inconsistencies and from lack of specificity and the user outside Library of Congress needs to view them with caution rather than uncritical acceptance with which some times they are hailed" (24)

Certainly many libraries had uncritically accepted the LCSH but it could be that some of them just have no other alternative.

Meanwhile, those who adopt the LCSH without giving serious consideration to making modification on their own initiative would better have a change of mind; for according to Fosket

> Both LCC and LCSH represent the arrangement of some millions of items on the shelves and in the card catalogues of the LC; though the subject cataloguers are well aware of the inconsistencies and errors, the amount of efforts that would be needed to remedy these is simply not available. (25)

Even though this statement did not emanate directly from the LC itself it must have been made on some grounds. If anything it shows the extent to which some "authorities" could go on assuming the role of self appointed spokemen in a negative way, on issues that they should have been staunch supporters. Fosket did not need to be an African, a Chinese or Muslim to appreciate the fact that LCSH needs through revision in respect of these people. A better stand for the renowned scholar could have been to toe the line of others like Berman and Joan in

advocating changes in the LCSH in respect of areas treated with bias as a mark of awareness and responsiveness to new developments. That would have been the best thing to do not only as a measure of goodwill but more important for the ultimate reorganisation and improvement of information retrieval systems in all libraries using the LCSH, in all corners of the world.

Generally, the literature examined has pointed to one most striking conclusion; that the LCSH is inadequate in its treatment of literatures of several areas of knowledge including Islam. This phenomenon apart, LCSH has gained widespread acceptance and assumes a dominant position as a tool for the compilation of subject catalogues and alphabetical indexes. It is recognised that the LC which maintains the List issues quarterly additions and changes which gradually cumulate and are integrated into subsequent editions. But many libraries have found these improvement measures either not frequent or not sufficiently deep enough and therefore undertake their own individual modifications; and yet others have delved into the adventure of compiling their own independent Lists. All these point to the devotion and determination towards the improvement of the present unsatisfactory state of affairs in the area of subject headings.

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CHAPTER THREE

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SUBJECT HEADINGS - ITS HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND STRUCTURE

The publication of the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) begun in 1914, is a recent development in the field of subject cataloguing. The appearance of the List to a large extent constituted a culmination of efforts in terms of experiments, trial and error that had characterised the evolution of subject cataloguing over the previous centuries. The List, now in its 9th edition, having being based on the dictionary catalogue of the Library of Congress and therefore ideally conceived for limited application in the Library of Congress only, has now evolved and blossomed into a standard List widely adopted in several countries of the world.

3.1 History

Before the emergence of the alphabetical subject catalogue, libraries had tried several alternatives to provide subject access to their collections. The earliest method of subject cataloguing in libraries began with the classed catalogues, which were nothing more than crude and rudimentary inventory Lists of documents contained in each press or shelf, designed for permanent storage of a single broad subject. The idea for permanent location of broad subjects is what we now refer to as fixed shelf arrangement.

Eventually as libraries grew in size, this inventory lists became less effective as finding lists for particular items, and in the catalogues the alphabetical arrangement by authors was substituted for the strict arrangement by press or shelf".[1] But the author entries adopted brought to surface the problem of anonymous works and other categories of literature that had no personal authorship. Solution to this problem gave rise to the introduction to catchword entries. This new device constituted an important development in the evolution of the present day subject heading practice. Along with the author entries, the catchword headings were arranged alphabetically to provide the nucleus of the modern dictionary catalogue. Examples of dictionary catalogues of this type were the catalogues of the general library of the University of Aberdeen 1873-74 and the alphabetical catalogue of the United States Department of the Interior States which appeared in 1877. In the preface to the latter, it was stated that:

> every book has been entered twice, under the author when known and under the leading word of the title, which later also to a great extent has collected the titles into a classification according to subject. (2)

With this statement, it's clear that the "leading word in the title", had to a large extent, assumed the role of determining the subject headings in the early dictionary catalogues. But the catchword title entry,

inspite of its potential and semblance of conveying the summary of the subject of a document, has never been a flawless or satisfactory means of deriving subject headings. The fact that many titles did not give complete and accurate statement of the subjects of the works they represent and some of them being highly deceptive had led to the confusion and disorder in the pioneer dictionary catalogues. This apparent inadequacy of the subject captions taken from titles, prompted librarians to continue the experiments to improve the situation. It was in the light of this spirit that Pettee[3] reported that "occasionally a general subject heading has been introduced where the title word gives no clue to the contents of the book," and with this small beginnings, subject headings derived from the contents of documents, albeit broad begun to emerge and gradually superceded the catchword entries.

Meanwhile, the subject headings obtained from the contents of documents continued to be filed along with author entries, until such a time when the alphabetical subject list assumed an importance of its own and it was then" continued on cards as a separate catalogue in many American libraries".[4] This separation of the alphabetical subject catalogue from the author entries lasted only briefly and was abandoned early in the 19th century in favour of the integration of the two catalogues as had existed before.

3.1.1 Cutter Rules

By that time Cutter[5] had published his general rules for the alphabetical subject headings. These rules precisely published in 1876 marked a turning point in the history of alphabetical subject cataloguing. While commending this giant stride in the progress and advancement in cataloguing Coates[6] said of Cutter "In about 25 pages of rules and comments Cutter virtually laid down the foundations of subject cataloguing for the next three-quarters of a century." It could however, be added that the influence of these rules went beyond the stated period extending right down to the present time. The alphabetical subject catalogues in our modern libraries still bear the traces of Cutter's thoughts and ruling over subject headings. This situation largely prevails because Cutter left no intellectual successor capable of advancing from the point at which he stopped and that successor, reminiscent of an expected messiah is yet to emerge.

Cutter's rules on subject cataloguing touch on many aspects of the subject headings but the specific rules in particular are listed below with a brief explanation on each.

1. Consideration of the interest of the user
   Haykin refers to this as "the reader Focus" which simply means that in determining subject headings the interests and needs of the user "takes precedence over any systematic or logical consideration".[7]

Any other rules that go against or jeopardice the interest of the user are sacrificed or at least compromised. This rule created room for subjectivity leading to several inconsistencies in the form and structure of the subject headings now observable in library alphabetical subject catalogues especially those derived from the DCSH.

2. Uniform heading:

The practical application of this rule will ensure that a subject cataloguer brings together under one heading all the books on the same subject irrespective of varying terms applied by authors or at different times. In effect any term selected as a subject entry from the multitude of synonyms available, must be applied consistently on the subject.

3. Terminology

As sucject headings are verbal statements of the documents, the objective of this rule is to ensure that the terms chosen by the cataloguer effect a match with that of the user. To achieve this, subject headings must reflect the common usage of the public and obsolete terms must also be avoided. The latter demand of this rule when critically examined, will reveal that it is a kind of inbuilt desire for the regular revision of the subject headings as terms currently adopted become obsolete with change in usage patterns.

4. Specific entry

A full statement of this rule says "Enter a work under its subject heading, not under the heading of a class which includes the subject."[8] The main import of this rule is that any heading selected should strictly be specific to the subject of the document it's intended to cover. This principle appears to be one of the most difficult to put into practical operation as Cutter himself wasn't sure of what exactly a specific entry should be. In any case specificity in terms of subject heading is a relative concept which will differ with individual librarians, the type of libraries and the categories of users.

Inspite of the great amount of subjectivity in practical operation of the rules mentioned, they have succeeded in bringing order and sanity as well as some uniformity in the construction of subject headings. The Library of Congress Subject Headings which first appeared about four decades ago, was largely based upon these epochmaking principles.

Not long after the publication of his rules for dictionary catalogue, Cutter had an opportunity to concretise his theory of subject headings. In 1891 he was appointed as a member of a committee set up by the American Library Association (ALA) to look into the ways of bringing about uniformity in what was otherwise bewildering differences in the choice of subject headings among libraries. In 1895 the committee submitted its

report and the ALA List of Subject Headings for use in dictionary Catalogues was immediately published. According to Pettee[2]

> This excellent List is not only a compilation of headings selected from terms gathered from many sources and evaluated, but it has gone beyond this, relationships have been considered and references from general to specific terms and all related headings have been added.

A few years later, in 1898 the Library of Congress adopted the dictionary catalogue and went forth to construct its unique subject headings, drawing from the experiences of the American Library Association as well as putting into practice the principles earlier expounded by Cutter. This new venture quickly gained reputation and partly because of the catalogue card service provided by the LC to other libraries, many such libraries and even those that did not patronise these cards adopted the dictionary catalogue, thus begun the sweeping change that engulfed the vast majority of American Libraries and spread to the libraries of other countries.

