GENERAL GUIDES TO PEOPLE GROUP RESEARCH

*Ethnologue: Languages of the World.* Barbara F. Grimes, editor. Dallas, TX: Summer Institute of Linguistics, Inc., 1997. (Ref P123.E83) (See also *Ethnologue Index* (Ref P123.E83 Index) and *Bible Translation Needs* (2nd BS 450.B52 1992)). Brings together information on the languages of the world, accessible by country and language.


Minority Rights Group. *World Directory of Minorities.* Chicago: St. James Pr., 1989. (Ref JC 311.W67) Concerned with the political status of minorities in different countries, but also gives historical and sociological information about over 150 minorities throughout the world. Limited bibliography. Consult index since some smaller minorities are lumped with similar groups in a region.


ENCYCLOPEDIAS


*Encyclopedia of World Cultures.* David Levinson, editor-in-chief. Boston: G. R. Hall, 1991. [10 volume set.] (Ref GN307.E53 1991) This is an extremely useful collection of people group descriptions. Each volume covers a different region of the world, and each entry includes alternate names for the people, as well as a brief bibliography. This was produced by the Human Relations Area Files (HRAF) Project at Yale University.

The SWBTS Libraries have a strong collection of books about mission history, theory, and biography. The library is just beginning to develop its collection of anthropological, social, and cultural studies of specific ethno-language groups. Also each library’s collection is different: SWBTS purchases books that the Jenkins library does not—and vice versa.

To find the resources available at any library, use the library catalog, following this advice from Jenkins Library.

- When searching sources for people group information, be sure to check *all variations* of people group names as well as the *languages* they speak.
- Expand the search to include the *country* or region, as subject headings are often not specific enough to include certain people group names.
- Search for the name of country or region combined with each of the following the headings "Minorities," "Ethnology," "Religious life and customs," and "Social life and customs."
- As you find relevant titles, make note of the headings librarians have used to index that book, then search for other books with the same headings.

Remember that books’ call numbers bring books on the same subject together in one place on the bookshelves.

To search for books using a library catalog or other database, search for the name of the specific people group, and also

Roberts Library has the following books suggested by the Jenkins Research Library or area studies. Those not owned are available through interlibrary loan.

**Africa**


**Americas**

*Endangered Peoples of Latin America: Struggles to Survive and Thrive.* Susan C. Stonich, ed. Westport, CT: Greenwood Pr, 2001. (*E 65 .E57 2001*). Scholarly essays on thirteen people groups in Middle and South America. May give insight into the condition and culture of other people groups in a region. Each essay includes a resource guide and bibliography; some also include contact information.

Search the library catalog beginning with the most appropriate subject heading:

- Indians of Central America
- Indians of North America
- Indians of South America

**Asia**


*Endangered Peoples of Southeast and East Asia: Struggles to Survive and Thrive.* Leslie E. Sponsel, ed. Westport, CT: Greenwood Pr, 2001. (*GN 635 .S58 E5 2000*). Scholarly essays about fifteen people groups in East and Southeast Asia. May give insight into the condition and culture of other people groups in a region. Each essay includes a resource guide and bibliography; some also include contact information.

Four hundred ninety one-page profiles of distinct ethnolinguistic groups in China (excluding Taiwan). Similar to Johnstone's Operation World, each profile gives locations, customs, religions, and the status of Christianity among the people. Illustrated. The appendices include one-paragraph discussions of other "possible groups," an index by alternate group names, distribution of groups by China province and by other country. The end-notes and general bibliography point to other information sources.


Europe/Former Soviet Union


Middle East

Use the library catalog to scan the sub-headings under the heading Middle East as well as the name of individual countries.


ISLAM

Use the library catalog to search for the term Islamic Countries as either a subject heading or sub-heading. Also search using the term "Muslims," which librarians use to refer to persons of Islamic faith or living in predominantly Islamic countries.

Cultural Atlas of Islam. New York: Macmillan, 1985. (Ref DS36.85 .A39 1986). More than maps, the Arabic authors take a “phenomenological approach” to Islam rather than a historical or political. They show how the essence of Islam has manifested itself in Islamic society, through institutions, art, music, and science. Consult the general index to find specific information.


Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World. New York: Oxford Univ. Pr., 1995. 4 vols. (Ref DS35.53 .O95 1995). Emphasizes political and historical developments and personalities of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Good summaries for individual countries. General articles address broad cultural issues such as education, marriage and family, and, of course, religion. Use the index to find references to specific people groups.

ATLASES


**BOOKS IN SERIES**

*Peoples of the World,* all published by Gale Research of Detroit, MI.


“World Christianity series.” Monrovia, Calif.: MARC, 1978-. Portraits of the Christian church in various areas of the world. Roberts Library has the following:

- Middle East ([Ref BR121.2 .M54 1978 v. 1](#))
- Eastern Asia ([Ref BR121.2 .M54 1978 v. 2](#))
- South Asia ([Ref BR121.2 .M54 1978 v. 3](#))
- Central America and the Caribbean ([Ref BR121.2 .M54 1978 v. 4](#))
- Eastern Europe ([Ref HX536.W23](#))
- Southern Africa ([Ref BR1450.W67](#))
- South Central Africa ([Ref BV3555.S6 F7 1991](#))

**AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS**

Most of Roberts Library’s audiovisuals related to people groups come from the video series “Missions Magazine.”

**SOURCES FOR LIBRARY RESEARCH TECHNIQUES**