

# Altering the Subaltern: Racial Formation Leading Up to Post- Orientalism

1. Racial Formation Theory – Michael Omi and Howard Winant
2. Orientalism – Edward Said
3. The Question of Palestine – Edward Said
4. Covering Islam – Edward Said
5. The Clash of Civilizations – Samuel Huntington
6. The End of History – Francis Fukuyama
7. Post-Orientalism – Hamid Dabashi

# Agenda

## » Projects

- > Human Bodies and Social Structures –
- > Represented / Identified

## » Hegemony

- > Gramsci: Creation of “Common Sense” by Ruling Group

## » Racial Project

- > Effort to Reorganize and Redistribute Resources Along Particular Racial Lines

# Racial Formation Theory > 3

## » Themes of Orientalism:

- > Determinism
- > Reductionism
- > Generalization
- > Scriptualism

## » Racial Formation Theory Context

- > Racial Project: Colonialism
- > Race-making:
  - Rational, Christian, European Us vs.
  - Irrational, Muslim Other

# Orientalism – Said 4

## » Israel:

- > Best in Western and Biblical Traditions
- > Citizens are soldiers, farmers, scientists, and artists
- > Transformed Arid and Empty Land
- > Searching for Peace

## » VS.

## » Palestinians:

- > Anonymous Creatures that could disrupt Idyllic Narrative
- > Bloodthirsty and Warlike
- > Prey to Irrational Violence Forever

# The Question of Palestine – Said

## » Orientalists

- > Mainly in US, UK, Israel
- > Insist Islam Regulates Societies from Top to Bottom

## » Racial Formation Theory Context

- > Racial Project: Israel
  - Criticism for Removal of Palestinians from land
- > Challenge to Race-Making of Orientalism:
  - “Common Sense” of West Breaking Down
  - Orientalists Put on Notice
  - US Hegemony under Attack

Covering Islam – Said



- » The West vs. the “Rest”
- » Image of Islam: “Islam’s borders are bloody, and so are its innards (Huntington, 1996: 257-258).”

# Clash of Civilizations – Huntington



## » Islam and Muslims

- > Cannot Modernize
- > Cannot Liberal Ideas

## » West is Philosophically, Economically, and Militarily Superior

## » Racial Formation Theory Context

- > Racial Project: Liberal, Democratic Capitalism is Highest End
- > Race-making: Others have only Self to Blame for Falling Behind

End of History – Fukuyama





## » Orientalism

- > Responsible for Creation of West and the Rest
- > Many Values are Universal – not Western

## » American Hegemony Near End

- > Proportionately Less European
- > Economically Challenged by Foreign Policy

## » Racial Formation Theory Context

- > Challenge to Racial Project: Orientalism's Dichotomies Never Existed
- > Challenge to Race-Making: Renunciation of American "Common Sense" – Balance of Power
- > Pointless to Talk to Other Side – Wants Some Version of Orientalism

Post-Orientalism – Dabashi  9

» Do you have any questions?

Q's