The Library of Congress decided to initiate the publication of its subject headings and the first edition appeared in 1914. Since then nine editions have been issued including the one of 1980. This publication is still maintained by the Library of Congress and it is kept up to date by quarterly supplements which are cumulated into yearly volumes and at regular intervals new editions are issued out.

Over the years the LCSH has grown in size and complexity and its popularity is marked by its wide acceptance. We have also noted that the construction of the List has been largely influenced by the Cutter rules as well as the ALA List of Subject Headings for use in dictionary catalogues. But the LCSH inspite of its age and a good record of adoption by many libraries cannot claim to satisfy the universal needs of libraries. Its weaknesses, which had become subject of criticism were largely the result of its adherence to Cutter rules even after they had become obsolete and the relative absence of current and up-to-date theoretical principles, that could cater for new developments in the area of subject headings, that made the construction of subject headings in the List to be subjected to arbitrary decisions as well as the predilection and personal experiences of the cataloguers. The extent to which this trend is checked or allowed to continue will largely determine the image of the List in the eyes of its users. Examples of issues in subject headings on which there are no specific guidelines and the compilers of the LCSH continue to make different approaches are numerous. Take the case of whether to construct certain heading in the form of phrases or heading with sub-divisions as demonstrated by the example:

Stability of ships (phrase heading)

Ships - Stability (subdivision)

As there is no specific rule on which one to be preferred, the compilers of the LCSH felt free to choose any one and with many cases of this sort having mixed approaches one could imagine the amount of inconsistency and the difficulties relating to accessibility of materials users might encounter.

Another aspect of inconsistency in the LCSH is where inversion is involved. Many headings in the List are inverted with noun brought forward, for example Insurance, Life so as to achieve collocation of materials on insurance. But as there are no guidelines on when and what categories of headings to invert the result has been an indiscriminate inversion in the LCSH giving rise to uncertainty and unpridictability in the minds of users and the cataloguers outside the Library of Congress.

This unfortunate state of affairs in respect of the LCSH, demonstrates a pressing need for a code of subject headings accurate and comprehensive enough for subject description of documents and for playing the loopholes of inconsistencies and irregularities.

3.2 Structure

The Structure of the LCSH

The Library of Congress Subject Headings constitutes one of the controlled pre-coordinate indexing vocabularies now used in libraries. The subject headings in it display a mixture of natural and artificial language. According to Chan[10]

> Single nouns, adjectival phrases and prepositional phrases are based on natural forms and words order of English language. On the other hand, headings with qualifiers, headings with subdivisions and inverted headings are forms especially designed not forms used in everyday speech.

In terms of grammatical and syntactical structure, there are several categories of subject headings in the LCSH. The following are some of them.[11]

1. Noun: This is obviously one word heading like Botany

2. Adjectival headings: Each of these consists of a noun preceeded by an adjectival modifier. An example of this could be Nigerian History.

3. Prepositional phrase headings: This category of headings comprises of two or more nouns having modifiers or not but are linked by prepositions. An example of this is Television in health education.

4. Conjunctive phrase headings: Each of this type of heading is made up of two or more nouns joined together by the conjunction AND or ending with "ING" for example Good and evil.

5. Inverted headings: In many instances in the LCSH, headings are inverted resulting in noun being brought forward so as to achieve a particular desired arrangement like grouping of related subjects together.

Related to the grammatical and syntactical structure of the LCSH is the application of subject subdivision to many headings. A subject heading is usually subdivided to achieve specificity and sub-arrange works sharing the same main heading. There are now four types of subdivisions in the LCSH. These are geographic, period, topical and form. A subdivision is usually signalled by a "dash" after a subject heading which is then followed by the word/s of subdivision, for example Agriculture - Study and teaching.

Reference Structure

The application of the uniform and specific entry rules in the construction of subject headings, in many cases results in the scattering of related subject headings to locations in the dictionary catalogue where users may not expect to find them. Such headings may remain hidden and unused in the Library catalogues over a long period. It is in an attempt to avoid the occurrence of this situation that syndetic devices are introduced in the LCSH and consequently in Library Catalogues not only to lead users from terms that are not used to those that are but also to provide connections between related subject headings in the catalogue. The system of connective references in the LCSH consists of the following:

1. See references

These are meant to direct the user from terms not used to those that have been selected as subject headings.

2. See Also references:

This type of reference serves to connect subject headings used and demonstrates relationship between them. This reference often involves downwords or broad to narrow subject references, for example Monkeys SEE ALSO Baboons. Upward or narrow to broad subject references are seldom used in the UCSH.

3. General references:

Usually SEE ALSO references are directed to individual headings in the catalogue but occassionally they may refer to a group of subject headings. This is referred to as a general reference.

Example:

Science SEE ALSO Headings

beginning with the word Scientific

4. Subject to Corporate names

These are references from subject headings to names of corporate bodies related to the particular subjects.

All the categories of references that we have discussed represent an attempt consciously or otherwise to introduce a semblance of classificatory structure in the dictionary catalogues. The wisdom behind these devices is that while maintaining the specific entry feature of the dictionary catalogue which is considered an overriding advantage, the connective references in it, are meant to secure the collocation advantage of the classified catalogue and thus combine the best of the two worlds at a time.

Format

The organisation of each subject heading in the LCSH follows a certain pattern. First the subject heading which is used is shown in bold type occasionally followed by a class number in parenthesis clarifying it. The bold type heading in some cases is then accompanied by scope notes which are given "to ensure consistency of usage by specifying the range of subject matter to which a heading is applied... by stating which of several meanings of a term is the one to which its use in Library's catalogue is limited."[13] Next comes the light face references in form of terms equally broad or surbordinate and related to the bold heading, synonymous terms not used and subdivisions which all affect the use of the particular bold headings in the LCSH system. The references are organised under the following symbols:

1. S A (See also) which is an "abbreviation preceding the references to be made to headings for related and surbodinate topics.

2. X (See from) This symbol is followed by terms which are synonymous to the bold heading but have not been used and the cataloguer is required to make SEE references from them to the bold heading.

3. XX (See also from) under this symbol a list of some headings in the LCSH are given from which a cataloguer is being instructed to make a SEE ALSO reference to the bold heading.

In the brief historical account of the LCSH and the summary description of its structure certain conclusions could reasonably be drawn. The account has proved that the LCSH lacked principles and theoretical bases in many instances to support its entries. What principles it relied on in the name of Cutter rules, had largely become obsolete and could not cope with many present day circumstances relating to the assignment of subject headings. In the absence of this pre-requisite the compilers of the List have resorted to adhoc, arbitrary and pragmatic approach in the construction of subject headings. This explains the apparent incoherence and unsystematic nature of the List. This state of affairs may well serves as a challenge to individual librarians and their associations to wake up using their intellectual

resources and direct attention to the neglected area, so that a better subject heading system devoid of rampant flaws could emerge.

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CHAPTER FOUR

The identification of Islamic Subject Headings in the LCSH may seem a clear and straight forward exercise. However, bearing in mind that the literature of any subject and the subject headings derived from it will include both the core and pheripheral literature of the particular subject, some difficulties may emerge especially with regard to the pheripheral literature. Attempt to tackle the preconceived difficulties necessitated the employment of some criteria to determine the Islamic Headings in the LCSH.

The categories of subject headings in the LCSH identified as Islamic vary in their nature and scope. The first category of Islamic Headings are what one may regard as the core Islamic subject headings. These are peculiar to Islam and are not applicable or subject to modification to suit other disciplines. Such headings include Qur'an, Jihad, Hadith and Mi'raj. Secondary there are those topical subject headings which are transformed into Islamic subject headings by means of qualifiers such as "Muslim", "Islamic" "Islamic law", "Islam" and "Arabic" as in the following examples:

Architects, Muslim

Wedding sermons, Islamic

Slavery (Islamic law)

Astronomy (Arabic)

Thirdly, other subject headings distinguished as Islamic are those that relate to the literature of muslim countries, or of non-muslim countries that had and may still have established relationship with Islam. Included in this category are also headings for muslim groups in muslim countries or elsewhere as well as muslim sects. Examples of all these categories of headings are:

Algeria

Spain - History - Arab period, 711-1492

Druses and

Ahmadiyya

In the two volumes of the LCSH, 9th ed, 1980 a total of 859 headings were identified as Islamic Subject Headings (see Appendix 1). These will be examined in the light of their propriety, inadequacies, as well as the need to make modifications where necessary.

It should be noted that the Islamic Subject Headings collocated spread over the fields of Qur'an, Hadith, Arabic language and literature, Fiqh (jurisprudence) and what may, for convenience, be called secular sciences such as natural sciences, social sciences and technology.

