

Revising and Devising a Classification Scheme for Islam: the IIUM Library’s Experience

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REVISING AND DEVISING A CLASSIFICATION SCHEME FOR ISLAM: THE IIUM LIBRARY'S EXPERIENCE

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ABSTRACT

The current locally expanded LCC scheme of subclass BP (Islam) used by the IIUM Library, can no longer accomodate the emerging new and sophisticated topics on Islam and Islamic perspectives. IIUM Library decided to revise and devise a new classification scheme for Islam that can blend the would-be classified collection using the new scheme, naturally into the existing collection arrangement. This paper relates the library's experience, highlighting the important issues that arises from the exercise. It can be a note sharing exercise with other libraries having similar intention or plans, either to expand the existing classification or devise a new classification scheme on Islam altogether.

Keyword: Islamic classification scheme; Islam; Cataloguing; Classification scheme; IIUM

INTRODUCTION

Mass production of literature and preservation of knowledge has been witnessed by the glorious early Muslim history with the establishment of huge libraries and its massive collection. Undeniably as time goes by, literatures are being widely produced on Islam and its different branches of knowledge. Therefore, the emergence of new topics and disciplines in the field of Islamic studies need a new independent and comprehensive classification scheme because the

existing scheme could no longer accommodate the potential development of Islamic knowledge (Idrees, 2013).

In response to the shortcomings of the existing Library of Congress Classification (LCC) in use, this paper intends to focus on the efforts made by the IIUM Library in devising a new classification scheme for Islam after series of amendments and expansion to the LCC. The number of Islamic collection in the library keeps growing and to date it has reached approximately 88,000 volumes. The wide range of materials on Islam is not only confined to the religious matters but it also incorporates the Islamic perspectives at large. Thus, the initial effort and attempt started by the IIUM Library is hoped to pave the way towards the acceptance of other Islamic libraries worldwide to this new classification scheme.

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Libraries have indeed a long tradition in assisting its users to find information. Classification is the technique of organizing knowledge in facilitating the use of reading materials and provide convenience to the users. It plays a vital role in the physical arrangement, access to, and retrieval of library materials. According to Berwick Sayers, library classification is “the arrangement of books on shelves or descriptions of them, in the manner which is most useful to those who read. (Krishnan, 1993:4)”. Rafferty (2001) also states that general classification schemes for libraries are concerned with mapping knowledge so that ‘subjects’ are differentiated from each other and the relationships between ‘subjects’ are spatially represented.

The widely used library tool for organizing information and internationally known standard classification schemes are Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC), U.S. Library of Congress Classification (LCC), and Universal Decimal Classification (UDC). According to Arianto (2006), most of the libraries in Islamic countries have employed DDC in organizing their collection. The Islamic countries' libraries that have used DDC are Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Indonesia, while LCC in Malaysia has been the most widely employed by university libraries.

All these three schemes are easy to use and convenient for most general collection libraries. However, the review of literature and empirical data collected by Idrees & Mahmood (2009 & 2010) and later reaffirmed by Idrees (2012) had shown that the libraries are facing problems regarding the classification of materials that houses rich collection on Islam. The standard classification schemes have not provided proper place and enumeration to Islamic topics in their schemes. There is no uniform practice and coordination among the libraries to classify materials on Islam.

Idrees (2011) reported that these standard classification systems also lack proper space for materials on Islam for two reasons: less awareness on the part of devisers on the depth and variety of Islamic topics; and their bias and lack of interest on Islam. Using either, the original notation or alternative notations, these different indigenous classification schemes and expansions have been developed without following any standard or logic.

Sulistyo-Basuki (2007) reported that the Indonesian librarians had changed the inappropriate term of 'Mohammedanism' used in the 15th edition of DDC to 'Islam' in spite of its lacking notation for the purpose of the organization and arrangement of Islamic materials.

Efforts were made by the Islamic countries libraries to develop their own expansion of the Islamic classification scheme. The Processing Department at the IIUM Library did the expansion on the LCC's BP140-158 in 1993, with the intention to cover the areas of Islamic law. Shawabikah (2005) had confirmed that only IIUM library had done expansions of LCC subclass BP and had applied them to classify Islamic law matters that has no place in the original LCC Subclass BP.

