

INTERCONFESSIONALITY



Our kit

10

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INTRODUCTION

Most of us when making the Scout or Guide Promise, mentioned ..."Duty to God"... the God of each other religion.

Nowadays each Scout or Guide Association chooses the way they want to express their Promise. To a Higher Power, to the beliefs of each member or some other expression.

For us adults in ISGF, being believers, agnostics or atheistic, church goers or no, sometimes we discuss religious problems without any knowledge of the other religions.

The towns and villages where we live are now a big puzzle of civilizations with different religions and their own shrines

This small booklet will allow the Guildes to discover the diversity of the religions and their impact in the community and is divided in:

- Religious practices
- Birth rites
- Religious food prescriptions
- Religious and therapeutic acts in illness and suffering
- Death - Rites and prescriptions .

As a good example we share with you the project of the Gilde Cosme and Damien from the German Fellowship.

May this book be a mean to attain the knowledge and understanding of the different religions and a way to grow spirituality and Peace in the World.

Mida Rodrigues
Chairman ISGF World Committee

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EXAMPLE OF IDEAS FOR THE BOOKLET "INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE"

First of all I would like to introduce my guild in Essen, Germany. My guild is called Guild Cosmas and Damian. We are 18 persons, 14 of us have got different handicaps (physically or mentally). But our handicaps are not our main topic. We try to live "inclusive" according to the UN convention on the rights of persons with disabilities. So we are interested in a lot of things.

One of our projects was about "inter - religious dialogue". Most of us are Christians. One of our members is a Muslima. We collected information about different religions: Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism and Hinduism. We read books, spoke to representatives of those religions and visited different places in Essen and surround (Churches, a mosque, a synagoge museum and temple of hinduism). And last but not least we made a hl. Fair in a roman catholic church.

We live in the "Ruhr region" in Western Germany. A lot of people of different origins are living there. So it was our aim was to learn about different religions, to promote mutual tolerance and to get talking to people of different religions and cultures.

I have enclose some pictures to show what we really did.

2916, 2929, 2951, 2959 - making a hl. Fair in a roman catholic church in Essen (Northrhine Westfalia, Germany)

5413, 5444, 5449 - visiting Merkez Mosque in Duisburg (Northrhine Westfalia, Germany), talking with other muslims and christians

6113,6141, 8175 - visit to the Hinduist temple in Hamm (Germany)

Yours in Fellowship
Angela Stroeter





I. CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
ADVENTIST Church	<p>Sacred writings Old and New testament</p> <p>Publications for spiritual edification Any Christian literature referring to the Bible</p> <p>Religious practices Observing Saturday</p> <p>Holidays Christian holidays</p>	<p>A child is presented to the Church. For adults baptism by immersion</p> <p>No baptism in case of urgency but ask a clergyman (even from another confession) to come and pray and accompany the relatives</p>	Ask the patient or his/her family	Organ transplant and blood transfusion accepted	<p>If possible call the clergyman of the community while the person is still lucid to accompany him/her and pray with the family</p> <p>No difficulty to accept autopsy and organ removal</p>
ANGLICAN Church	<p>Sacred writings The Bible: Old testament and New Testament</p> <p>Publications for spiritual edification "the Book of Common Prayer"</p> <p>Holidays Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension, Whitsun</p>	<p>If the infant health is critical ask an Anglican priest to come when possible</p> <p>In case of an extreme urgency, a member of the catholic or protestant nursing team is asked to baptise the infant and then inform the Anglican priest.</p> <p>For baptism, pour water on the infant's forehead while nominating him/her : "N... I baptise you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit</p>	No specific prescription	<p>The Anglican community insists on the prayer and the visit to suffering people by members of the Church.</p> <p>If the illness aggravates and if an Anglican priest is not available at once and if death seems imminent, ask the ill person (or the family if he/she is unconscious) if the sacraments (confession, oil anointing and eucharist) may be administered by a roman catholic chaplain or by a catholic Christian priest.</p> <p>Organ transplant and blood transfusion accepted</p>	<p>During the dead's toilet, cross his/her arms on the chest (hands on the shoulder)</p> <p>Autopsy and organ removal are accepted in accordance with the legal process</p>