Librarians, especially those who handle the LCSH for the purpose of constructing subject headings have complained about the inadequacies and several other defects of the List. The dissatisfaction where it has been

recorded in writing, has been fragmented and located in many materials of the literature of Library Science. Berman apparently the most articulate critic of the List, in his book Prejudices and Antipathies: A tract of the LC Subject Headings concerning people, has however, attempted to synthesize the dissatisfaction of his colleagues especially those in the developing countries where the biases of the LCSH are most felt. The work of Berman, being of general nature, could not, however, cover all areas of knowledge adequately and the awareness of this possibility of limited coverage prompted Berman to state that:

> Beyond question there remains much to rake within the List's 1,432 tripled columned page (referring to LCSH 7th ed.) He particularly requested for further contribution in the work he had started when he declared "Here is an invitation, then to the like-minded to those unsatisfied with the scheme as it is and determined that such a basic tool should present the best insights and information at our command: locate, examine and report to library periodicals and LC (Library of Congress) itself any further outlandash or unjustified forms, as recommending totally new heads required by our fast changing times."[1]

Apart from the interest the present writer has on an investigation on Islamic subject headings this study could be regarded as a kind response to the timely call of Berman.

4.1 Early Criticism of the LCSH on Islamic Subject Headings

Early criticism of the LCSH up to the 7th ed. had included the following descriptors:

Mohammedan

Mohammedans and

Mohammedanism

These descriptors employed in the LCSH to provide direct Islamic Subject Headings had been the bone of contention of Muslim Cataloguers and regarded as an insult to the generality of muslims. While the compilers of the LCSH up to the 7th edition equated the three terms with "Islamic", "Muslims" and "Islam" respectively, the literature of Islam which originated from the Qur'an and Hadith never used them and the muslim writers accordingly avoided them. The name of the followers of Muhammad (Peace be upon Him) as well as the religion he preached are found in the Qur'an as Muslims and Islam and anything contrary to this will be a violation of the provision of the Qur'an which any good muslim will not tolerate. The objectionable terms found their way into the LCSH through the literature of Islam written by non-muslims especially the Western Christian Scholars of Islam generally referred to as orientalists who coined the terms and frequently used them in their writings. These scholars made an unfounded assumption based on their background and familiarity with Christianity in which the name of the religion and its adherents are derived from the name of the

founder, Christ, and therefore went forth to treat Islam the same way as Christianity and came up with the terms "Mohammedan", Mohammedans", and Mohammedanism. The LC subsequently adopted the practice of the orientalists and introduced those terms in its subject headings.

It should, however, be noted that the LC has been responsive to criticism concerning the three objected terms and made substantial changes in the 8th edition of the LCSH. The three terms in question were replaced by "Islamic" "Muslims" and "Islam" as shown in the examples below:

Old heading in the 7th ed.	Substitute headings in the 8th ed.
Mohammedan antiquities	Islamic antiquities
Mohammedans-Education	Muslims-Education
Angels(Mohammedanism)	Angels (Islam)

The change has affected about fifty five (55) Islamic subject headings spread over pages 839-840 of the LCSH 7th ed, 1966. This measure taken has proved some measure of responsiveness of the compilers of the LCSH and contributed immensely in minimising the amount of dissatisfaction experienced by Muslim cataloguers. The major revision has also limited the scope of criticism that could be levelled against the Islamic subject headings in the LCSH.

4.2 Ethnic bias

With regard to the Islamic subject headings, the LCSH 9th ed. 1980 presented some improvements over the previous editions. It is observed that headings like "Negro Muslims" and "Muslims as scientists" which signify ethnic bias have now been deleted from the 9th edition. But the 9th ed. is still not a perfect tool. Out of the Islamic Subject headings drawn from it, one could be pointed out on account of its ethnic bias. This heading which is "Muslims, Black" symbolises racial bias in that it seeks to identify Muslims on the basis of colour which is neither sanctioned by Islam nor found in the Islamic literature. Moreover, in the LCSH there are no parallel subject headings like "Christians, Black" or "Jews, Black" in spite of the existence of Blacks among Christian and Jewish religious groups. To elimihate the ethnic bias in the heading "Muslims, Black" one would suggest that it should be substituted with a more appropriate one. The new heading one will recommend is "Muslims" to be followed by geographical subdivision to indicate the nationals of different countries. Examples could be:

Muslims - Nigeria and Muslims - US

4.3 Religious bias

Among the Islamic subject headings in the 9th ed. of the LCSH there are about 36 whose manner of establishment and presentation in the LCSH smack of biased treatment. These headings (See Appendix 2) are distinguished by parenthetical qualification using "Islam" or "Muslim" as qualifiers or in some cases the application of the terms 'Islamic' and "Muslim" as adjectives to topical

headings. The 36 subject headings, however, share one thing in common. They are all derived from topical subject headings earlier established in the LCSH; It is the parenthetical qualification or adjectives that converted them into Islamic subject headings. It should be noted that the method of converting genus topical subject headings into other independent species headings is not restricted to Islam alone; headings for other religious such as Judaism and Hinduism are secured. In this analysis we are only concerned with topical headings turned into Islamic Subject Headings.

The biased element in the 36 Islamic Subject Headings becomes evident when we consider that the genus topical subject headings from which they are derived connote activities, doctrines, beliefs, albeit in fundamentally different forms, which cut across many religions including Islam. Genus topical headings like Angels, Faith, Fasting, Hell and Paradise are relevant to Islam just as to Christianity and Judaism. This kind of situation demands equal treatment of all religions concerned when headings of this sort are under consideration. It is this approach of doing justice to all affected religions that the compilers of the LCSH failed to accomplish. They have instead taken side with Christianity and accorded it priority and prominence over all other religions including Islam by assigning the genus topical headings like Angels, Faith, Fasting and Hell to

/ while other religions are treated like surbodinates of Christianity by means of qualifiers and adjectives.

As for Islam the four genus subject headings become Islamic subject headings by attachment of the qualifier "Islam" as given below and in Appendix 2 as earlier mentioned:

1. Angels (Islam)
2. Faith (Islam)
3. Fasting (Islam)
4. Hell (Islam)

Equal and unbiased treatment of Islam and Christianity in respect of these four examples and indeed in the case of all the 36 headings in Appendix 2 would have resulted in the attachment of equivalent qualifier/s to the Christian subject headings so that the genus subject headings could stand for the general and comparative aspects of the individual subjects. With regard to the four specific examples mentioned Christian subject headings could then be:

Angels (Christianity)
Faith (Christianity)
Fasting (Christianity and
Hell (Christianity)

4.4 Broad headings

It is not only the glaring biases of the LCSH that constitute a matter of concern to the cataloguers of Islamic

materials. Any library with a large stock of variety of Islamic materials and is using the LCSH will have to contend with scanty Islamic Subject headings that are provided in the List. The Islamic subject headings we have identified could be adequate for a religion with few adherents and whose literature has not fully developed, but certainly not for Islam whose literary items may run into millions. The question of scanty Islamic subject headings in the LCSH which is a kind of subtle bias could not however, be belavoured when we remind ourselves of the literary warrant feature of the LC classification upon which the LCSH was based. It could be that the few Islamic headings in the LCSH is a phonomenon accounted for by the Limited Islamic materials acquired by the LC.

While the argument of literary warrant could still hold as a check on the emergence of an elaborate Islamic subject heading scheme in the LCSH, it is further observable from the existing Islamic headings that in some instances no detailed subject analysis has been carried out to provide specific Islamic headings. In most cases, the only analysis carried out on Islamic headings as could be seen in Appeneix 1 and 2 is the addition of the gloss "Islamic", "Islam", "Muslim" "Islamic law", and "Arabic" to turn what was otherwise subject headings for other disciplines into Islamic subject headings.

The practice of subdivision as a common feature of the LCSH to provide specificity in subject headings establishment has not been fully employed on Islamic subject headings. Among the

subject headings in Appendix 1, it is only the following that have been subjected to some sort of subdivision to provide specific headings. These are:

Civilization, Islamic

Civilization, Arab

God

Hadith

Islam

Israel-Arab war

Jerusalem

Koran

Morocco

Mosques

Muslims

Palestine

Pharaohs

Shi'tes

Sudan

Tunisia and

Turkey.

Arabic language

Arabic literature

Arabic poetry

Arab countries

Architecture, Islamic

Jewish-Arab relations

Nigeria

With this practice of limited subdivision on Islamic subject headings, one could at best imagine the number of books that will pile under a heading prayer (Islam) without any specification of for example the categories of prayers

like Jum'ah prayers, five daily prayers, supporogatory prayers on each of which materials are available. This phenomenon of non specificity of Islamic headings in many instances will certainly hinder the location of relevant materials sought by patrons or at least contribute to waste of more time at searching stages.