Shawabikah (2005) reported that, the LC revised its class of K (Law) and the final draft was completed in 2002. He had anticipated that libraries having collection on Islam are now facing a new challenge and have to decide whether to accept or reject the implementation of the new schedule introduced by LC. Yushiana & Shawabikah (2007) addressed four elements needed to be taken into consideration before such project is to be embarked: reclassification affects the physical arrangement of Islamic law collection in libraries; it affects libraries in terms of the costs needed for reclassification of Islamic law collection; it affects cataloguers in terms of abandoning local practices that they are currently applying for the classification of Islamic law; and it affects users of Islamic law collection in terms of convenience, satisfaction and accessibility.

Findings from several studies done by Idrees (2012), Yushiana & Shawabikah (2007), Shawabikah (2005), Sardar (1979), Iraqi (1975) and Qaisar (1974) had shown concrete proof the need to review, revise and devise, then come out with accurate, comprehensive, and standard classification scheme for materials on Islam especially for libraries that have rich collection on Islam. Idrees (2012) revealed that, twenty-eight respondents' shared the same views and agreed that developing an independent and comprehensive classification system exclusively for Islamic materials was technically possible. The term "technically" did not mean technologically, but instead referred to the classification techniques, methods, and approach to develop a scheme for a specific area of knowledge.

BACKGROUND

Having a comprehensive classification scheme is a must for IIUM Library, due to it being a library serving an Islamic institution having Islam integrated into all disciplines. Over the years since its establishment, IIUM library has been using the LCC scheme with some expansion within the original notation to accommodate the diverse topics in Islamic law. This expansion was inevitable as studies had shown that the classification system whether lack of proper place, coverage, enumeration and hierarchy for specific subject areas has become major dissatisfaction amongst the libraries that have rich collection on Islam (Idrees, 2009).

The local expansion on Islamic law

IIUM Library, since its establishment, treated Islamic law materials neither as jurisdictional division (mere legal system) nor under ‘Islam’ (mere religious law) as opposed to description in the LCC scheme. Islamic law is a sophisticated legal science relating to religion and religious law, a canon law of Islam. An item may have several subject headings but can only have one call number, which sits in one place on the shelf.

However, explicit notation within the adopted classification system was unavailable and the Library opted to classify most of the relevant materials into BP158, sub-arranged by subject, using A-Z Cutter. The practice resulted in uncollocated and haphazard arrangement as disparate subjects were classified proximately while legally proximate topics were disintegrated depending on the beginning letter of the assigned subjects concerned. A solution was therefore necessary as substantial growth and specialisation of the literature was immensely felt while a classification to cater the present literary warrant was not in place.

The situation was resolved with the first systematic expansion namely ‘Expansion on Islamic Law of LCC Scheme’ (Appendix 2), locally devised in 1993 by Balqis Suja’, a junior cataloguer who was incharge of cataloguing the Islamic collection. It was first agreed in a meeting between the Processing Department and Law Reference Department. This was revised in 2001 to include among others, an updated use of form table.

The IIUM modified classification becomes the major reference relating to Islamic law and was then (and most until now) used by many Malaysian academic libraries and several special libraries with substantial Islamic law collections. Even though the notations cover BP140-BP158, expansion was minimal with the exception of BP158 which was comprehensive. The ‘Balqis classification’ is summarized by Shawabikah (2005) into seven divisions as:

Figure 1: Summary of the IIUM Library's expansion to BP158 of LCC

BP158.1 Legal profession
Including: General works, Practice of law, and Particular types of careers
BP158.2 Concepts applying to several branches of law, A-Z
Including: abuse of rights, Chicanery, Conditions, Damages, Duress, Fraud, and Intent
BP158.3 Justice, Administration of
Including: Court organisations, Civil procedures, Advisory opinions, Actions and defences, Notaries, Medical jurisprudence, and Executions and Compromise
BP158.4 Constitutional and other related laws
Including: Constitutional law, International law, Administrative law, Public finance, Trade regulations, Industrial law, and Criminal law
BP158.5 Persons and Domestic relations
Including: Persons, Family law and domestic relations, Inheritance and succession, and Trusts and trustees
BP158.6 Property and Commercial law
Including: Property, Real property, Personal property, Commercial contracts and banking, Investment, Maritime law, Insurance, Partnership, and Intellectual property
BP158.7 Obligations
Including: Contract law and Torts

Having assessed the KBP subclass for Islamic law published in print by Library of Congress in 2005, the cataloguing office decided to delay adoption of that newly established subclass. Among the long standing concerns were: on the instances in the outline, span of class numbers, placement and succession of topics, and terminology of the scheme. Local need for revision of subclass BP to accommodate literary warrant of Islamic law available in Arabic, English and Malay was discussed among IIUM cataloguers. As a country with a comprehensive and extensive collection on Islam, it was relatively assumed that a collaboration at national level towards improving the scheme was long overdue. The discussion prompted a serious look into the survey on BP usage.