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC Church	<p>Sacred writings The Bible: the Old Testament and the New Testament.</p> <p>Religious practices Mass of Sundays and holidays Forgiveness sacrament (confession) on request</p> <p>Main holidays Christmas (on 6th January), Easter, Ascension, Whitsun, Mary's Dormition (15th August), All Saints' Day</p>	<p>Baptism: in case of urgency, it is given to an infant on request of the parents. It may be administered by a member of the nursing team.</p> <p>For baptism, pour water on the infant's forehead while nominating him/her : "N... I baptise you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit</p>	No meat nor milky products during Lent. Not compulsory for ill people	<p>If the patient so requests, communion is brought by a priest.</p> <p>On the request of the patient or the family – if possible while the patient is still lucid – he/she may receive anointing of the sick, administered by a priest.</p> <p>Organ transplant and blood transfusion accepted</p>	<p>Advise the priest If necessary organise relationship between the patient, his/her close relatives and the priest</p> <p>Autopsy and organ removal are accepted following the legal practice</p>
CHRISTIAN CATHOLIC Church (or ancient Catholicism)	<p>Sacred writings The Bible: Old Testament and New Testament</p> <p>Religious practices Prayer morning and evening Mass on Sunday and holiday (Eucharist) or Liturgy of the Word (deacon or lay) Sacrament of forgiveness in an individual way (confession) on request</p> <p>Main holidays Christmas, Epiphany, Palm Sunday, Holy week, Easter, Ascension, Whitsun, Mary's Dormition (15th August), All Saints' Day</p>	<p>Unique baptism during childhood or as an adult</p> <p>No baptism of urgency</p>	No specific prescriptions	<p>Visiting ill persons by lay members of parishes or by ministers, deacons or priests.</p> <p>On request of a patient, communion is brought by a priest or a deacon</p> <p>On request of a patient or the family – if possible while the patient is still lucid – he may receive oil anointing, called anointing of the ill, given by a priest</p> <p>Organ transplant and blood transfusion accepted</p>	<p>Call a priest or a deacon</p> <p>If necessary organise relation between the patient, relatives and priest or deacon.</p> <p>Autopsy and organ removal are accepted according to the legal process</p>

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
ROMAN CATHOLIC Church	<p>Sacred writings The Bible: Old Testament and New Testament</p> <p>Religious practices Mass of Sundays and holidays Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)</p> <p>Main holidays Christmas, Easter, Ascension, Whitsun, Assumption, All Saints' Day</p>	<p>Baptism: in case of emergency, it is given, on request of the parents, to a seriously ill infant. It may be given by a member of the nursing team.</p> <p>For baptism, pour water on the infant's forehead while nominating him/her : "N... I baptise you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit</p>	Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are fasting days (no meat) and abstinence. Not compulsory for ill persons	<p>On request of the patient communion is brought to the ill person by a priest or a designated person.</p> <p>On request of the patient or the family – if possible while the patient is still lucid, the patient may receive anointing oil, called anointing or sacrament of ill persons</p> <p>Organ transplant and blood transfusion accepted</p>	<p>Autopsy and organ removal are accepted following the legal process.</p> <p>Advise the chaplain or watch or the one of the site for him to recomfort the relatives.</p> <p>Join the dead one's hands (possibly with a chaplet)</p>
ORTHODOX Church	<p>Sacred writings The Bible: Old Testament and New Testament</p> <p>Publication for spiritual edification Writings of the Church Fathers</p> <p>Religious practices Daily prayers, morning and evening Vespers on Saturday evening Eucharistic liturgy on Sunday</p> <p>Main holidays Christmas, Theophany (Christ's baptism), Annunciation, Palm Sunday, celebrations of the Holy Week, Easter, Ascension, Whitsun, Transfiguration, Nativity of the Virgin</p>	<p>On the 40th day, the infant must be presented to the Church: call an orthodox priest</p> <p>In case of urgency, baptism may be given by any Christian person.</p> <p>For baptism, pour water on the infant's forehead while nominating him/her : "N... I baptise you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit"</p>	<p>Before communion, the believer, even in hospital, remains fasting (non strict; can drink)</p> <p>Before high holidays, the believer will get prepared with fasting days, with poor food (no meat)</p>	<p>Before an operation and if the illness is serious and if the patient so wishes, the priest will come to pray with him/her and the family and bring the holy communion and possibly will practice the anointing of the sick.</p> <p>The doctrine is opposed neither to organ transplant nor to blood transfusion</p>	<p>Autopsy and organ removal are to be avoided but there is no opposition from the Church.</p> <p>Cremation may be authorised in some cases.</p> <p>In principle, Funeral takes place three days after the death</p>

