

**BACKGROUND:** *For the purposes of this instruction sheet, an event is defined as something noteworthy that occurs or occurred in a certain place during a discrete interval of time. A specific event may be brought out in subject headings in one of several ways, depending on the nature of the event. Most commonplace, day-to-day events are generic or not significant enough to be referred to by specific names. Works about such events are usually assigned subject headings of the type [topic]-[place]-History, for example, **Dust storms-Illinois-History**. Guidance in assigning headings for events of this type is provided in H 1560, **Disasters, riots, demonstrations, etc.** and H 1647, **History**, which should be consulted in addition to this instruction sheet. Some major events are of such significance that they become known by conventional proper names. These may be either unique events that occurred only one time and in one place, for example, **Haymarket Square Riot, Chicago, Ill., 1886**, or events that are repetitive in nature and occur on a regular or irregular basis in a single place or in various places, for example, **Miss America Pageant; Tournament of Roses; Daytona 500 (Automobile race); Athens Black-eyed Pea Jamboree**.*

*Before August 1996, events such as conferences, exhibitions, shows, fairs, and formally organized festivals were established in the name authority file as meeting names tagged 111, while other events, including contests, parades, athletic competitions, and folk festivals were established in the subject authority file as topical headings tagged 150. In 1995, the Task Force on Name Versus Subject Authorities of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging considered the issue of headings for events and recommended that those events that are (1) formally convened; (2) directed toward a common goal; (3) capable of being reconvened; and (4) have formal names, locations, dates, and durations that can be determined in advance of the event be established in the name authority file. Those events that generally cannot be repeated and have no formal names but are commonly referred to by generic terms, or acquire names after the fact, should continue to be established in the subject authority file. In August 1996, these recommendations were put into effect.*

*This instruction sheet contains guidelines for transferring from the subject authority file to the name authority file those headings for events that were established prior to August 1996, and for establishing as subject headings those events that are governed by subject cataloging conventions as either phrases or subdivisions under names of persons, corporate bodies, or places. **It also includes, as an Appendix, a case study on determining the conventional forms of names for events that are established as subject headings.** This instruction sheet does not cover informal festivals that are characterized as feasts, folk celebrations, or holidays, such as **Christmas**. Guidelines for establishing some specific types of events are contained in other instruction sheets. For instructions on establishing names of individual battles, see H 1285; for instructions on disasters, riots, demonstrations, and hurricanes, see H 1560; for instructions on strikes and lockouts, see H 2100; for instructions on trials, see H 2228.*

## H 1592 Events

*1. Categories of events established as subject headings.* The following is a list of the types of events that are established in the subject authority file according to the guidelines in this instruction sheet. When established as phrase headings entered directly under their own names, headings for individual events of these types are tagged **150**.

Accidents	Natural disasters
Assassinations	Political incidents, affairs, scandals
Bombings, explosions	Purges
Coronations	Reigns, rules
Cruises, flights	Riots, demonstrations
Cultural revolutions	Sieges, blockades
Epidemics, famines	Special days, weeks, months, years, decades, umbrella terms for events that are composed of multiple individual public celebrations, pageants, anniversaries
Fires	Strikes
Funerals	Trials
Hijackings	Uprisings, mutinies
Imprisonments	Weddings
Inaugurations	
Massacres	
Military engagements, raids, battles, wars, revolutions, occupations, invasions, operations	

*2. Categories of events established as name headings.* The following is a list of events established in the name authority file. They are tagged **111**.

Athletic contests	Folk festivals and celebrations
Competitions	Games (Events)
Conferences	Meetings
Contests	Parades
Exhibitions	Public celebrations, pageants, anniversaries
Expeditions, Military, that are not military engagements, see sec. 1, above	Races (Contests)
Expeditions, Scientific	Shows (Exhibitions)
Expositions	Sporting events
Fairs	Tournaments
Festivals and celebrations	

**3. General rule for name headings.** Search both the name authority file and subject authority file to determine whether a heading for an individual event of a type listed in sec. 2 is already established. If a heading for the event exists in the name authority file in RDA form, assign it as a subject heading. If a heading exists in the subject authority file, transfer the heading to the name authority file or request a descriptive cataloger to do so. Submit a proposal to delete the subject authority record following the provisions of H 193, sec. 14 and H 193.5. If a heading does not exist in either file, establish the event in the name authority file or request a descriptive cataloger to do so.