A kick off meeting of a task force for local review of the BP schedule of LCC took place in June 2007 at IIUM Library between IIUM, Fakulti Pengurusan Maklumat of UiTM (FPM, UiTM) and Islamic Banking & Finance Institute Malaysia (IBFIM) cataloguers. The meeting had suggested that the initiative be jointly established under the flagship of Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia (PPM) and Department of Library Science, IIUM. A seasoned Islamic cataloguer, Arfah Md. Isa¹ was named to be the expert.

¹ Arfah Md Isa was one of the pioneering cataloguers at the IIUM Library from 1984 to 1997. She had held the position of the head of the cataloguing office through those years. In 1997, she left for ISTAC Library. She came back to IIUM Library as an outsource librarian approximately in the year 2002 and later as a contract librarian after her retirement until end 2015.

The task force would endeavour to produce a modified BP subclass, meeting the level for universal acceptance. The team was assigned with:

1. Study the existing BP schedule
2. Review KBP schedule as main reference to modify and expand the BP.
3. Identify what was missing in BP
4. Take from KBP and fit it into BP instead of taking BP into KBP
5. Outline must be close to LCC structure and terminologies
6. Try to collocate other subjects on Islam available in schedules other than subclass BP
7. Prepare suggestion what to be deleted, changed and added
8. Design brief questionnaire to collect input from other BP academic library users

The assignment could not be completed due to lack of resources and staff redeployment (Balqis Suja', personal communication, September 19, 2016).

The LCC's subclass BP Islam

Arfah in her presentation before the library's Bibliographic Advisory Committee (BAC) in 2012, had pointed out these shortcomings, as follows, of LCC subclass BP Islam, among others. These points were derived from her years of experience in Islamic collection cataloguing and summarized observations from her subordinating cataloguers during her term of office and contemporary BP cataloguers.

Non-representing terms for topics in LCC on Islam

Selection of terms representing the sacred practice of Muslim causes discontentment among cataloguers. Terms such as 'Prayer' had to be assigned for '*Salah*', '*Du'a*' and '*Dhikr*'. Other terms like 'Catechisms' at BP45; 'Symbols and symbolism' at BP132.5; 'Atomisme' at BP166.25; 'Prayers, invocations, quatrains, praises, religious prelude' at BP183.3; 'Hymns, songs' at BP183.5; 'Liturgical objects, ornaments, memorials, etc.' at BP184.95, were non-Islamic terms frequently used in Christian teachings and other religions.

Lack of coverage

Lack of coverage and comprehensiveness on certain notation in BP Islam had affected in the heavy and extensive use of a particular notation. 'Islamic religious life' at BP188 for example, is used 1280 times in the library's Symphony². Topics extensively discussed in their individual disciplines are generally addressed in the subclass BP Islam. Other topics like 'Biography' at BP70 and BP80, critically need to be expanded. They should be expanded according to the period the biographee

² Symphony is the library management system (LMS) of IUM.

lived or flourished, or by their ethnic or area. Work about ‘Koran and Hadith literature’ were also among other things that needed attention and in-depth study.

Overlapping and repeated discussion

Overlapping and repeated discussion is evident at ‘History’ at BP50 and at ‘History of Asia. The Islamic World’ at DS35.3-35.77. ‘Muhammad, Prophet, d. 632’ is notated at BP166.5-166.57, which overlaps with BP75++. ‘Prophets prior to Muhammad’ at BP166.4 overlaps with ‘Men, women, and children of the Koran. Biography. Individual, A-Z’ at BP133.7. ‘Companions (Sahabah)’ at BP75.5 overlaps with ‘Biography. Individual. Muhammad, Prophet. Friends and associates. Companions’ at BP76.9.

Different terms but same meaning

Different terms having the same meaning are found in many instances, such as ‘Intercession’ at BP166.825 and ‘Mediation between God and man. Shafa’ah’ at BP166.76; and ‘Authority. Taqlid. Bid’ah’ is at BP165.7 and ‘Heresy, heresies, heretics’ at BP167.5.