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
PROTESTANT Church	<p>Sacred writings The Bible: Old Testament and New Testament</p> <p>Religious practices Reading of the Bible Prayer Dominical worship Participation in the Holy Communion</p> <p>Main holidays Christmas, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension, Whitsun, Reformation celebration</p>	<p>Unique baptism during childhood or adult age</p> <p>No specific prescription for urgent baptism: facilitate contact between the chaplain on watch or pastor of the congregation and the family</p> <p>If the infant is in critical health, or in case of death, call the chaplain on watch for him to accompany the family</p>	No specific prescription	<p>On personal request, the Holy Communion is brought to the patient.</p> <p>On request of the patient or the relatives: oil anointing in case of a serious or long illness, in communion with the parish congregation</p> <p>Organ transplant and blood transfusion accepted</p> <p>Within several protestant Churches and protestant congregations, the sensitivity to questions linked with abortion varies.</p>	<p>Autopsy and organ removal accepted within the legal process.</p> <p>Inform the chaplain on watch or the chaplain of the site for him to recomfort the relatives.</p> <p>During the toilet of the dead, the fingers of the dead one may be crossed; but it is not essential. A naked cross or an open Bible may be there.</p> <p>If the relatives so wish, ensure that a moment of recollection and prayer be organised at the bedside of the dead one.</p>

II. MAJOR RELIGIONS

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
BAHAIE	<p>Sacred writings Writings by the Báb, by Bahá'u'lláh and Abdu'l-Bahá</p> <p>Religious practices 1st, 9th and 12th days of Ridvan, declaration by Bahá'u'lláh, New Year 21st March and 5 other commemoration days</p> <p>Main holidays Individual daily prayers Commemoration of the 9 holy days of Baha'ie and no work on these 9 days Reunions of prayer and consultation every 19th day, known as "holidays of the 19 days" in each place</p>	<p>No rite at birth</p> <p>The child is educated to respect the ethical and moral principles</p> <p>He/she is encouraged to study the major religions</p>	<p>Food balanced for the body and soul is recommended</p> <p>No specific prescriptions but abstention from drugs, alcohol (except for medical reasons)</p> <p>Period of fasting From sunrise to sunset, during the 19 days before New Year. Dispense for children, elderly people, expecting or breastfeeding women, ill people and travellers. As fasting is the symbol of detachment from the physical world it is mainly spiritual and is a period for meditation and internal renewal</p>	<p>Going to medical nursing in case of illness is recommended to Bahais.</p> <p>Prayer and meditation are recommended</p> <p>Organ transplant and blood transfusion are accepted</p>	<p>Advise the local spiritual Assembly</p> <p>Special prayer is said before burial</p> <p>Cremation not authorised</p> <p>Burial must take place less than hour of distance from the limits of the place where death happened</p>