4.5 Inconsistency

The inconsistency that has been a common phenomenon of the LCSH did not feature prominently in the Islamic subject headings. One or two cases of this weakness of the List could however be pointed out. First, the List has two different spelling of the same word in the following Islamic headings:

Caliphate

Khilafat movement

The compilers of the List could stick to the first variety of spelling which is more common in Islamic literature, especially the literature of Islamic history.

4.6 Wrong Variant Spelling

There is one case of consistency in variant spelling that has been adopted by the LCSH in the form of "Koran" as a heading but which is not common in the current Islamic literature. This form of spelling reflects the American usage which is often favoured by the LCSH even when it is evident that the practice is not correct. The correct form of the "Koran" in the LCSH is "Qur'an" as could be verified from the current literature of Islam in English including the reference sources like the dictionary of Islam[2] and Encyclopaedia Britannica.[3] Regarding the incorrect variant "Koran" Encyclopaedia Britannica particularly stated, "Koran" is a "spelling fairly well established in English toward the end of the 19th century but now beginning to give way to the more correct form "Qur'an". The Correct form - "Qur'an" has indeed replaced the unfavourable form - "Koran" except in few materials like the LCSH.

4.7 Mixture of Arabic and English terms

Users of the LCSH to construct Islamic subject headings will obviously observe the mixture of Arabic and English terminologies as headings depending on which seems to the compilers of the List as most appropriate under individual circumstances. Arabic terms such as Ansar, Dinar, Din-illahi, Hadith, Ta'ziyah and Ulama exist at appropriate places in the alphabetical order just like English ones like Divorce (Islamic law), Fasting (Islam), and Marriage (Islam).

The mixture of the two terms especially in cases where the Arabic ones have been assimilated into English like in the case of Hadith presents a wise approach that could promote greater accessibility to materials. There are, however, instances in the List where an Arabic term and its English equivalent are given as shown below:

Arabic Terms	English Equivalent
Da'wah (Islam)	Preaching-Islamic

This is an unnecessary duplication; the compilers of the LCSH should settle on Arabic terms or their English equivalents.

Duplication of headings that are identical is, however, not restricted to the area of mixture of Arabic and English terms; there are few instances spread over the LCSH when one heading is given in one structure only to appear some where in the alphabetical order under a different structure as could be seen below:

Identical Islamic Subject Heading in the LCSH	
Youth-Religious life (Islam)	Youth, Muslim - Religious life

4.8 Treatment of Islamic History

It is interesting to note the manner in which the compilers of the LCSH treated the headings on Islamic history. Four entry terms are employed to provide these headings. These are: "Arabic countries", "Islam" "Islamic Empire" and "Near East" as evident below:

Arab countries:

- History
- History to 622
- History - 622 - 1516
- History - 1517 - 1918
- History - 20th century
- History - Arab revolt
- Politics and government

Islam - 1800

Islam - 20th century

Islamic Empire - Biography

- History
- History - 622-661
- History 661-750
- History 750-1258
- History 1258-1517

Near East - History

- History - to 622
- History - 622-1517
- History 1517
- History - 20th century

The last two of the above categories of headings with entry terms "Islamic Empire" and "Near East" respectively may appear to be distinct from each other but looking at them closely the periods show some similarity. Moreover the scope note under "Islamic Empire" reads as follows:

> Here are entered works dealing with Near East alone, or the Near East, North Africa and Islamic Spain as a whole 622-1517 i.e., from the rise and expansion of Islam to the creation of the Ottoman empire." 4

This clarification blurred what ever distinction might exist between "Islamic Empire" and "Near East" as subject headings. The similarity of the two headings in coverage of the literature of Islamic history on Near East could lead to inhibition of access to the literature of the subject. Let us take an example; a patron may come to library requiring materials on Near East history 661-750 and supposing he approaches the library with only one term - Near East and checks the catalogue and discovers that the most appropriate heading for him is Near-East. History 622-1517. He will meet an array of large number of materials covering the long period which may hinder him from getting the specific materials he wants. To prevent the occurrence of this kind of situation all the headings on Islamic history should be collected and in line with this, I will suggest a modification and collocation of the three categories of Islamic history subject headings under

a single heading "Islamic history" will be more appropriate. This term has been chosen in view of its wide acceptance and its frequent use in Islamic literature. The modification runs as follows:

Islamic history:

- to 622
- 622 - 661
- 661 - 750
- 750 - 1258
- 1258- 1517
- 1800 -
- 20th century
- Biography
- Early works to 1800
- Juvenile literature

To provide for geographical bias as the heading Near East and Arab countries would want, we could have Islamic History - Arab countries and Islamic History - Near East - followed by period subdivision for example Islamic History-Near-East - to 622

- 622 - 1517
- 1517 -
- 20th century

Apparently, there is some overlap between the general Islamic history headings and those geographically biased but the overlap can be overlooked for the greater advantage of collacation of all relevant Islamic history headings.

With regard to another two headings in the LCSH which connotes Islamic history and are infact, names of two dynasties of the then Islamic empire namely "Abbasids" and "Omayads" they could still remain as separate headings in the alphabetical order. Reference should however, be made from them to the appropriate periods of the particular dynasties under the headings "Islamic history" as shown below.

Abbasids

SEE

Islamic history 750 - 1258

Omayads

SEE

Islamic history 661-750

The analysis of the Islamic subject headings that had been attempted has brought certain curious revelation to light. In spite of the recent responsive posture of the compilers of the LCSH there is still much to accomplish as regards relieving the dissatisfaction of cataloguers. While the List has continued to be generally Christian oriented it still contains one specific headings that is biased, and not in conformity with the terminology in the current Islamic literature. The Islamic subject headings in the List are also noted to be scanty and could possibly be adequate for subject heading construction in a library intended to stock small number of Islamic materials.

In conclusion, the short-coming of the LCSH in terms of bias, non specificity of headings and omission of others resulting in monumental inadequacy of the List for the establishment of Islamic Subject headings, confirms the observation of Berman when he stated:

> a subject heading scheme should ideally, manage to encompass all the facets of what has been written and subsequently collected in libraries to the satisfaction of the world wide reading community. But in the realm of headings that deal with people and culture... in short, with humanity... the LC List can only satisfy parochial, jingoistic, Europeans and North Americans, white hued at least norminally Christian (and preferably protestant) in faith, comfortably situated in the middle and higher income brackets largely domiciled in suburbia, fundamentally loyal to the established order, and heavily imbued with the transcendent incomparable glory of Western civilization.[5]

Quite in agreement with Berman's pessimism about the achievement of the ideal, the LCSH may never attain the position of encompassing all the facets of Islamic literature devoid of bias. But it will continue to mirrow the views of the American and European societies about other people, cultures and civilizations, which are held within the framework of rigid ethnocentricism and conservatism.

Reference

1. Berman, Sanford. Prejudices and antipathes: A track of the LC Subject Headings concerning people. Metuchen: ScareCrow, 1971, p. 225.

2. Hughes, Thomas Patrick. A dictionary of Islam. Being a Cyclopaedia of the doctrines, together with and theological terms of the Islamic religion. Lahore: Premier book house, 1964, p.483.

3. S.M., W.C. "Koran" in Encyclopaedia Britannica Vol.13, Chicago: William Benton, 1971, p. 454.

4. United States. Library of Congress. Subject cataloguing division. Library of Congress Subject Headings, 9th ed. Washinton: Library of Congress, 1980, p.1200.

5. Berman, Sanford. Prejudices and antipathes. p. ix.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The topic of this study "The Treatment of Islamic topics in the Library of Congress Subject Headings" had taken us right down the background literature of subject headings generally. In our introduction to the topic of this study we also had a glimse of the historical development of Islamic literature. Finally the identified Islamic subject headings were analysed in the light of their propriety, biases and specificity.

To recall what the study is all about and what it has set out to achieve may need a restatement of its objectives earlier given. Recasting the mind back it is reaffirmed that the objectives of this piece of research are as follows:

1. To make contribution in the area of knowledge that has receivedlittle attention from scholars and practitioners of librarianship.

2. Communication, dissemination and retrieval of information have for long been among the major social responsibilities of all categories of libraries. With this in mind and this study being centred on the issue of access to information in the field of Islam, it is aimed at enhancing the bibliographic searches in that area.

3. The study also seeks to examine the Islamic subject headings in the LCSH, assess the degree of their biases and inadequacies in the form of omissions, broad-headings and offensive terminologies and forward recommendations for the improvement of the unfortunate situation.

As a guide towards the achievement of the set objectives, certain basic assumptions were held about the study which may also require restatement so as to sharpen our focus on the evidence of achieving the set objectives or otherwise. The assumptions held point to the fact that inspite of the wide adoption of the LCSH by Nigerian Libraries for the purpose of constructing subject headings, in particular, the Islamic subject headings, the efficacy of the List, is questionable.

