The Muslims Are Coming: Racism and the Politics of Empire

A Public Talk by
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Performing Arts Building (PA 101)
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton

“Islamophobia” became an especially familiar term in the United States following the September 11 attacks. It has been used as much by the left to combat anti-Muslim sentiment as by the right to deny its very existence.

In an important new book Islamophobia and the Politics of Empire (Haymarket Books, 2012) Deepa Kumar argues that Islamophobia has a long history. In fact, creating anti-Muslim fervor was vital to European and American projects of empire building. “This book is about the image of ‘Islam,’ that mythical creation conjured out of the needs of empire that has led even progressives to claim that Muslims are more violent than any other religious group,” Kumar writes in the introduction.

Deepa Kumar is the author of Outside the Box: Corporate Media, Globalization and the UPS Strike. She has explained her unique understanding of Islamophobia in a wide array of international media outlets, including the BBC, RT, NPR, USA Today, Philadelphia Inquirer, St. Louis Post Dispatch, Hurriyat Daily News (Turkey), Al Arabiya (UAE), and other national and international news media outlets.

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