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
BUDDHISM Note: there is local sensitivity (Laos, China, Japan etc.) which may be more determining than religious belonging	<p>Sacred writings Soutras: speeches by Buddha included in the writings which exist in Pali, Sanskrit, Chinese and Tibetan</p> <p>Daily practices They vary with the capacities of the practicing person. There are therefore multiple levels of practice, going from simple prayer to very developed meditation forms. The “good Buddhist” seeks haven in the Three Jewels at least once a day with reciting a prayer or not.</p> <p>Religious holidays are numerous. The most important one is the Vesak, day of the birth of Buddha Sakyamuni (it usually occurs on the full moon after Whitsun)</p> <p>No obligation whatsoever</p>	<p>After childbirth, some families bring the child to a monk for him to receive a benediction.</p> <p>Again, no obligation</p> <p>The hour, minute and second of the birth must be precisely noted to prepare the horoscope (astral theme)</p>	<p>A vegetarian regime is recommended but not compulsory.</p> <p>Specific prescription: monks don't it after 12 00.</p>	<p>The Buddhist may believe in the power of healing through the prayer of a monk, prayer on the ill organs.</p> <p>Organ transplant and blood transfusion accepted</p>	<p>After the death, it is usual to leave the body resting during 2 or 3 days after the clinical death. When it is not possible, the first touch of the corpse must be the top of the head.</p> <p>After death, the head of the deceased must be turned westwards.</p> <p>When possible, it is good that Buddhist monks be present before and after the death but it is not compulsory</p> <p>Autopsy and organ removal are accepted following the legal process</p>

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
HINDUISM The sources of the rites of passage are in the Vedic and auxiliary texts ; there are regional variations in the details for the observance, depending on the origin of the family (Sri Lanka, South India, Hindi-speaking India, North-East India together with Bangladesh and Bali	<p>Classical writings Vedas, Ramayana, Puranas, Smritis, Mahabarata containing the Shagavad-Gita, Vedanta, Tirukkural, Tirumandiram</p> <p>Religious practices Personal practice, prayer, repetition of sacred syllables, meditation, cult of the guru or a devata (anthropomorphising of a divine aspect) with flowers, incense, food etc.</p> <p>Main holidays Makara Sankranti: Winter solstice Mahashivaratri: Shiva's night Holi: Spring Festival Nava-Varsha: Spring New Year Rama Navami: Rama's birth Janmashtami: Krishna's birth Ganesh-Chaturchi: Ganesh's holiday Durga Puja/Dussehra: Rama's Victory/ Durga holiday Diwali: holiday of light</p>	<p>Before cutting the umbilical cord, a coin of gold or silver is put close to the umbilic of the baby. A member of the family or, if it is impossible, a member of the nursing team, pronounces this prayer “Let God give this baby longevity, good health, body strength and mental vigour”</p> <p>“Baptism” (giving the name) Before the baby reaches 10th day a relative, or if impossible a member of the nursing team, spreads unshelled rice on the ground and writes the first name of the child. In traditionalist families before giving the name of the child there is an oblation of clarified butter while reciting mantras in the holy fire.</p>	<p>Vegetarian regime recommended for brahmins, except for those originating from North-East India.</p> <p>Beef meat forbidden for all Hinduists</p> <p>Usually vegetarians consume milk and milky products All vegetarian families are not brahman; the patient should be asked what his/her preference is</p>	<p>Amulets and sacred formulae to get the ill away, in particular for a long duration illness.</p> <p>Organ transplant and blood transfusion accepted.</p> <p>The prayer to treat pain has a positive effect. Hindus consider that full moon and new moon have an effect on very weak persons. Whenever possible chiralurgical interventions should be avoided during these lunar periods.</p>	<p>No problem with autopsy and organ removal: follow the legal process</p> <p>After death, the corpse usually is cremated.</p> <p>However, for a death in utero or a child less than 2 years, the corpse is buried.</p>