The specific assumptions held are set below:

1. The existing subject headings in the LCSH are inadequate in describing the works of Islam.

2. The Islamic subject headings in the LCSH restrict and constrain access and retrieval of Islamic materials and consequently limit the progress and lower the quality of research in the field of Islam.

3. The LCSH is biased in its treatment of Islamic subject headings.

During the conduct of the study the two volumes of the LCSH 9th edition, 1980 were examined and relevant subject headings were marked and subsequently recorded to constitute the data treated. Relying on the concepts in Islamic literature, the works of the critique of the LCSH, and the advice of scholars in the field of Islam, the writer has identified what is appropriate, offensive or need modification in the Islamic subject headings.

The literature of subject headings reviewed has overwhelmingly indicated the inadequacy of the LCSH as a tool for the construction of headings related to the subjects of developing countries, Islam inclusive. The literature, however, did not specifically touch on the Islamic subject headings in required detail; Often general statements were given to support the dissatisfaction of cataloguers and users.

Building on what others have done in this area and probing further into the specific a field of Islamic subject headings in the LCSH, this study contributes in bridging one of the gaps of the literature of subject headings.

5.1 Summary of Findings

It has been observed that the scope of the literature of Islam is extensive and that it is a fast growing branch of knowledge. Apart from the traditional Islamic subjects such as the Qur'an, Hadith, Fiqh (jurisprudence), secular sciences are also incorporated into the fold of Islamic literature. Such material must, either be in accordance with Islam or that it has not gone beyond the confines of Islamic approach to issues under discussion or problems being investigated.

The extensive nature of the Islamic literature requires careful handling as well as regular search to determine what is available so as to provide a subject heading that could be satisfactory to users. The LCSH, which has been described as "the most comprehensive List of subject heading in existence"[1] provides inadequate coverage of the recorded Islamic literature. While the environment from which the LCSH sprang could not claim any strong holding of Islamic literature, the initial users of the List and most likely even now are predominantly non-muslims. The interest of Islam, therefore, as far as the establishment of subject heading is concerned in the LCSH, was not and may still not be a priority issue. In any case, since the patrons of the library whose collection constituted the basis of the List are predominantly non Muslims, the provision of a satisfactory Islamic heading can hardly be expected. The interests and approaches of the majority of patrons often determine what

priorities a library may pursue. The interest of the minority could easily be thrown over-board. Theories of collection development may state otherwise but in reality the interest of the majority prevails.

The situation described above gives us a clear position of the Islamic subject headings in the LCSH. It was simply a minority case. But the minority case has now acquired some strength of number with the wide adoption of the LCSH in muslim countries and elsewhere like Nigeria where large scale acquisition of Islamic materials is persued. This new development explains the mounting pressure on the Library of Congress (LC) to remedy the inadequate nature of its List of subject headings in the light of prevailing circumstances.

The 859 Islamic subject headings searched from the LCSH, one may point out, are inadequate for the vast field of Islam. This relatively few number of headings account for the missing of many headings that should have been incorporated into the List. We have earlier on noticed that headings like Islamic banking Islamic revivalist movements, Hadith-compilation, Hadith-classification are all not existing in the List. Other headings relevant to Islam but not available in the List are Islamic brotherhood, Islamic revolution and Birth control (Islam). In our analysis it has also been pointed out that where Islamic headings given in the LCSH detailed subdivision, even where the need is

obvious does not seem to have been provided. It was particularly mentioned that an example Prayer (Islam) was given with no subdivision of kinds of prayers. On this question of subdivision we can further take the example - Arabic language as a heading where some subdivision is given (See Appendix 1) but the following elements are not provided:

Arabic language

- Dictionaries
- Foreign elements
- Grammar
- History
- Periodicals
- Rhetorics
- Study and teaching

The examples quoted above on the omission of certain Islamic subject headings in the LCSH and lack of subdivision on some of them resulting into non specificity of headings are obvious weaknesses. These weaknesses demonstrate a clear proof of the inadequacy of the LCSH to provide detailed subject headings that could lay open and expose the richness and variety of Islamic literature to students and scholars. Patrons are likely to miss important items when appropriate and specific headings are not provided in either a dictionary catalogue or an index to

a classified catalogue. With such large number of omissions of Islamic headings in the LCSH, even the most inquisitive patron who may often ask questions in the library will undoubtedly miss some important information he may require for his research. Consequently, his work cannot be of high quality.

The omissions of some Islamic subject headings in the LCSH and the non-specificity of others have rendered the LCSH inadequate as a major tool in large Islamic libraries. This may explain the reasons why the National Library of Egypt and the University of Jordan libraries took the most appropriate measure of constructing their own home made schemes.

The biases and prejudices of some Islamic subject headings in the LCSH have been long established, particularly with regard to the adjectives Mohammedans, Mohammedan and Mohammedanism. Although these abhored descripters have now been deleted from the List and substituted with others, there still remains one unwanted Islamic heading. This in particular is:

Muslims, Black

The strong objection to this headings is accounted for by its intense racial and dragatory undertones.

The biased nature of the LCSH has also been noted in its favourable and detailed treatment of Christianity as against the prejudiced and narrow conception of Islam perpetuated. The manner in which topical headings which denote doctrines, activities and beliefs shared by both Islam and Christianity, but in fundamentally different approaches, have been presented gave a clear indication of biased treatment and surbodination of Islam to Christianity. While the genus headings of examples like Faith, God, and Hell were specially meant to apply to Christianity Islamic headings for the same concepts had to carry a tag as below:

Faith (Islam)

God (Islam)

Hell (Islam)

Equal treatment of both Islam and Christianity would have resulted in the application of the Christian mark to the same genus headings. Because a large number of the Islamic subject headings in the LCSH had their origins or rooted in the genus headings earlier established for Christianity it could be stated that the Islamic headings have been grafted on a Christian headings superstructure. This situation of strange bed fellows with Christian headings influencing what form the Islamic headings should be could be convenient and satisfactory

arrangement for Christianity but certainly not for Islam which sees itself independent of all other religions.

The frequent inconsistencies of the LCSH, especially with regard to the structure of headings, does not appear to be a serious defect on Islamic subject headings. One example has however, been cited. It is on the adoption of two varieties of spelling of the same word namely Caliphate and Khilafat. This inconsistency could easily be remedied by adopting one of the two varieties of spelling and sticking to it.

Writers on Islam, especially the non-muslim ones are known to employ variant spellings of the term "Qur'an" apart from the correct version. Some of the wrong ones are "Koran" and "Kur'an". These are used against the correct form "Qur'an". It has been noted that the LCSH has been using one of the wrong forms "Koran" in contrast to what prevails in the current Islamic literature.

The Islamic history subject heading headings given under the headings "Arabic countries", "Islam" "Islamic empire" and "Near East" should for collection purposes and convenience of the user be brought under one concept- Islamic history which is more common in the Islamic literature.

5.2 Conclusion

While reflecting back and directing our focus on the major outcomes of this study, it is appropriate to recall the objectives and the assumptions that followed and test the achievement of the objectives and the affirmation of the assumptions or otherwise. These hinged mainly on the biased nature of the LCSH and its inadequacy to provide detailed Islamic subject heading system not only for major Islamic libraries but also for libraries with reasonable stock of Islamic materials.

Out of the 859 Islamic subject heading identified in the LCSH only one is found not acceptable to this writer, which is Muslims, Black. It is rejected on the ground of its strong ethnic bias. The remaining 858 are found appropriate. Some of these acceptable headings are however, slated for modification. These include Islamic headings, on Islamic history and others depicting inconsistency and wrong variant spelling.

The limited number of Islamic subject headings identified in the LCSH and the apparent broad nature of some of them as well as the omissions of some other concepts on which Islamic literature exists, all demonstrate the inadequacy of the List to make a satisfactory subject heading for Islam. The limited coverage of Islam in the LCSH as pointed out in chapter four of this study has occurred as a result of limited number of Islamic materials at

the LC; hence the lack of full coverage of Islam should not be counted as a serious lapse on part of the compilers of the List. Going by the present policy of adhering to the principle of literary warrant the only remedy to the unfortunate situation is the regorous acquisition of manifold varicty of Islamic materials by the LC to provide the required number of Islamic headings. But this measure is impracticable considering the nature and the environment of the LC. So, librarians concerned about the limited I$_s$lamic headings in the LCSH could either on their own improve the List or take the most drastic measure of establishing a special subject heading List for Islam.

