

A-Religion: Codebook V.1.

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Introduction

This codebook contains the short description of the variables in the A-Religion (A for All) data. Particularly notable about these data are that they record intra-group religious fragmentation as well as each groups primary religion for the 1200 socially relevant identity groups in the AMAR (All-Minorities at Risk) data. Additionally the data and codebook are accompanied by detailed notes and sources for full transparency of the coding and so that researchers may work with the coded data and the source data as most appropriate for the purposes of their own research.

For examples of these variables in the study of conflict and to cite please see:

Jóhanna K Birnir and Nil Seda Satana. 2023. Alternatives in Mobilization: Ethnicity, Religion and Political Conflict. *Cambridge University Press*.

and

Jóhanna K Birnir and Nil Seda Satana.. Forthcoming. “The Challenger’s Winning Coalition: Mobilization of Religion in Ethnic Civil War.” *The Journal of Politics*.

Organizational Variables:

1 A-Religion Country

The AMAR country name.

2 A-Religion Group

The AMAR group name.

3 A-Religion Numcode

This is the AMAR number code for each group.

Substantive variables 1: Religion and Sect

The variables in this section code all the religions (Family and Sect) that more than 10 percent of the group subscribes to. As per the accompanying notes and sources, a percentage is rarely available. Thus, the coding rule is to: 1) code if there is a published percentage of more than the threshold of 10percent, 2) code if a reliable reference states that the number of the subscribers of a particular religion forms a majority or a plurality.

Examples of a reference that gets coded may be: “X group is predominantly Christian” or “significant percentage of Y group is Christian” “majority of Z is Christian.” If we find a reference to a small number or percentage of subscribers to a religion, we make a note, cite but do not code that religion.

1 Group Religions

This categorical variable lists all the Religious Families and Sects that a group subscribes to.

2 Group Primary Religious Family and Sect

This variable denotes which of the Families of Religions listed in the Group Religions variable is the plurality religion in the group and which is the plurality Sect for groups whose primary religion is Christianity or Islam.

3 Group Primary Religious Family Numerical

This variable numbers the religious families listed in the Group Religions variable as follows:

Syncretic: 1, Animism: 2, Bahaism: 3, Buddhism: 4, Christian: 5, Hindu: 6, Islam: 7, Jainism: 8, Judaism: 9, Shinto: 10, Sikhism: 11, Taoism: 12, Yazidi: 13,¹ No Religion: 14,

4 Group Primary Sect Numerical

This variable assigns a number to every sect listed in the Group Religions variable. The numbers are as follows.

Catholic: 1, Orthodox: 2, Protestant: 3, Lutheran: 3, Anglican: 3, Independent: 3, Pentecostal: 3, Sunni: 4, Shi'i: 5, Druze: 6, Ibadhi: 6, Unknown: NA

Substantive variables 2: Context

The following suite of variables are coded to elucidate the religious context in which the group exists. Specifically, these variables code whether the group shares or is segmented in religion from the demographic majority religion. These group level variables are coded in with information from the above **Substantive**

¹The Yazidi are a syncretic monotheistic religion that share pre-zoroastrian roots. Brown and James classify only Zoroastrians. Here we are coding these the same as Yazidi. This is a controversial decision that users may wish to research.

Variables 1, and in relation to the demographically largest religious group in a given country as recorded in the Religious Characteristics of States data (Brown and James 2018).²

1 Family Match

This variable codes the group primary family of religion 1 if it is the same as the demographically most numerous family of religion in the country as recorded by Brown and James 2018.

2 Family Match No Syncretic

This variable codes the group primary family of religion 1 if it is the same as the demographically most numerous family of religion in the country as recorded by Brown and James 2018, and as 1 if one of the religions that form the basis for a groups syncretic religion is the same as that of the demographic majority family of religion.

3 Sectarian Match

This variable codes the group primary sect as 1 if it is the same as the demographically most numerous sect in the country as recorded by Brown and James 2018.

²Brown, Davis and James, Patrick. 2018. The Religious Characteristics of States: Classic Themes and New Evidence for International Relations and Comparative Politics. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, (62)6: 1340–1376