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
ISLAM	<p>Muslims worship Allah, the Arab name of God</p> <p>Sacred writings CORAN, tradition of prophet Muhammad The Five Pillars: Shahada (testimony) The five day prayers, done in the direction of Mecca, usually after ablutions Zakat (legal alms) obligatory Ramadan fasting during the 9th lunar month of the Muslim year Hadj (pilgrimage to Mecca), if possible once in a life</p> <p>Main holidays Aid al Fitr: closure of Ramadan Aid al Adha: celebration of Abraham's sacrifice, marking the end of the period of the Hadj, i.e. the 10th day of the 12th lunar month</p>	<p><u>Circumcision</u> is compulsory and will be performed during early childhood (traditionally 7-8 years) by a Muslim or not Muslim doctor</p>	<p>No pork meat, nor other meat in which there remains blood.</p> <p>No alcohol. Drugs authorised for therapeutic use only.</p> <p><u>Fasting during Ramadan</u>: total abstinence of food, tobacco and sexual relations from sunrise to sunset. Ill persons, expecting or breastfeeding women, women in menses, children before puberty may be dispensed of fasting. These persons may recover the non-fasted days when they are cured or at the end of menses.</p>	<p>In Islam illness is not considered as a punishment; it is a test of the faith. Islamic sources ask the ill person to get cure and encourage doctors to find the medicine which might overcome the illness. Islam considers that God allows recovering, doctors and medicines being means only. Blood transfusion and organ transplants are accepted. Giving organs, whether the giver is living or deceased, must have an obligatory character to save the life of the receiver or to help regulation of an essential function of the body. Agreement of both parties and approval of doctors are to be obtained beforehand. Transplant of genital glands is forbidden Visiting ill persons is compulsory for close relatives and strongly recommended for other members of the community.</p>	<p>At the end of the life, the Shahada in Arabic " Allah is the Only God and Muhammad is His prophet" must be pronounced by the patient him/herself or by a relative.</p> <p>The nursing personnel may touch the body immediately after the death, in particular to remove foreign objects (catheter, perfusion, denture) Usually relatives proceed to the ritual toilet. Women wash women bodies, men men bodies. The corpse is always moved decently and respectfully. Private parts are carefully covered. The corpse is always buried. Cremation is forbidden by Islam. Autopsy is authorised for medico-legal or clinical reasons. Relatives must approve.</p>