EFFORTS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW CLASSIFICATION SCHEME

What triggers the project?

In October 2012, the cataloguing office, namely Bibliographic Control Division (BCD), was asked to make a review of the suitability of adopting the LCC subclass KBP Islamic Law (Appendix 1) for Islamic law related resources. Again, the opinion is of the same as earlier noted: it was found that the subclass does not really cover the diverse topics in Islamic law especially with the new emerging interest amongst scholars to discuss very specific topics which were previously uncovered. The locally expanded subclass BP140-158 (Appendix 2), used at that time were way too cramped.

Several discussions via meetings, with the invited resource person, Arfah, were held through the Bibliographic Advisory Committee (BAC) platform. In one of the meetings, she presented her comments on both subclasses – KBP Islamic law and BP Islam. The meeting had proposed to the library management to undertake the exercise:

1. To revise and devise a new scheme in place of the LC’s subclass KBP Islamic law
2. To revise and devise a new scheme in place of the LC’s subclass BP Islam
3. To compile a list of modified and new subject headings for Islam

Later, the library, after deliberations by the BAC representative and the library management, had agreed for the exercise to be undertaken as a project coordinated by BCD, with Arfah as the consultant, recognizing and honouring her expertise and in-depth knowledge in the field of Islamic

religious knowledge, bibliography, classification, Islamic resources and astounding competency in the Arabic language. Arfah started with the construction of the headings or topics on Islamic law, taking office at BCD at the IIUM Gombak Campus library. At the same time, BCD had limited the use of the locally expanded BP140-158 Islamic law to resources needed urgently for academic course reading requirements and other urgent teaching and learning purposes only.

Aims and aspirations of the project

The project took-off with the aim to devise a schedule that is as comprehensive as possible and capable to accommodate all main topics and popular subtopics in particular discipline. The new classification scheme will try to be as realistic as possible, by looking at the kinds of publications existed, written and published; by going through title list and subject list in the library's Symphony; and by closely observing the trends of the disciplines.

The new scheme will be presented in dual language – Arabic and English. In this aspect, Arfah had pre-empted constraints in finding the English equivalent for terms of the topics were inevitable, as most references³ are in Arabic. So, it was decided to retain the Arabic terms when no English equivalent is available. The scheme will try to be as legible as it can by using slight variation of typeface and clear indentation. The sequence of topics will be arranged in a more logical order moving away from the criticized illogical order in LC's subclass KBP and BP. As much as possible, the scheme will try to map topics and subtopics befitting the supposed arrangement of knowledge in Islam.

There is no shortcut in trying to achieve the above aims and aspirations. A 'little' research is required, initially, to gather sketchy information or the rough outline on every single topic, followed by in-depth reading of references to further develop the topics under each main topic.

Stages/phases were identified and drawn for the project:

- Stage 1: Review, research and build list of topics and subtopics.
- Stage 2: Review the listed out topics and subtopics to arrange in a rightful and logical sequence according to knowledge classification in Islam.
- Stage 3:
 - a. Draw and line-up the classification numbers.
 - b. Collate the topics, directly using or re-wording them to produce a list of subject headings on Islam.
- Stage 4: Application tests in which BCD will pilot-run the new classification schedule and the subject headings to prove its effectiveness and appropriateness.
- Stage 5: Hold awareness and hands-on workshops to promote and implement the new subclass BP at IIUM Library.

³ References are listed in Appendix 3.

Initial drafts

The first rough sketch of the Islamic law’s outline of topics presented to the library meeting in December 2012 is illustrated in Figure 2. The topics was rearranged in the proposed sequence, comparing them to the original LC’s placement at subclass KBP Islamic law.

Figure 2: Comparison between the proposed Islamic law’s outline of topics and placement of topics at LCC’s KBP