On the qudstion of biased treatment of I$_s$lamic subject headings the data analysed pointed to the existence of this shortcoming. A concept like Muslims, Black which is derogatory and offensive to Muslims has been incorporated into the List. Also the priority treatment accorded Christianity against the relegation of I$_s$lam to a position of one of the species of Christianity indicates another facet of strong bias of the LCSH towards Islam. The biased terminology of the LCSH against Islam are largely accounted for by the adherence of the LC to one of its guiding principles for the establishment of subject headings. This principle stated that "the reader is the focus in all cataloguing principles and practice", and the readers in this case are predominantly Christians, if only nominally, whose preconceived approach to subject headings have

permeated and dominated the headings in the LCSH. So, the Christian bias in the LCSH is a fundamental feature of the List rooted in its principles and therefore as long as the principle of "reader focus" in establishing subject headings is not modified the LCSH will remain Christian-oriented and biased to Islam.

To conclude this study, it needs to be further re-emphasised as Berman pointed out that:

> a subject scheme (like the LCSH) should ideally manage to encompass all the facets of what has been printed and subsequently collected in libraries to the satisfaction of world wide community. But in the realms of subject headings that deal with people and cultures, in short with humanity... the LC List can only "satisfy" parochial, jingoistic European and North Americans white hued, at least nominally Christian (and preferably protestant) in faith..[2]

This honest and frank statement underscores the general dissatisfaction of people with the LCSH apart from those white Europeans and North Americans. With regard to Islam, the dissatisfaction assumed greater diamentions. As far as Islam is concerned LCSH represents a distinct view of other peoples and cultures dictated by a particular world view of knowledge held by American and European societies. As a reflection of

American and European view of Islam, it needs to be pointed out, that the List could never reconcile with the conception of Islam about itself. With this in mind one could see the futility of modifying the LCSH to suit Islam for the purpose of constructing subject headings. The modifications could serve as interim measures and band aid solutions to a fundamental problem. The permanent solution to the problem of inadequate and biased Islamic subject headings as exists in the LCSH would be the establishment of a special Islamic subject heading scheme that could adequately cater for the interest of Islam.

5.3 Recommendations

1. There is need for recasting and re-evaluation of the guiding principles for the establishment of the LCSH in order to allow for any meaningful and fundamental changes that could make the LCSH less biased and less offensive to Islam.

2. To provide for greater specificity of the Islamic subject headings the LC should embark on a programme of increased acquisition of variety of Islamic materials as well as employ subdivision technique on as many headings as possible.

3. The LC in its choice of Islamic headings should lay greater emphasis on searching Islamic literature written by Muslims rather than the literature of Islam produced by non-muslims especially Western Christian Scholars of Islam who are known to have used and are still using terminologies that are offensive and derogatory to Islam.

4. The LC should have muslim scholars of Islam among its cataloguing staff who could decide on the establishment of appropriate Islamic headings that are not inimical to Islam; in the event of lack of these LC should seek for the assistance of Muslim scholars spread over American universities.

5. In recognition of the existence of Arabic and English terminology among the Islamic headings in the LCSH, there is the need for libraries acquiring Islamic materials to employ cataloguers knowledgeable on Islam.

6. The terminology of the LCSH with reference to Islamic headings, the biases and prejudices in particular reflect the language patterns of the American and European societies which are supported by larger cultural norms. A change in language patterns, take any language, is not an easy task. This explains the relative resistance of the LC to changes in its subject

headings where necessary. Moreover, the LC evaluates recommendations for additions and changes in the light of the effects such additions and changes would bring to its catalogue in terms of costs, labour and other considerations. These all point to the relative commitment of the LC to retain its existing subject-headings inspite of whatever mounting pressure of criticism and demands for changes. In recognition of this state of affairs against the ever growing need for more effective access to Islamic literature through tools devoid of bias and prejudices, it is recommended that librarians and all concerned at national and international levels through committees should work together to create an Islamic subject heading system that will penetrate the depth of Islamic literature and make it accessible for study and research.

7. To guide the establishment of an Islamic subject heading scheme there is the need to develop principles for the scheme.

8. Participants for the establishment of an Islamic subject headings scheme should draw from the experiences of other subject-heading compilers. In this connection Joan Marshall's "Principles for establishing subject headings relating to People and Peoples" summarised in the literature review of this study should be consulted. The principles offer general guidelines that could facilitate subject heading establishment in the areas of humanities and social sciences.

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APPENDIX 1

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SUBJECT HEADINGS
9TH ED. ISLAMIC SUBJECT HEADINGS

Abbasids

Absence and presumption of death (Islamic law)

Acquisition of property (Islamic law)

Actions and defences (Islamic law)

Adultery (Islamic law)

Advisory openions (Islamic law)

Agency (Islamic law)

Aghlabids

Agricultural laws and legislation (Islamic law)

Ahli Hadith

Ahmadiyya

Alids

Aliens (Islamic law)

Almohades

Almorabides

Amulets (Islam)

Angels (Islam)

Ansar

Apostasy (Islam)

Arab countries

- History
- History to 622
- History - 622 - 1516
- History - 1517-1918
- History - 20th century
- History - Arab revolt
- Politics and government

Arab countries periodicals

Arabesques

Arabia

Arabia in the Bible

Arabian shield, Saudi Arabia

Arabic - Afrikaans dilect

Arabic alphabet

Arabic ballads and songs

Arabic drama

Arabic drama (comedy)

Arabic imprints

Arabic language

- Dialect
- Business Arabic
- Dialects
- Dialects - Judeo Arabic
- Dialects - Malta
- Translating
- Transliteration
- Writing
- Writing, Koranic

Arabic language in Lebanon

Arabic libraries

Arabic literature

- To 622
- 622 - 750
- 750 - 1258

- 1258 - 1800

- 1801 -

- 20th century

- Cataloguing

- Christian authors

- Coptic authors

- Egypt

- Malta

Arabic newspapers

Arabic orations

Arabic periodicals

Arabic philology

Arabic poetry

- To 622

-622 - 750

-750 - 1258

-1258 - 1800

-1801 -

-20th century

-Christian authors

-Jewish authors

Arabic prose literature

Arabic students in the US [etc]

Arabic studies

Arabic wit and humour

Arabism

Arabists

Arabs

- History

- History - To 622

Arabs. - Religion

Arabs in Africa

Arabs in literature

Arabs in Palestine

Arabs in Sind

Arabs in Spain

Arabs in the United States

Architecture - Islamic

Architecture - Islamic [etc] influences

Architecture - Islamic - Africa, North

- Islamic - Iran

- Islamic - Russia

- Islamic - Spain

Arts, Islamic

Ascetism - Islam

Astrology, Arabic

Astronomy, Arabic

Al-Awazin (Arab tribe)

Awlad Sidi Ali Bin Awn region, Tunisia

Ayyubids

Badr, Battle of, 624

Bahaism - relations - Islam

Banking law (Islamic law)

Banks and Banking - Islamic countries

Barakah

Basmalah

Bedouins

Bedouins in Egypt [Syria etc.]

Berbers

Betrothal (Islamic law)

Bible - Islamic interpretations

Black Muslims

Blasphemy (Islam)

Book binding, Islamic

Booty (Islamic law)

Cairo

- Fire 1952

- Riot 1952

Calendar, Islamic

Caliphate

Caliphs (Arabian)

Caligraphers, Muslim

Caligraphy, Arabic

Caligraphy, Islamic

Capacity and desability (Islamic law)

Capital punishment (Islamic law)

Charitable uses, trusts and foundations (Islamic law)

Children -- Religious life (Islam)

Children (Islamic law)

Christianity and other religions - Islam

Chronology, Islamic

Cities and towns, Islamic

Citizenship (Islamic law)

Civil rights (Islamic law)

Civilisation, Arab

- Greek influences

- Iranian influences

- Occidental influences

Civilisation, Islamic

- Greek influences

- Occidental influences

Civilisation, Occidental - Muslim influences

Civilisation, Semitic

Coins, Arab

Coins, Islamic

Coins, Omayyad

Commercial law (Islamic law)

Communism and Islam

Companions of Muhammad, the Prophet

Compensation (Islamic law)

Compromise (Islamic law)

Consanguinity (Islamic law)

Consolation (Islam)

Constitutional law (Islamic law)

Contracts (Islamic law)

Cookery, Arab

Corporation law (Islamic law)

Cosmology, Islamic

Costume, Arab

Costume, Islamic

Courts, Islamic

Creation (Islamic)

Criminal law (Islamic law)

Criminal liability (Islamic law)

Criminal procedure (Islamic law)

Cultus, Islamic

Da'wah (Islam)

Death (Islam)

Debtor and Creditor (Islamic law)

Demonology, Islamic

Devil (Islam)

Devil - Koranic teaching

Dhat al - Sawri, Battle of, 655

Din - illahi

Dirham (Coin)

Discernment of spirits (Islam)

Distribution of descendent's estates (Islamic law)

Ditch, Battle of, 627

Domestic relations (Islamic law)