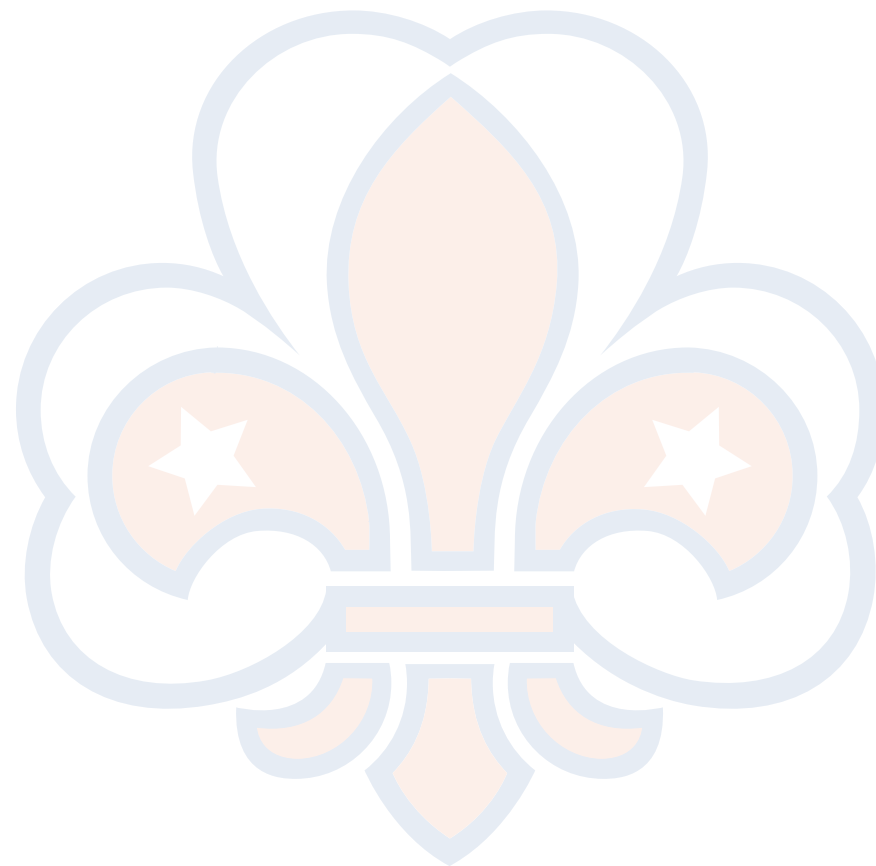
Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
JUDAISM	<p>Sacred writings Hebraic Bible: Old Testament (Tora, Prophets, Writings)</p> <p>Religious practices Weekly reading of the Tora (the first five books of the Jewish Bible); men cover their heads to pray and read Compliance with the Law, e.g. Shabbath (begins on Friday night at sunset, ends Saturday night at night fall)</p> <p>Main holidays Pessah: Passover (exodus from Egypt) Shavuot: gift of the Law from Sinai Succot: the People in the desert Simhath Tora: joy of the Tora Rosh Hashana: New Year Yom Kippur: Day of Atonement Purim: Esther holiday Tisha Beav: destruction of the Temples Hanoucca: festival of lights</p>	<p>Ritual circumcision of buoys on their 8th day. As the mother determines the religion of the child, in case of a ixed marriage, ask the parents</p>	<p>No pork Kosher meat: ruminants with cloven hoof and backyard poultry, killed and ritually prepared Fish: with scales and fin No mixture of milk and meat products Washing separately dishes and utensils for milky and meaty products</p> <p>Absolute fasting on Yom Kippur (except for medical reasons)</p> <p>Food without yeast during Pessah week (7 or 8 days)</p> <p>An orthodox Jewish patient will have all his/her food brought from outside is he/she is not absolutely sure about the hospital "kashrut"</p>	<p>Blood transfusion authorised with the agreement of the patient or the relatives</p> <p>Organ transplant: request the opinion of the family and religious authority</p> <p>For traditionalist Jews nursing and chirurgical interventions are not done during Shabbath except in case of a vital emergency</p>	<p>Absolute necessity to inform the family which will take care of accompanying the person (prayers and confession in Hebrew) Close the mouth and eyes of the deceased Take off the filth -wash a little if necessary When the corpse is not transported within the hjours after the death, take off the wedding ring and any other jewel The corpse must be wrapped in a clean sheet Cover the face</p> <p>Autopsy: in any case ask the family which will ask the religious authority</p> <p>Inform the family and congregation for the ritual toilet</p> <p>Let the family the possibility of remaining with the deceased.</p>

III. OTHER RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
<p>ANIMISM It is a cosmogony shared by many peoples in the world. Shamanism gives a good idea of everything that comes from God and goes back to God) Depending on the place and time every object may be devoted to the divinity</p>	<p>No written text Together with the transmission of knowledge done orally there is the experience of the group or the individual experience with nature</p> <p>Religious practices Religion is globally intricated in the everyday life: it is permanent relation and interaction between the visible world and the invisible. The field of sacred is an integrated part of everyone's life. Facing a given problem consult initiated people or elderly ones. These last ones have a special role as they are more or less prepared to enter the family's pantheon as an ancestor. Main holidays They vary with the people, its customs and traditions, and also the geographical location.</p>	<p>Everyone came on this earth FOR something. What remains depends on each one's openness, capacity to comply with the natural and divine laws, humility in front of the sacred. All steps of life, from birth to death, are marked by rites and initiations which depend on the people.</p> <p>At birth, even at conception, a child is inheritor of an ethnic group, of his/her parents, of some individuals, of a social role etc. Initiation may start very early during the first day of the life. It is not necessary done per age group.</p>	<p>No general prescription for food</p> <p>But one shouldn't forget that a human being is in permanent relation with its universe. Consequently, what he/she eats has an incidence on its functioning. It is therefore very important to replace the patient within its original context.</p>	<p>Suffering, illness, even death, remind the importance of a better dialogue between the world of visible and the invisible.</p> <p>A minimum of order is necessary in the interior world (conscience among others) and in the wider world so that one can take benefit of the Vital Force as the one which does not benefit of this force may be harmful for the others or victim of them. The animist religion gives a meaning to every phenomenon. Thus, illness or suffering may come from a symbolic debt, which might come from an ancestor. This does explain the continued search for a balance between the two words.</p>	<p>Death is universal but some causes may have a cultural connotation (e.g. among some African peoples, selling souls, trampled poison) but the burial rite in the animist world varies depending on the cause of the death, the sex, the age, the deceased's social class, the initiations he/she had benefit. The ritual helps in untying the links of the visible world to let the death person to enter the word of the invisible in the best conditions and to find his/her just place. The higher the "social rank" the more important the ritual is</p>