NO.	TOPICS/HEADINGS AT LCC’s KBP	PLACEMENT AT KBP	NO.	TOPICS/HEADINGS PROPOSED FOR NEW ISLAMIC LAW SCHEME
1.	<i>Furu’ al-Fiqh. Mu’amalat. Etc.</i>	KBP490-1154+	1.	Islamic law. <i>Shari’ah. Fiqh</i>
2.	Intellectual property. Labour laws. Social laws	KBP1155-1547	2.	<i>Furu’ al-fiqh. Substantive law</i>
3.	Courts and procedure	KBP1572-1942	3.	Legal maxims in Islamic law
4.	Public law. Government. State. Police	KBP2000-3037	4.	Administration of justice
5.	Public property. Roads. Lands. Regional planning. Building	KBP3040-3072	5.	Human rights in Islam
6.	Public health	KBP3075-3098	6.	Public administration
7.	Medical legislation	KBP3098-3121	7.	Public finance in Islam
8.	Environmental law	KBP3127-3135	8.	Stock market. Stock exchange
9.	Cultural affairs. Language. Education. Art	KBP3137-3183	9.	Islamic criminal law
10.	Economic law. Business enterprises. Standards. Regulation of industry. Manufacturing. Food processing. Etc.	KBP3190-3437	10.	The state. Political science
11.	Transport and communication	KBP3440-3512	11.	Islamic medical laws
12.	Public finance. Money. Revenue. Taxation	KBP3526-3727	12.	Islamic international law
13.	Criminal law	KBP3790-4860	13.	Treatises and Conventions
14.	Military law	KBP3790-4860	14.	War in Islamic law
			15.	Islamic Economics
			16.	Islamic Law of Transactions. Commercial Law
			17.	Islamic Law of Contracts
			18.	Sale
			19.	Partnership
			20.	Insurance
			21.	Labour law
			22.	Waqf. Charities. Trusts. Foundations
			23.	Intellectual and industrial property law
			24.	Money in Islam
			25.	Communication. Press law
				Note: ‘Constitutional law’ will be inserted later.

The need for incorporation and integration

Later as topics/headings were built, it was felt that the topics/headings for Islam as represented by subclass BP, should be constructed hand in hand with topics/headings for subclass KBP Islamic law, and other branches of knowledge that discusses the Islamic viewpoints. Islamic law (*fiqh*) or *shari'ah* anyway is the basis of other knowledge or sciences in Islam.

Thus in April 2014, after deliberation between Arfah, BCD and the chairperson of BAC, it was suggested that subclass for Islam, subclass for Islamic law or *shari'ah* and subclass of other knowledge that discusses the Islamic viewpoints, should be incorporated to present the holistic view of the knowledge in Islam. It was rationalized to expand the project scope to encompass all branches of knowledge. Along with it, a major revision to the existing classification schedules for Islamic religious topics such as Islamic history, Qur'an, Hadith, Da'wah, Sects, etc. was also undertaken.

The Library was also advised to incorporate and integrate all Islamic resources in one subclass BP. It was envisioned that the whole collection area at the second floor of the library is to be dedicated to the collection on Islam. The second floor is the main entrance level/floor of the IIUM Gombak Campus Library. The visitors-via-the-main-entrance's first moment of truth will be the collection on Islam and/or Islamic materials.

The proposed list of topics/headings for the holistic subclass BP

Incorporating and integrating other knowledge that discusses the Islamic viewpoints under subclass BP, will impact on the integration of the collection that is at present classified separately under other LC classes, for example 'Islamic finance' under subclass HF, 'Islamic education' under class L, etc.

BP will still be adopted as the notation for Islam. KBP is not to be used at all. The notations will still follow the convention of LCC, the hierarchy – placement and succession will be different though. A third letter will be introduced and the broad classification in LCC will still be observed, i.e. B for Psychology; C, D for History; G for Geography (includes Recreation); H for Social Sciences; J for Political Science; K for Law; L for Education; N for Fine Arts (includes Architecture); P for Language & Literature (includes Communication); Q for Science; R for Medicine; T for Technology; U-V for Military and Naval Sciences; and Z for Bibliography (includes Library Science).

Topics and subtopics were researched and drafted by Arfah between mid-2014 to mid-2015. Topics found while researching each discipline, were added into the list as they ought to be, with the intention to realize a comprehensive classification scheme. An almost complete outline of topics and subtopics that reflect the order of the knowledge or sciences in Islam is illustrated in the following:

Figure 3: Draft outline of topics and subtopics for subclass BP

NO.	TOPICS (by Knowledge arrangement priority in Islam, differ from that in LCC)	
1.	Islam (General)	<i>Core subjects in Islam</i>
2.	Qur'an	
3.	Hadith	
4.	Islamic theology	
5.	Comparative religion (Islamic perspective)	
6.	Pillars of Islam. Salah. Fasting. Hajj & Umrah. Zakat	
7.	Dhikr and Du'a	
8.	Islamic religious life. Conduct of life	
9.	Islamic ethics	
10.	Islamic manners and etiquettes	
11.	Da'wah	
12.	Muhammad, The Prophet	<i>Historical aspects</i>
13.	Biographies	
14.	History of Islam	
15.	Islamic sects	
16.	Islamic world	
17.	Islamic culture	
18.	Islamic calendars	
19.	Sacred places in Islam	
20.	Islamic civilization	
21.	Science and technology in Islam	
22.	Islamic law	<i>Legal aspects</i>
23.	Usul al-Fiqh	
24.	Schools of jurisprudence	
25.	Collection of laws	
26.	Administration of justice in Islam	
27.	Criminal justice and procedure	
28.	Islamic law of evidence	
29.	Islamic criminal law	
30.	Dispute resolution in Islam	
31.	Domestic relations	
32.	Obligation	
33.	Property. Ownership	
34.	Civil liability	
35.	Intellectual and industrial property law	
36.	Islamic constitutional law	
37.	Islamic international law	
38.	Treatises and convention	
39.	Human rights in Islam	
40.	Waqf. Charities	

Figure 3: Draft outline of topics and subtopics for subclass BP (continued)

41.	Islamic economics	<i>Economic aspects</i>
42.	Islamic law of transactions (Contracts, sale, partnership, suretyship, mortgage,...etc.)	
43.	Islamic finance and banking	
44.	Islamic banking	
45.	Money in Islam	
46.	Stock market	
47.	Islamic insurance	
48.	Public finance	
49.	Islamic education	<i>Other aspects</i>
50.	Islamic sociology (Family, parenting, children, youth, women, sexual life, physical education, music, art, etc.)	
51.	Islamic philosophy	
52.	Islamic theory of knowledge	
53.	Islamic psychology	
54.	Islamic geography (Voyages and travel, physical geography)	
55.	Islam and environment	
56.	Islam and nature	
57.	Islamic aesthetics	
58.	Islamic art and architecture	
59.	Islamic mass communication. Mass media	
60.	Islamic medicine	
61.	Islamic medical laws and legislation	
62.	Islamic military art and science	
63.	War in Islamic law	
64.	Jihad	
65.	Books. Librarianship	

Fine-tuning and notation building

Before embarking on the efforts of notation building, concerns whether to build notations following the hierarchy as in Figure 3 per se or to build according to the LCC's hierarchy of subjects were raised in a discussion between the cataloguers of BCD and Arfah in July 2015. Finally, the meeting decided to follow the LCC's representation of subjects at its class numbers at the third letter/alphabet in the notation. For example, 'Islamic psychology' will have the notation 'BPB' – B being the class for Psychology in LCC; or 'Islamic education' will have the notation 'BPL' – L being the class for Education. This was in consideration to accommodate the IIUM Library's users' familiarity with the LCC class mark. They are orientated with the LC's arrangement of sciences – A-Z, A being 'General works'; B 'Philosophy. Psychology...'; etc.

This had affected the hierarchical arrangement of topics and subtopics that was earlier proposed. However, the meeting did not compromise the position of core subjects in Islam as in Figure 3, topics numbered 1-11 would still be prioritized and would appear at the top of the hierarchy, using 'A' as the third letter at the notation eventhough 'A' in LCC is meant for 'General Works'.

Thus the latest draft of outline (tentatively final draft) with notations are as follows (as at end 2015):

Figure 4: Draft of outline of topics with notations for classification scheme on Islam