Druses

Druses in Israel

Druses - marriage

Druses (Islamic law)

Education - Arabia

Educators, Muslim

Egypt

- Antiquities

- Civilisation

- History - 640 - 1250

- History - 640 - 1882

Egypt in the Koran

Enamel and Inamling , Islamic

End of the world (Islam)

Equality (Islam)

Eschatology, Islamic

Eschatology, Koranic teaching

Ethnology, Arabia

European war - Muslims

Evidence(Islamic law)

Evidence, Criminal (Islamic law)

Evidence, Documentary (Islamic law)

Evidence (Islamic law

Excutions (Islamic law)

Excutors and administrators (Islamic law)

Exempla, Islamic

Faith (Islam)

Faith and reason (Islam)

Family - Koranic teaching

Family - religious life (Islam)

Fasting (Islam)

Fasts and feasts- Islam

Fate and Fatalism (Islam)

Fatwas

Folk literature, Arabic

Forcible entry detainer (Islamic law)

Forgiveness of Sin (Islam)

Fraud (Islamic law)

Free will and determinism (Islam)

Freedom (Islam)

Fulah empire

Funeral rites and ceremonies, Islamic

Future life (Islam)

Future punishment (Islam)

Fatuwwa (Islamic order)

Gazels, Arabic

al-Ghadir

God (Islam)

God (Islam) - Attributes

God (Islam) - knowableness

God (Islam) - Koranic teaching

God (Islam) - Mercy

God (Islam) - Names

God (Islam) - Proof

God (Islam) - Will

God (Islam) - Worship and love

Good and evil (Islam)

Gratitude (Islam)

Guardian and ward (Islamic law)

Gulf states

- History

- History - To 1803

Hadith

Hadith - Abrogator and abrogated Hadith

Hadith - Authorities

Hadith - commentaries

Hadith - Criticism, interpretation

Hadith - Forgeries

Hadith - Language, Style

Hadith - Transmitters

Hadith - (Shiites)

- Authorities

- Transmitters

Hadith stories

Hafiz

Hajjat al - Wada

Hanafis

Hanbalites

Harem

Hashim family

Hashimites

Hell (Islam)

Heresies and heretics, Islamic

History (Islamic theology)

Homicide (Islamic law)

Homiletical illustrations, Islamic

Hospitality (Islam)

al-Hudaybiyah, Treaty of, 628

Hurufis

Husband and wife (Islamic law)

al-Huwayatt (Arab tribe)

Hygiene, Islamic

Id al- Adha

Id al - Fitr

Id al - Fitr sermons

Id al - Ghadir

Illegitimacy (Islamic law)

Illumination of books and manuscripts, coptic

- Arab influences

- Islamic influences

Illumination of books and manuscripts, Islamic

Imamate

Imams

- Hadith

- Tombs

- Traditions

Imams as teachers

Impossibility of performance (Islamic law)

Inheritance and succession (Islamic law)

Inscription, Arabic

Inscriptions, Islamic

Insurance law (Islamic law)

Intention (Islam)

Intercession (Islam)

Interdiction (Islamic law)

Interest and Usary (Islamic law)

Intermediate state (Islam)

International law (Islamic law)

Iran in the Hadith

Islam

Islam - 1800

Islam - 20th century

Islam - Apologetic works

Islam - Appreciation

Islam - Biography

Islam - Catechism and Creeds

Islam - Catechism, Arabic

Islam - Charities

Islam - Education

Islam - Essence, genuis, nature

Islam - Functionaries

Islam - government

Islam - Historiography

Islam - India

Islam - Missions

Islam - prayer books and devotions

Islam - psychology

Islam - Relations

Islam - Relations - Bahaism

Islam - Relations - Christianity

Islam - Relations - Coptic Church

Islam - Study and teaching

Islam - Terminology

Islam - Unity

Islam and art

Islam and astraunics

Islam and capitalism

Islam and economics

Islam and humour

Islam and justice

Islam and labour

Islam and literature

Islam and music

Islam and peace

Islam and philosophy

Islam and poetry

Islam and politics

Islam and race relations

Islam and reason

Islam and science

Islam and social problems

Islam and state

Islam and state - Koranic teaching

Islam and the performing arts

Islam and world politics

Islam in literature

Islamic . . .

Islamic antiquities

Islamic art and symbolism

Islamic countries

Islamic countries - History - Naval

Islamic devotional calenders

Islamic devotional literature

Islamic drama

Islamic drama, Arabic

Islamic Empire

Islamic Empire - Biography

Islamic Empire - History

- History - 622 - 661

- History - 661 - 750

- History - 750 - 1258

- History - 1258 - 1517

Islamic Ethics

Islamic Etiquette

Islamic Hymns

Islamic law

- interpretation and construction

Islamic law - sources

- Roman [etc] influences

Islamic learning and scholarship

Islamic libraries

Islamic literature

Islamic literature, Arabic [English etc]

Islamic literature - Christian interpretations

Islamic literature - History and Criticism

Islamic meditations

Islamic New Year

Islamic poetry

Islamic poetry, Arabic

Islamic poetry, Sindhi

Islamic religious education

Islamic religious education - text books for children

Islamic religious education of children

Islamic religious practice

Islamic Research

Islamic sects

Islamic sermons

Islamic sermons, Arabic [Indonesin et]

Islamic shrines

Islamic stories

Islamic stories - Arabic [etc]

Islamic theology

Islamic universities and colleges

Isma'ili literarure

Isma'ilities

Israel

- History

- History 1948 - 1949

- History - Suez Campaign, 1956

- Name

Ivories, Islamic

al - Jahmiya

Jerusalem in Islam

Jesus Christ - Islamic interpretations

305028

KASHIM IBRAHIM LIBRARY
ZARIA, NIGERIA
Ahmadu Bello University

Jewish - Arab relations

- Arab relations - to 1917

- Arab relations - 1917 - 1949

- Arab relations - 1917 -

- Arab relations - 1949 - 1967

- Arab relations - 1949 -

- Arab relations - 1967 - 1973

- Arab relations 1973 -

Jews in the Hadith

Jews in the Koran

Jihad

Jihad - Koranic teachings

Jinn

Jinn - Koranic teachings

Judgement day (Islam)

- Koranic teachings

Judges (Islamic law)

Judicial openions (Islamic law)

Judicial process (Islamic law)

Juhaynah (Arab tribe)

al - Jum'ah

Justice, Administration of (Islamic law)

Karbala, Iraq, Battle of, 680

Karbala, Iraq, Battle of, 680 in Literature

Kharijites

Khartum

Khartum - siege, 1884 - 1885

Khaybar, Battle of, 628

Khilafat movement

Kings and rulers - Religious life (Islam)

Knowledge, Theory of (Islam)

Koran

- Abrogator and abrogated verses
- Appreciation
- Astronomy
- Biography
- Comparative studies
- Criticism and interpretation
- Criticism, interpretation - Biography
- Criticism, Textual
- Ethics
- Ethnology
- Evidences, Authority
- Exegesis
- Geography
- Hermenautics
- Historiography
- Hygiene
- Indexes, First line
- Inimitability
- Interpretation
- Juvenile literature
- Language, Style
- Law

- Manuscripts
- Medicine, Hygiene etc
- Melodic reading
- Memorising
- Musical declamation
- Natural history
- Orthography
- Political science
- Prayers

Koran
- Printing
- prophesis
- Psychology
- Publication and distribution
- Quatations
- Reading
- Recitation
- Relation to the Bible
- Science
- Sociology
- Spelling
- Study
- Theology
- Translating
- Use

Koran and Philosophy

Koran and Science

Koran as literature

Koran stands

Koran stories

Koran stories (Korean)

Kufr (Islam)

Labour laws and legislation (Islamic law)

Land tenure (Islamic law)

Land value taxation (Islamic law)

Larceny (Islamic law)

Lawyers (Islamic law)

Laylat - al - Bara'ah

Laylat al - Miraj

Laylat - al - Miraj sermons

Laylal - al - Qadr

Leases (Islamic law)

Lebanese

Lebanese Americans

Lebanese Newspapers

Lebanese wit and humour

Lebanon

Lebanon - History

Lebanon - History - Intervention, 1958

Legal instruments (Islamic law)

Legends, Islamic

Lextalionis (Islamic law)

Liability (Islamic law)

Liberty of conscience (Islam)

Libyans

Logicians, Arab

Liquor laws (Islamic law)

Logicians, Arab

Logicians, Muslim

Love (Islam)

Mahdi

Mahdsm

Majolica, Islamic

Mali empire

Malikis

Man (Islam)

Man (Islam) - Koranic teaching

Maqamah

Marriage (Islam)

Marriage, Mixed (Islamic law)

