

**To:** ALA/ALCTS/CCS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access  
**From:** Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative to the Joint Steering Committee  
**Subject:** Date of Expression for the Bible and parts of the Bible (RDA 6.24.1.4)

**Background:**

In 2010, in response to [6JSC/Sec/1](#), *Issues deferred until after the first release of RDA*, ALA agreed to pursue the following:

Bible – Year: Move instructions for recording the year for the Bible and parts of the Bible from 6.24.1.4 to the general instructions for Date of Expression in 6.10.

CC:DA briefly discussed this, and other outstanding ALA revision commitments, at its ALA Midwinter 2014 meeting. The following proposal, developed with the assistance of Bob Maxwell, addresses the problem mentioned during that discussion, namely that RDA refers to the date in 6.24 as the “date of expression” but then gives explicit instructions to record the year of publication for the Bible and parts of the Bible in 6.24.1.4, even though such a date is manifestation level data.

The current language in RDA 6.24.1.4 carried over unchanged from AACR2, but it makes little sense in a FRBR context. RDA 6.10.1.1 (Date of Expression - Scope) allows the date of the earliest manifestation embodying the expression to be recorded as the date of expression only after a specific date of expression cannot be identified. In addition, nothing in these general instructions allows for consistently recording the date of publication in lieu of recording a known date of expression.

In the case of Bibles, the date of publication will almost *never* be the first time a particular version has been published, so in almost all cases 6.24.1.4 requires recording the date of manifestation, not the original date of expression. This means that there will be multiple dates of “expression” associated with a single translation.

The alternatives to 6.24.1.4 and to 6.30.3.2 are especially troubling. In the case of a facsimile reproduction, there is only *one* expression, so how can there be *two* dates of expression to record? The date of the expression of the (complete) Luther Bible is 1534, not 2002, and it certainly isn't *both* 1534 and 2002. It is difficult to construct a use case where ordering the arrangement of a given translation of the Bible by date of publication is important to users. If someone is looking for the Reina-Valera Spanish translation, it will be much more important to identify the “edition” (e.g., 1569, 1852, or 1960) than the year that particular translation was published. (For details on this translation and its various versions see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reina-Valera>.)

To address these concerns, the proposal:

- Eliminates 6.24.1.4, instead including the Bible and parts of the Bible in 6.24.1.3

- Provides new examples in the revised 6.24.1.3
- Updates examples in 6.30.3.2
- Removes the alternative in 6.30.3.2, which allowed for recording two separate authorized access points for facsimile reproductions of the Bible: one for the date of the expression, and one for the date of manifestation

**Proposal:***marked-up copy***6.24.1.3 Recording Date of Expression of a Religious Work**

~~For the Bible and parts of the Bible, record the date of expression by applying the instructions at [6.24.1.4](#).~~

For other religious works and parts of those works, record the date of expression by applying the general instructions at [6.10](#).

Record date of expression of a religious work as a separate element, as part of an access point, or as both. For instructions on recording date of expression as part of the authorized access point, see [6.30.3](#).

**EXAMPLE**1971

Resource described: The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version : containing the Old and New Testaments with Apocrypha : translated from the original languages, being the version set forth A.D. 1611, revised A.D. 1881-1885 and A.D. 1901, compared with the most ancient authorities and revised A.D. 1946-1952, second edition of the New Testament A.D. 1971, Apocrypha 1957.

1611

Resource described: The book of Psalms : King James Version.

1985

Resource described: The New Jerusalem Bible.

1851

Resource described: The Pearl of Great Price : being a choice selection from the revelations, translations, and narrations of Joseph Smith

**~~6.24.1.4 The Bible and Parts of the Bible~~**

~~Record the year of publication of the resource.~~

**EXAMPLE**195918481964?

Resource described: The Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible. — Revised Standard Version. — New York : Nelson, [1964?]

