

BACKGROUND: *This instruction sheet provides guidelines on the assignment of the headings **Malaysia** and **Malaya** as subjects, as well as the usage of the adjectives **Malay**, **Malayan**, and **Malaysian** in subject headings. Prior to 2003, the usage of these adjectives was inconsistent in LCSH. In April 2003, usage of the adjectives was standardized as described in this instruction sheet, and established headings that did not conform to this usage were changed to follow these guidelines.*

1. Malaysia. Assign **Malaysia** as a subject heading or geographic subdivision to works about the country formed by the merger in 1963 of the Federation of Malaya, Sabah (formerly called North Borneo), and Sarawak. From 1963-1965, Singapore was also a part of Malaysia. In 1965, Singapore separated and became an independent country, and is therefore now outside the scope of this instruction sheet.

*Note: When establishing subject headings for entities located in Malaysia, use the appropriate state, not (**Malaysia**) as the geographic qualifier, as described in H 810, sec. 1.a.(1). A list of the Malaysian states and the forms to be used as geographic qualifiers is provided in H 810 on the pages immediately following sec. 4.*

2. Malaya. Assign **Malaya** as a subject heading for works on the Federation of Malaya prior to its merger into Malaysia in 1963 as well as for works on the former Federated Malay States and on the former Malayan Union.

Also use **Malaya** as a subject heading for works on the mainland portion of Malaysia, sometimes called Peninsular Malaysia, West Malaysia, or Malaysia Barat.

As a geographic subdivision, use **Malaya** indirectly through **Malaysia**.

3. Malay.

a. Language qualifier. For headings qualified by languages, use **Malay** as an adjectival qualifier to refer specifically to the Malay language. *Examples:*

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150 ## $a Malay literature
150 ## $a Malay wit and humor
150 ## $a Folk literature, Malay
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H 987 Malaysia and Malaya

3. Malay. (Continued)

b. Ethnic group qualifier. For headings qualified by ethnic groups, use **Malay** to refer to the Malay people. *Examples:*

150 ## \$a Cosmology, Malay
150 ## \$a Magic, Malay

4. Malayan.

a. Language qualifier. For headings qualified by languages, use **Malayan** as an adjectival qualifier to refer to the Malayan languages collectively. *Examples:*

150 ## \$a Malayan drama
150 ## \$a Folk literature, Malayan

b. Nationality qualifier. For headings qualified by nationalities, use **Malayan** as an adjectival qualifier to refer to the Federation of Malaya prior to its becoming a part of Malaysia in 1963. *Example:*

150 ## \$a Coins, Malayan

*Note: Establish headings using **Malayan** as a national qualifier only for topics where the history or political situation is significant for the topic. The heading **Coins, Malayan** is valid because the national coinage changed when Malaya ceased to be a country in its own right and became a part of Malaysia. However, headings such as **Cooking, Malayan** or **Atlases, Malayan** should not be established because the historical and political situation has no bearing on these topics.*

5. Malaysian. For headings qualified by nationalities, use **Malaysian** as an adjectival qualifier to refer to country of Malaysia. *Examples:*

150 ## \$a Malaysian literature
150 ## \$a Arts, Malaysian
150 ## \$a Cooking, Malaysian