Marriage (Islamic law)

Married people - Religious life (Islam)

Married women (Islamic law)

Mary, Virgin - Islamic interpretation

Mathematics, Arabs

Matrimonial actions (Islamic law)

Mawlid

Mawlid al - Nabi

Mawlid al - Nabi in literature

Medicine, Arab

Medicine and Islam

Merit (Islam)

Metal work, Islamic

Miracles (Islam)

Miraji

Missions to Muslims

Mistake (Islamic law)

Modesty (Islam)

Monasticism and religious order, Islamic

Moroccan Crises 1904-1906

Morocco

- History
- History - To 647
- History - 647 - 1516
- History - 1516 - 1830
- History - 19th century
- History - 20th century

Mortgages (Islamic law)

Mosaics, Islamic

Mosque etiquette

Mosques

- Organisation and administration

Mosques as community centres

Motazilites

Motive (Islamic law)

al - Muattilah

Mudejares

Mural painting and decoration, Islamic

Murder (Islamic law)

Music, Islamic

Muslim - - -

Muslim authors

Muslim converts

Muslim converts from Christianity

Muslim Martyrs

Muslim pilgrims and pilgrimages

Muslim pilgrims and pilgrimages - Saudi Arabia

Muslim pilgrims and pilgrimages - Saudi Arabia - Mecca

Muslim saints

- Cult

Muslim saints, women

Muslim teachers

Muslims

- Dietary laws
- Education
- Intellectual life
- Learning and scholarship
- Women

Muslims, Black

Muslims in Algeria [China etc]

Muslims in India

- Politics and government

Muslims in non Muslim countries

Muslims in the Philipines islands

Mysticism - Islam

Names, Arabic

Nature in the Koran

Near East

- History
- History - To 622
- History - 622 - 1517
- History - 1517 -
- History - 20th century

Necessity (Islamic law)

Negligence (Islamic law)

Nigeria

- Civilization
- Civilisation - occidental influences
- History
- History - To 1851
- History - 1851 - 1899
- History - 1900 - 1960
- History - 1960

Nigerians

North Africans

Notaries (Islamic law)

Nullity (Islamic law)

Numismatics, Arabic

Numismatics, Islamic

Oaths (Islamic law)

Occult sciences, Muslims

Offences agaist property (Islamic law)

Offences against the persons (Islamic law)

Oman

- History

- History - Zufar war, 1964 - 76

Omayyads

Omayyads in Spain

Omdurman, Battle of 1898

Option (contract law, Islamic)

Orders of knight-hood and chivalry, Islamic

Paintings, Islamic

Pakistan

- Antiquities

- Civilisation

- Civilisation - Arabic influences

- History

- Civil war 1971

- Politics and government

Pakistanis

Pakistanis in Nigeria [etc]

Palestine

- History

- History - To 70 AD

- History - 70 AD -

- History - 70 - 638

Palestine

- History - 638 - 1917

- History - 1799 - 1917

- History - 1917 - 1948

- History - Partition 1947

Palestine in art

Palestine in Islam

Palestine in the Bible

Palestinian Arabs

Pan Islamism

Paradise (Islam)

Parent and child (Islamic law)

Partition of deceased estate (Islamic law)

Partnership (Islamic law)

Pastoral theology (Islam)

Paternity (Islamic law)

Persons (Islamic law)

Pharaohs

Philosophers, Muslim

Philosophy, Arab

Phylosophy, Islamic

Philosophy, Islamic - Greek influences

Pillars of Islam

Pledges (Islamic law)

Polygamy

Pottery, Islamic

Poverty (Islam)

Prayer (Islam)

Pre- emption (Islamic law)

Preaching, Islamic

Predestination (Islam)

Press, Islamic

Procedure (Islamic law)

Profession of faith (Islam)

Property (Islamic law)

Prophets, Pre-Islamic

Prophets in the Koran

Proverbs, Arabic

Public law (Islamic law)

Public policy (Islamic law)

Punishment (Islamic law)

Purdah

Purity, Refual (Islam)

al - Qadisiyyah, Battle of, 637

Qasidas

Qasidas, Arabic

Qasr al Hayr al-Gharbi, Syria

al - Qafif, Saudi Arabia (Oasis)

Qeshm Island, Iran

Quraysh (Arab tribe)

Ramadan

Ramadan Haymns

Ramadan Sermons

Rashayidah (Arab people)

Real property (Islamic law)

Real property tax (Islamic law)

Regugees, Arab

Refugees, Pakistan

Religious education of Children, Islamic

Religious life (Islam)

Religious tolerance (Islam)

Reparation (Islamic law)

Rescission (Islamic law)

Restrains on alienation (Islamic law)

Resurrection (Islam)

Riddah Wars

Risk (Islamic law)

Rugs, Islamic

Saints (Muslim)

Sacrifice (Islam)

Sales (Islamic law)

Salimiyah

Sallee, Morocco

- Siege 1637

- Apologetic works
- Ceremonies and practices
- Doctrines
- persecutions
- poetry
- Rites and ceremonies

Sin (Islam)

Slander (Islam)

Slavery (Islamic law)

Slavery and Islam

Slavery in the Koran

Socialism and Islam

Sociology, Islamic

Soul (Islam)

South, Arabic language

Spain - History - Arab period, 711 - 1492

Spain - History - Arab period, 711 - 1516

Spirit (Islam)

Status (Islamic law)

Students, Muslim

Sudan

- History
- History - To 1820
- History - 1820 -
- History - 1862 - 1899
- History - 1899 - 1956
- History - 1956

Sufi literature

Sufi meditation

Sufi poetry

Sufi Poetry, Arabic

Sufi wits and humour

Sufism

- Early works to 1800
- poetry
- Prayer books and devotions

Sunna

Sunnites

Support (Domestic relations law, Islamic)

Sinetyship and guaranty (Islamic law)

Syria

- Antiquities
- History - 634 - 750
- History - 750 - 1260
- History - 1260 - 1516
- History - 1516 - 1918
- History - 20th century

Tahirids

Tales, Islamic

Tamim

Taqlid

Ta'aziyah

Temptation (Islam)

Tenth of Muharram

Tenth of Muharram sermons

Theologicians, Muslim

Titles, Islamic

Tomb (Islamic law)

Tithes (Islamic law)

Torah Scrolls

Trust in God (Islam)

Trust and Trustees (Islamic law)

Tunisia

- Antiquities
- History
- History - 647 - 1516
- History 1516 - 1881
- History - Expedition of Charles.V, 1535
- History - Conquest, 1573
- History - French occupation 1881-1956
- History - 1956 -

Tunisians

Turkey

- History
- History - To 1453
- History - 1288 - 1453
- History - 1453 - 1683
- History - Ottoman empire

Turkey Sultans

Ulama

Unborn children (Islamic law)

Values (Islam)

Wahabiyyah

War (Islamic law)

War and Islam

Wedding Sermons, Islamic

Wills (Islamic law)

Witnesses (Islamic law)

Women, Muslim

- Conduct of life

- Education

- Religious life

Women in Islam

Women in the Hadith

Women in the Koran

Word of God (Islam)

World war, 1939 - 1945 - Muslims

Worship (Islam)

Writing, Arabic

Yarmuk River, Battle of the, 636

Yemen

- History

Yemen in the Hadith

Youth, Religious life (Islam)

Youth, Muslim

- Clubs

- Religious life

- Societies and clubs

Zadites

Zajal

Zufar, Oman

- History

Zakat

APPENDIX 2

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SUBJECT HEADINGS

Islamic Subject Headings with Parenthetical qualification or adjectives that suggest biased treatment in comparison to the treatment of Christianity under the same topical headings.

1. Angels (Islam)
2. Apostasy(Islam)
3. Blasphemy (Islam)
4. Children - Religious life (Islam)
5. Creation (Islam)
6. Faith (Islam)
7. Fasting (Islam)
8. Fasts and feasts - (Islam)
9. Forgiveness of Sin (Islam)
10. Freewill and determinism (Islam)
11. Future life (Islam)
12. Future punishment (Islam)
13. God (Islam)
14. Good and evil (Islam)
15. Hell (Islam)
16. Heresies and Heretics (Islam)
17. Islamic ethics
18. Islamic meditations
19. Islamic sects

20. Islamic Sermons
21. Islamic shrines
22. Islamic theology
23. Martyrdom (Islam)
24. Miracles (Islam)
25. Muslim converts
26. Muslim martyrs
27. Paradise (Islam)
28. Religious education (Islam)
29. Religious tolerance (Islam)
30. Resurrection (Islam)
31. Saints (Muslim)
32. Salvation (Islam)
33. Sin (Islam)
34. Soul (Islam)
35. Spirits (Islam)
36. Trust in God (Islam)