**4. Event headings in phrase form.** The majority of events of the type listed in sec. 1 are established as phrase headings directly under their own names, according to the following model:

```
150 ## $a [name of event], [name of jurisdiction or locality],
      [date or date span]
450 ## $a [alternate name(s) of event], [name of
      jurisdiction or locality], [date or date span]
550 ## $w g $a [type of event] $z [place, if appropriate]
```

**a. Name of the event.** Where possible, use conventional terminology or the generally accepted name in English. If the name is unavailable in English, and it is impossible to translate the name into an acceptable equivalent in English, use the name in the vernacular. [See the Appendix to this instruction sheet for a case study on doing research to determine the conventional or generally accepted name of an event.](#)

Whenever possible, use the expression that places the substantive portion of the name in the initial position. Do not, however, invert names for this purpose unless there is a well-established pattern for doing so, as in the case of battles (cf. H 1285).

## H 1592 Events

### 4. *Event headings in phrase form.* (Continued)

#### *b. Name of the jurisdiction or locality.*

*(1) Events in a single city.* For an event that occurred in a particular city, use the name of the city as established in the name authority file but using commas in place of parentheses. *Example:*

150 ## \$a Haymarket Square Riot, Chicago, Ill., 1886

Include the name of the city as a qualifier even if it is also part of the substantive portion of the name of the event. *Example:*

150 ## \$a Port Chicago Mutiny, Port Chicago, Calif., 1944

The name of the city used as a qualifier should reflect the situation at the time the event occurred. Use names of cities that have ceased to exist, if appropriate, but do not use a city as a qualifier if the site of the event was not within the city's boundaries at the time it occurred. When using a city as a qualifier, use the latest form of name for the city that is valid for use as a subject heading.

*(2) Events not in a single city.* For an event occurring in various cities or not in a city, use the name of the country if it occurs in a single country. If it occurs in more than one country, do not qualify by place.

For an event occurring in Canada, Great Britain, or the United States in various cities or not in a city, use the name of the province, constituent country, or state, if it is so limited. If it occurs in more than one of these first order divisions of Canada or Great Britain, use the name of the country. If it occurs in more than one state of the United States, do not qualify by place. If it occurs in more than one country, do not qualify by place.

*c. Date.* Provide the date only for a unique event. If the event spanned a period of more than one year, specify the full range of years. If it is necessary to specify a month and day in order to resolve a conflict and create a unique heading, follow the instructions provided in H 1078, sec. 3.

*d. References.* Add 450 fields with variant names and 550 (broader term) fields containing the generic heading for the type of event divided by the country where the event occurred. Since *LCSH* is an English-language subject headings list, do not as a general rule add 450 fields using non-English forms unless those forms are found in English-language sources.

**4. Event headings in phrase form. (Continued)**

*Examples:*

150 ## \$a Baneberry Nuclear Test, Nev., 1970  
 550 ## \$w g \$a Nuclear weapons \$z Nevada \$x Testing

150 ## \$a Bear River Massacre, Idaho, 1863  
 450 ## \$a Bear River, Battle of, Idaho, 1863  
 450 ## \$a Bia Ogoi Massacre, Idaho, 1863  
 550 ## \$w g \$a Massacres \$z Idaho  
 550 ## \$w g \$a Shoshoni Indians \$x Wars, 1863-1865

150 ## \$a Bhopal Union Carbide Plant Disaster, Bhopal, India, 1984  
 450 ## \$a Bhopal Disaster, Bhopal, India, 1984  
 450 ## \$a Bhopal Poisonous Gas Disaster, Bhopal, India,  
 1984  
 450 ## \$a Union Carbide Bhopal Disaster, Bhopal, India,  
 1984  
 550 ## \$w g \$a Pesticides industry \$x Accidents \$z India