~~**Alternative**~~

If the resource is a facsimile reproduction, identify the original expression and the facsimile separately. Record the year of publication appropriate for each one:

**EXAMPLE**

1534

2002

~~Resource described:~~ Biblia, das ist, Die gantze Heilige Schrift deutsch / Mart. Luth. ; begnadet mit kurfürstlicher zu sachsen-Freiheit. — Köln : Taschen, ©2002. ~~Facsimile of a 1534 publication~~

If the resource was published over more than one year, record the earlier or earliest year:

**EXAMPLE**

1883

~~Resource described:~~ La Sagrada Biblia / traducida de la Vulgata latina al español, aclarado el sentido de algunos lugares con la luz que dan los textos originales hebreo y griego, é ilustrada con varias notas sacadas de los santos padres y expositores sagrados, por d. Félix Torres Amat. — Barcelona : Montaner y Simon, 1883-1884

### 6.30.3.2 Authorized Access Point Representing an Expression of the Bible

Construct the authorized access point representing a particular expression of the Bible or of part of the Bible by combining (in this order):

- a) the authorized access point representing the work (see [6.30.1](#)) or the part (see [6.30.2](#))
- b) one or more of the following elements, as applicable:
  - i) the language of the expression (see [6.11](#))
  - ii) other distinguishing characteristic of the expression (see [6.25](#))
  - iii) the date of the expression (see [6.24](#)).

**EXAMPLE**

Bible. English

Bible. New Testament. English

Bible. Revelation. English

Bible. Latin. Vulgate

Bible. Corinthians. English. Authorized

Bible. English. Smith-Goodspeed

Bible. English. Douai. 1750

**Resource described:** The Holy Bible / translated from the Latin Vulgate being the edition published at Rheims, A.D. 1582 and at Douay, 1609 ; as revised and corrected in 1750, according to the Clementine edition of the Scriptures, by Richard Challoner

**Bible. Greek. Codex Sinaiticus**

**Resource described:** Bibliorum Codex Sinaiticus Petropolitanus

**Bible. French. Martin. ~~1835~~ 1855**

**Resource described:** La Sainte Bible qui contient le Vieux et le Nouveau Testament / revue sur les originaux par David Martin. —Bruxelles : Au dépôt de la Société Biblique Britannique et Étrangère, 1858.

**Bible. Gospels. English. Revised Standard. 1975**

**Resource described:** The horizontal line synopsis of the Gospels / Reuben J. Swanson. — First edition. — Dillsboro, North Carolina : Western North Carolina Press, Inc., ©1975. — "The Bible text in this publication is from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible"—Title page verso. **A biblical harmony**

**Bible. Old Testament. Ethiopic. 1923**

**Bible. Psalms. Afrikaans. Oberholzer and others. 2005**

**Resource described:** Afrikaanse Bybel vir Doves : Psalms. — Eerste uitgawe. — Kaapstad : Bybelgenootskap van Suid-Afrika, 2005. **Translated by J.P. Oberholzer, H.J.B. Combrink, H.C. van Zyl, D.F. Tolmie, C.H.J. van der Merwe, R.P. Hough, and E. Roux**

If the resource described contains more than one language expression of the work, create authorized access points for each of the expressions.

[examples unchanged]

If the resource described contains more than one version of the work, create authorized access points for each of the versions.

[examples unchanged]

### **Alternative**

*#:*

~~the resource is a facsimile reproduction~~

~~and~~

~~the date of the manifestation is being treated as the date of expression~~

~~(see [6.24.1.1 RDA](#))~~

*then:*

~~construct one authorized access point representing the expression using~~

~~the year of publication of the original, and a second authorized access~~

~~point using the date of the facsimile.~~

### **EXAMPLE**

~~Bible. German. Luther. 1534~~

~~Bible. German. Luther. 2002~~

~~**Resource described:** Biblia, das ist, Die gantze Heilige Schrift deutsch / Mart. Luth. ; begnadet mit kurfurstlicher zu sachsen Freiheit. — Köln : Taschen, ©2002. **Facsimile of a 1534 edition**~~

*Clean copy*

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For religious works and parts of those works, record the date of expression by applying the general instructions at [6.10](#).

Record date of expression of a religious work as a separate element, as part of an access point, or as both. For instructions on recording date of expression as part of the authorized access point, see [6.30.3](#).

#### EXAMPLE

1971

**Resource described:** The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version : containing the Old and New Testaments with Apocrypha : translated from the original languages, being the version set forth A.D. 1611, revised A.D. 1881-1885 and A.D. 1901, compared with the most ancient authorities and revised A.D. 1946-1952, second edition of the New Testament A.D. 1971, Apocrypha 1957.

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