NO.	MIXED NOTATION	TOPICS AND SUBTOPICS
1.	BPA 1-19.7	Islam (General)
2.	BPA 20-125	Qur'an
3.	BPA 200-361	Hadith
4.	BPA 400-473.36	Islamic theology
5.	BPA 480-489	Comparative religion (Islamic perspective)
6.	BPA 500-544.2	Pillars of Islam
7.	BPA 550-558.55	<i>Du'a. Dhikr. Salawat</i>
8.	BPA 601-614	Islamic religious life. Conduct of life
9.	BPA 620-644	Islamic ethics
10.	BPA 650-690	Islamic manners and etiquettes
11.	BPA 700-790	Da'wah
12.	BPB 1-60	Islamic philosophy
13.	BPB 70-90	Islamic theory of knowledge
14.	BPB 100-171	Islamic psychology
15.	BPC 1-62.4	Islamic civilization
16.	BPC 70-170	Science and technology in Islam
17.	BPD 1-114	History of Islam
18.	BPD 200-287	Islamic sects
19.	BPD 300-356	Shi'ah
20.	BPD 400-480.4	Muhammad, The Prophet
21.	BPD 510-578	Biography
22.	BPD 600-664	The Islamic world
23.	BPD 700-724	Islamic culture
24.	BPD 800-875.2	Islamic calendars. Islamic festivals
25.	BPD 900-954	Sacred places in Islam
26.	BPG 1-89	Islamic geography (<i>Voyages and travel, physical geography</i>)
27.	BPG 100-127	Islam and environment
28.	BPG 130-150	Islam and nature
29.	BPH 1-135	Islamic economics
30.	BPH 140-215.5	Islamic law of transactions (<i>Contracts, sale, partnership, suretyship, mortgage, etc.</i>)
31.	BPH 220-292.4	Islamic finance and banking
32.	BPH 296-349	Islamic banking
33.	BPH 360-399.3	Money in Islam
34.	BPH 401-574	Stock market. Stock exchange. Securities
35.	BPH 580-644.4	Islamic insurance. Takaful
36.	BPH 670-690	Public finance in Islam
37.	BPH 700-792	Waqf. Charities. Trusts. Foundations
38.	BPH 801-1044	Islamic sociology (<i>Family, parenting, children, youth, women, sexual life, physical education, music, art, etc.</i>)
39.	BPJ 1-140	Islamic constitutional law
40.	BPJ 150-179.4	Administrative law
41.	BPJ 200-238.2	Islamic international law. International relations in Islam
42.	BPJ 260-278.3	Treatises and conventions
43.	BPJ 300-350.2	Human rights in Islam

Figure 4: Draft of outline of topics with notations for classification scheme on Islam (continue)

44.	BPK	2-62.34	Islamic law. <i>Shari'ah. Fiqh</i>
45.	BPK	70-191	Usul al-Fiqh
46.	BPK	200-211	Schools of jurisprudence
47.	BPK	250-292	Collection of laws
48.	BPK	300-325	Administration of justice in Islam
49.	BPK	330-344.5	Criminal justice and procedure
50.	BPK	350-370.7	Islamic law of evidence
51.	BPK	380-468.9	Islamic criminal law
52.	BPK	470-495	Dispute resolution in Islam
53.	BPK	500-564.5	Domestic relations
54.	BPK	300-630.2	Obligation
55.	BPK	640-670	Property. Ownership
56.	BPK	700-755	Intellectual and industrial property law
57.	BPK	800-830	Civil liability. Civil responsibility. Islamic law of tort
58.	BPL	1-107.2	Islamic education
59.	BPN	2-20	Islamic aesthetics
60.	BPN	30-305.3	Islamic art and architecture
61.	BPP	1-120	Islamic mass communication. Mass media
62.	BPR	1-151	Islamic medicine. Islamic medical science
63.	BPR	200-438	Islamic medical laws and legislation
64.	BPU	1-44	Islamic military art and science
65.	BPU	60-140.6	War in Islamic law
66.	BPU	200-272	Jihad
67.	BPZ	1-205	Books. Librarianship. Information resources

CONCLUDING REMARKS

It is important to stress that these elements are foundation to the realization of a classification scheme: the required knowledge and skills of the deviser(s), that is in-depth Islamic religious knowledge and the variety of Islamic topics; knowledge in bibliography and classification of sciences; competency in both Arabic and English language; the enthusiasm and consistent will to present to the Muslim world a comprehensive classification scheme for Islam; and last but never the least, the management's commitment and support for the effort. IIUM Library was and is blessed with these elements, thus the concerted effort under the anchoring and guidance of the consultant, was able to be realized.

We admit that LCC has addressed Islam quite reasonably, but further studies would make the scheme adequate to represent Islam. How well the book classification went in tandem with the literary warrant or existing literature is seen as one of the factors for effective bibliographic control. Correlation of subject headings and classification would attest the viability of any classification, including Islam.

Reflection of true literary warrant with the classification has been a universal perspective. However, perceived inadequacy for existing classification with the discipline boundaries of Islamic law has prompted the production of the nick-named ‘Arfah classification’. Though it may not reflect the best model for Islamic classification of knowledge, its immediate usefulness for practitioners is expected since it appears to fit the existing collection and future developments of literature on Islam and Islamic law.

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