150 ## \$a Black Hole Incident, Kolkata, India, 1756  
 450 ## \$w nne \$a Black Hole Incident, Calcutta, India, 1756  
 450 ## \$a Black Hole of Calcutta Incident, Kolkata,  
 India, 1756  
 551 ## \$w g \$a Kolkata (India) \$x History

150 ## \$a Hurricane Flora, 1963  
 450 ## \$a Ciclón Flora, 1963  
 450 ## \$a Flora, Hurricane, 1963  
 450 ## \$a Huracán Flora, 1963  
 550 ## \$w g \$a Hurricanes

150 ## \$a TWA Flight 847 Hijacking Incident, 1985  
 450 ## \$a Beirut Hostage Crisis, Beirut, Lebanon, 1985  
 450 ## \$a Hijacking of TWA Flight 847, 1985  
 450 ## \$a Hostage Crisis, Beirut, Lebanon, 1985  
 450 ## \$a Trans World Airlines Flight 847 Hijacking  
 Incident, 1985  
 450 ## \$a TWA Hijacking Incident, 1985  
 450 ## \$a TWA Hostage Crisis, 1985  
 550 ## \$w g \$a Hijacking of aircraft

## H 1592 Events

5. *Event headings as subdivisions.* Although most event headings are established in phrase form, certain types of events are formulated as subdivisions under a main heading. This occurs most frequently **in two situations**. **First**, when a single person or corporate body is the principal participant in, or focus of, the event, the heading is formulated as:

```
100 X# $a [name of person] $x [name of event]
```

```
110 2# $a [name of corporate body] $x [name of event], [date]
```

**When** the event represents a momentous occurrence in the history of a place, the heading is formulated as:

```
151 ## $a [name of place] $x History $y [name of event], [date]
```

*Note:* Subdivisions with dates used under names of persons or corporate bodies are treated as topical subdivisions qualified by date and are subfield coded \$x. Subdivisions of the type **-History-[event], [date]** are treated as chronological subdivisions subfield coded \$y (cf. H 620, sec. 1.e.(1)).

**a. Persons.** Formulate headings for specific named events focused entirely on an individual person as follows:

```
100 X# [name of person] $x [name of event]
```

Use either standard free-floating subdivisions listed in H 1110, *Free-Floating Subdivisions: Names of Persons*, or in the case of unusually significant persons, such as founders of religions, establish unique subdivisions under the person's name. Use dates whenever they can be determined with new subdivisions **that are** established specifically under particular persons (see H 1078 for guidelines on formulating the date element). Do not change existing subdivisions established under specific individuals without dates. Do not add dates to free-floating subdivisions.

*Examples:*

```
100 1# $a Reagan, Ronald $x Assassination attempts
100 1# $a Garibaldi, Giuseppe, $d 1807-1882 $x Retreat from Rome,
1849
100 0# $a Muhammad, $c Prophet, $d -632 $x Farewell pilgrimage
100 1# $a Begin, Menachem, $d 1913-1992 $x Imprisonment
```

5. *Event headings as subdivisions.* (Continued)

**b. Corporate bodies.** Formulate headings for specific named events focused entirely on an individual corporate body as follows:

110 X# \$a [name of corporate body] \$x [name of event], [date]

Use the standard free-floating subdivisions listed in H 1105, *Free-Floating Subdivisions: Corporate Bodies* or in the various lists of free-floating subdivisions controlled by pattern headings for specific types of corporate bodies, such as H 1159, *Pattern Headings: Military Services*. If a specific corporate body is established in the subject authority file with a unique subdivision for an unusual event, use the established form.

*Exception:* Headings for strikes involving a particular corporate body are not constructed according to the above pattern. For guidelines on establishing headings for strikes, see H 2100.