Confession	Religious practices Sacred writings Holidays and liturgical times	Birth rites	Food prescriptions	Illness, suffering Religious and therapeutic acts	Death Rites and prescriptions
<p>NEW APOSTOLIC Church</p>	<p>Sacred writings The Bible: Old Testament and New Testament.</p> <p>Religious practices Hospitalised people receive the Holy Communion every 15th day from a religious responsible person from their community</p> <p>Holidays Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension, Whitsun</p>	<p>Water baptism done by a sacerdotal servant; Spirit baptism dispensed by an apostle.</p> <p>Baptism: in case of urgency call a relative, member of the Church, who will do a <u>water baptism</u>: for each aspersion make a Sign of the Cross on the child's forehead, in the name of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>Distinction between the water Baptism and the Spirit Baptism</p>	<p>No specific prescription</p>	<p>Organ transplant and blood transfusion accepted</p>	<p>No ritual, no specific sacrament.</p> <p>Autopsy and organ removal accepted</p>
<p>MORMONS The Church of Jesus-Christ of Latter-Day Saints</p>	<p>Sacred writings The Bible: Old Testament and New Testament The Book of Mormon The Doctrine and Covenants The Pearl of Great Price</p>	<p>Children are presented to the community and blessed. Baptism 8 years old</p> <p>If necessary it is possible to ask a benediction which will be given by a member of the Church, who has priesthood; it is not an obligation</p>	<p>No exciting product (no tea, no coffee, no alcohol, no tobacco, no drugs except for a therapeutic use) Before the meals prayer of thanks and benediction.</p>	<p>On request oil anointing of patients may be given by two members who have priesthood. Organ transplant: decision by the concerned person with the help of prayer and medical advice Blood transfusion: no restriction</p>	<p>Autopsy and organ removal are accepted</p>

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First Church of Christ Scientist	<p>Sacred writings The Bible: Old Testament and New Testament</p> <p>Publications for the studies Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy.</p> <p>Weekly sermons and lessons</p> <p>No celebration of Festivals</p>	No baptism, no benediction	Nothing particular. The Christian Scientist does not drink alcohol	The Christian scientist who is not hospitalised against his/her will accepts therapeutical acts in principle	<p>No specific prescription. If possible, a woman's body will be prepared by a woman.</p> <p>Autopsy and removals: according to the decision of the concerned person</p>
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES	<p>Sacred writings The Bible with a preferred translation: New World translation</p> <p>Festivals no festival except commemoration of Jesus Christ's death (14 Nissan)</p> <p>Religious practices Study and personal meditation of the Bible Prayer It is not advisable to invite patients to religious celebrations in the hospital</p>	<p>Baptism: in no case baptism of a newborn child</p> <p>Baptism is done by immersion after a strong religious instruction of the Scriptures. The believer asks for it</p>	<p>No food with blood or blood derivatives (plasma) such as blood sausage, fricassee, meat with its blood</p> <p>Tobacco and drugs forbidden (except for therapeutical use)</p>	<p>Avoid visits by ministers from other religious communities</p> <p>No transfusion of blood or its components</p> <p>During an operation retrieval of the lost blood possible through a dedicated machine. The conscience of the patient will decide whether to accept this technique or not.</p> <p>Organ transplant: no opposition ; it is up to the person concerned to decide</p>	<p>Autopsy and organ removal: the Scriptures don't give any precise information. Each one decides.</p> <p>If the person has no relatives warn a person responsible in the community by visits by ministers from other religious communities are not advisable.</p>





ISGF • AISG

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