*Examples:*

110 2# \$a Gallaudet University \$x Student strike, 1988  
 110 2# \$a Triangle Shirtwaist Company \$x Fire, 1911  
 110 1# \$a United States. \$b Navy \$x Cruise, 1925

## H 1592 Events

### 5. Event headings as subdivisions. (Continued)

*c. Countries.* Formulate headings for specific events as subdivisions under the name of a country when the event is a watershed military or political event involving the entire country, such as a civil war, revolution, occupation, conquest, invasion, intervention, uprising, purge, or a political incident having major ramifications. For events of this type, use the following formulation:

151 ## \$a [country] \$x History \$y [name of event], [date]

Select conventional terminology for the name of the event, that is, the generally accepted name in English. Treat it as a proper name, uppercasing all of the substantive words with the exception of those listed in Appendix B sec. 16. Follow the provisions of H 1078 regarding the year or span of years, and the month and day. *Examples:*

151 ## \$a United States \$x History \$y French and Indian War,  
1754-1763  
151 ## \$a United States \$x History \$y Revolution, 1775-1783  
151 ## \$a China \$x History \$y Sian Incident, 1936  
151 ## \$a Germany \$x History \$y Night of the Long Knives,  
1934  
151 ## \$a Naples (Kingdom) \$x History \$y Jacobin Conspiracy,  
1794

*Note: The subdivisions **-History-Bombardment, [date]**; **-History-Partition, [date]**; and **-History-Siege, [date]** are no longer free-floating under names of countries, cities, etc., and must be established where needed.*

Establish the following in phrase rather than subdivision form: (a) named events that involve two or more countries, except for invasions, occupations, etc., of one country by another, which are established as subdivisions, for example, **Panama-History-American Invasion, 1989**; (b) named events that have only local significance, such as minor uprisings or massacres; and (c) minor political incidents, including affairs and scandals. Follow the provisions in sec. 4, above. For example, Shays' Rebellion was a local disturbance in Massachusetts, not a rebellion against the United States as a whole. It is therefore appropriately established as a phrase heading rather than as a subdivision under **United States-History**. When in doubt as to the significance of a particular event, prefer the phrase form over the subdivision form, even though the event may later prove to have had major significance. For example, **Watergate Affair, 1972-1974** was established in phrase form because its importance could not be judged at the time the heading was first established.

5. *Event headings as subdivisions.* (Continued)

*d. Cities and other local jurisdictions.* Establish names of events as subdivisions under names of cities and other local jurisdictions in the same manner as subdivisions under names of countries. Note that such subdivisions are usually limited to various types of military engagements, such as bombardments, captures, sieges, etc. *Examples:*

151 ## \$a Paris (France) \$x History \$y Capitulation, 1815  
 151 ## \$a Berlin (Germany) \$x History \$y Blockade, 1948-1949  
 151 ## \$a Madrid (Spain) \$x History \$y Siege, 1936-1939

*Exception:* Headings for battles involving a particular city or locality are not constructed according to the above pattern. For guidelines on establishing headings for battles, see H 1285.

*e. Assigning headings to provide for subordinate jurisdictions.* When an event heading is formulated as a subdivision under a main heading for a jurisdiction, it is not possible to bring out a smaller jurisdiction in the same heading. In order to do so, a second heading is required:

- (1) 651 #0 \$a [name of larger jurisdiction] \$x History \$y [name of event], [date]
- (2) 651 #0 \$a [name of smaller jurisdiction] \$x History \$y [period subdivision, if established]

*Example:*

*Title:* *Aragon in the Spanish revolution.*  
 651 #0 \$a Spain \$x History \$y Civil War, 1936-1939.  
 651 #0 \$a Aragon (Spain) \$x History \$y 20th century.

## H 1592 Events

### 5. Event headings as subdivisions.

#### e. Assigning headings to provide for subordinate jurisdictions. (Continued)

*Exception for U.S. wars:* In cases where a war is established under the heading **United States–History**, bring out the war in relation to localities such as large regions, states, or major cities by establishing the war as an event under the name of the region, state, or city.

*Examples:*

```
651 #0 $a Baltimore (Md.) $x History $y Revolution,  
1775-1783  
651 #0 $a New England $x History $y French and Indian  
War, 1754-1763
```

For *general works* about the war in a specific locality, assign only the heading for the locality subdivided by the name of the war. Do not assign the heading for the larger jurisdiction subdivided in the same manner. For works about a *special topic* in connection with the war in a specific locality, however, assign the heading both for the larger jurisdiction subdivided by the name of the war and the appropriate topical subdivision (see H 1200) and for the locality subdivided by the name of the war and same topical subdivision. *Example:*

*Title: Advance the colors : Pennsylvania Civil War battle flags.*

```
651 #0 $a Pennsylvania $x History $y Civil War,  
1861-1865 $x Flags.  
651 #0 $a Pennsylvania $x History $y Civil War,  
1861-1865 $x Regimental histories.  
651 #0 $a United States $x History $y Civil War,  
1861-1865 $x Flags.  
651 #0 $a United States $x History $y Civil War,  
1861-1865 $x Regimental histories.
```

Do not apply this exceptional practice for any place other than the United States. Where the practice was begun in the case of a few other countries, it was not carried out consistently, and therefore should not be continued.

*Appendix. Case study on doing research to determine the conventional or generally accepted name of an event.*

The proposal *Mumbai Train Bombings, Mumbai, India, 2006* appeared on Tentative List 1810. The proposed heading was based on usage in the work being cataloged, an article in the *Hindustan Times*, and in Wikipedia. Six UFs for variant ways to refer to the event were provided. The variant phrases, along with an indication of their provenance as indicated in the proposal, were as follows.

7/11 Mumbai Train Blasts	[from the work being cataloged]
Bombay Terrorist Attacks	[no usage provided]
Bombay Train Bombings	[no usage provided]
Mumbai Attacks	[no usage provided]
Mumbai Serial Train Blasts	[from Wikipedia]
Mumbai Terrorist Attacks	[no usage provided]

H 1592 sec. 4.a states, “Where possible, use conventional terminology or the generally accepted name in English.” Conventional names are typically capitalized in running text (e.g., the Great Fire in Chicago; the San Francisco Earthquake of 1906, the Afghan War). A “generally accepted name” may not be capitalized, but constitutes the most common way to refer to the event. Research needs to be done to determine whether there is a conventional or generally accepted name, and if so, what that name is.

The first step is to check authoritative reference sources. For the Mumbai bombings, we searched the electronic versions of *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, the *Statesman’s Yearbook*, and the CIA’s *World Factbook*. *Britannica’s* article on India mentioned the event, and its *Year in Review* for 2006 mentioned it twice: once in the article “Dates of 2006” and once in the article on India. In both cases the entries described the event but did not name it. *Statesman’s Yearbook* likewise only described the event, saying, “The peace process was set back when unidentified terrorists killed over 200 people and injured 700 more in a series of co-ordinated train bombings in Mumbai on 11 July 2006.” The *World Factbook* did not mention the event.

The names of events in the distant – or relatively distant – past can often be found by searching authoritative encyclopedias and other standard reference sources. Searching the full text of numerous monographs through either subscription aggregators or services such as Google Books is often also very useful. (When citing those sources, it is important to cite the resource found, not the aggregator or service.)

## H 1592 Events

*Appendix. Case study on doing research to determine the conventional or generally accepted name of an event. (Continued)*

The 2006 attack on Mumbai is a contemporary event about which there are unlikely to be many monographs published yet, and news accounts are therefore a preferred source. Unless the phrase(s) used to refer to the event are uniformly capitalized in running text, we look for clear predominance of terminology. It is important to search and cite more than one news outlet, and to look for patterns in the usage of each outlet. Citing a single article that appeared in a single outlet shows usage, but it does not indicate a generally accepted name.

We searched three newspapers published in India: the *Hindustan Times*, the *Times of India*, and the *Mumbai Mirror*. Those sources show usage within India, but LCSH is primarily intended for an American audience so it is important to determine what American media call the event. We therefore searched three national news outlets in the United States: the *New York Times*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and CNN's website. For a broader view, we also searched the *London Times*.

It is not necessary to search this many news outlets. We did so in order to provide a good example for this case study. Generally speaking, searching two or three American outlets is sufficient. Searching one or two English-language news outlets from the foreign country or region where the event occurred, if available, can also be useful. It is not necessary to search foreign news outlets for an event that occurred in the United States.

Some search mechanisms on the web sites of news outlets are excellent, and others are not useful for our purpose. They may convert phrases to simple keywords, for example. We often use Google's site search when we wish to compare results across news outlets, to ensure consistency of results to the extent possible.

In addition to deciding *where* to search, we also need to decide *what* to search. Phrases used in the work being cataloged and in authoritative reference sources should be searched, as should any likely phrases that came to mind during brainstorming or found while doing initial exploratory research. In this case, the cataloger already did the brainstorming, so we searched each news outlet for the phrases used in the proposed heading and UFs. The chart below displays the results. The numerals refer to the number of hits for each phrase, in each news outlet. The phrase with the highest number of hits in each outlet is boldfaced and italicized.

*Appendix. Case study on doing research to determine the conventional or generally accepted name of an event. (Continued)*

	Mumbai train bombings	Bombay train bombings	7/11 Mumbai train blasts	Bombay terrorist attacks	Mumbai terrorist attacks	Mumbai attacks	Mumbai serial train blasts
<i>Hindustan Times</i>	107	1	59	0	9	<b>196</b>	71
<i>Times of India</i>	57	0	59	0	9	<b>252</b>	141
<i>Mumbai Mirror</i>	2	0	3	0	<b>293</b>	12	4
<i>Christian Science Monitor</i>	14	1	0	0	2	<b>24</b>	0
<i>New York Times</i>	66	1	0	0	3	<b>75</b>	0
CNN	5	0	0	0	3	<b>62</b>	0
<i>London Times</i>	1	4	0	0	5	<b>24</b>	0

The phrase *Mumbai attacks* is the predominant usage in six of the seven news outlets searched and therefore should be the basis for the heading. The phrases *7/11 Mumbai train blasts* and *Mumbai serial train blasts* were not used in the American sources nor in the *London Times*, but they were used commonly enough in the Indian news reports to justify their inclusion as UFs. *Mumbai train bombings* was used in the Indian media outlets and relatively consistently in the *New York Times*, so it should be the basis for a UF. So should *Mumbai terrorist attacks*, which was clearly the most common name for the event in the Mumbai newspaper. Two of the phrases provided as UFs in the proposal – *Bombay train bombings* and *Bombay terrorist attacks* – were almost never used, corresponding to the lack of usage provided in the original proposal. They should not appear as UFs.

Although the phrase used as the basis of the proposed heading, *Mumbai Train Bombings, Mumbai, India, 2006*, was found in three of the four sources cited in the original proposal, that form was not “the generally accepted name in English.” One of those three citations was for the *Hindustan Times*, but it cited only a single article from the newspaper. As is clear from the chart above, “Mumbai train bombings” was not the way that the *Hindustan Times* most commonly referred to the event. Wikipedia was one of the other sources consulted, but, as we can see, Wikipedia does not always use the conventional or “generally accepted name” for an event.

## H 1592 Events

*Appendix. Case study on doing research to determine the conventional or generally accepted name of an event. (Continued)*

The citations in the proposal should support the heading and each of the UFs, as well as the BTs. When citing news outlets it is important to include any information that would assist in repeating the search, as well as the results found. The citation below displays one way to present the information in a concise form.

670 ## \$a Times of India searched with Google Site Search, Oct. 19, 2018: \$b (all of the following searched as exact phrases and limited to results also including "2006": Mumbai train bombings: 57 hits; Bombay train bombings: 0 hits; 7/11 Mumbai train blasts: 59 hits; Bombay terrorist attacks: 0 hits; Mumbai terrorist attacks: 9 hits; Mumbai attacks: 252 hits; Mumbai serial train blasts: 141 hits)

The following is the revised and approved proposal.

### **Mumbai Attacks, Mumbai, India, 2006**

- UF 7/11 Mumbai Train Blasts, Mumbai, India, 2006
- Mumbai Serial Train Blasts, Mumbai, India, 2006
- Mumbai Terrorist Attacks, Mumbai, India, 2006
- Mumbai Train Bombings, Mumbai, India, 2006
- BT Bombings—India
- Terrorism—India