Islam's Orient:
Islam, Nationalism, and Ethnic Violence in China
HIST 597C/CMLIT 597C/RLST 597C

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6-9 p.m. Tuesdays --008 LIFE SCI

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Course Description:

Despite the fact that China has a Muslim population larger than Iraq, Saudi Arabia, or Malaysia, Muslim Chinese culture and society is often dismissed as peripheral to the concerns of both the Islamic World and China. Through lecture, readings, films, and discussion, this course will survey and analyze the diverse religious, ethnic and political identities found among China’s Muslim communities. Focusing on those ethnic groups who practice Islam – the Uyghur, Kazaks, and Hui – the emphasis of this seminar will be on challenging the misleading perception of China as a cultural and ethnically homogenous society, on the one hand, and the Middle Eastern notion of those Muslims who live outside Dar-al-Islam as less Muslim on the other. The complex inter-ethnic and transnational relations of the Muslim groups living inside China have resulted in the emergence of an ethno-religious identity that challenges the most common modern categories of classification: nation, ethnicity or religion. With an eye to the central role the Muslim Chinese have exerted in the construction of the Chinese and Inner Asian nation-states, this seminar will examine the religious beliefs, persistent resistance to assimilation, and their evolving ethnic identities.

Class requirements:

Participation (30%): As there is no central textbook for this course the lectures and discussion will attempt to provide an on-going narrative which proceeds both chronologically as well as thematically. It is vital that you attend, participate and take good notes. Students will be asked to sign up for 2 sessions to lead discussion on the merits of the readings assigned for that week. In addition, each student should come to every class prepared to ask and respond to open-ended questions around which the discussion of the readings should be organized.

Reaction Papers (30%): We will read six books over the course of the class with shorter articles assigned on those weeks there is no book reading. With the belief that learning to write succinctly and pointedly is a desirable skill, a short 2-page paper discussing that seminar’s assigned reading will be due every week at the beginning of class ONLY on those days book-length readings are due.

These papers should have standard 1-inch margins and use Arial or Times New Roman fonts. The focus should be in the general format that a scholarly book review is written: 1) address the basic significance, content, and scope of book 2) point out particular strengths and/or weaknesses in the book (or articles) and 3) offer your own assessment. A model of how quality reaction papers should look is available on line at: <http://orpheus.ucsd.edu/chinesehistory/pgp/index.html>

Paper proposal (10%): A one page-proposal and bibliography discussing the theme of your final paper is due March 29 via e-mail. This should contain a paragraph (half page at most) describing the gist of your project (e.g. what question/evolution are you seeking to elucidate). As well you should list 10-12 of the books or articles that will shape your ideas.

Paper (30%): An 8-10 page paper discussing a topic of your choice is due by May 2. The topic can be either thematic/topical or more of a bibliographic review (examining the evolution and or controversies surrounding a subject) that relates to Islam in China. Each member of the class will present their findings in a 20 minute presentation during the final seminar meeting (April 26). You may use the readings from class as a basis for further research on the subject.
Required Books:

Title: Muslim Chinese: Ethnic Nationalism in the Peoples Republic
Author: Dru C. Gladney
Publisher: Harvard University Press
ISBN: 0674594975

Title: Familiar Strangers: A History of Muslims in Northwest China
Author: Jonathan Lipman
Publisher: University of Washington Press (1998)
ISBN: 0295976446

Title: Holy War in China: The Muslim Rebellion and State in Chinese Central Asia
Author: Hodong Kim
ISBN: 0804748845

Title: Beyond the Pass: Economy, Ethnicity, and Empire in Qing Central Asia, 1759-1864
Author: James Millward
Publisher: Stanford Univ Pr (1998)
ISBN: 0804729336

Title: Between Mecca and Beijing: Modernization and Consumption among Urban Chinese Muslims
Author: Maris Gillette
Publisher: Stanford Univ. Press (2000)
ISBN: 0804746850

Title: Xinjiang: China's Muslim Borderland (Studies of Central Asia and the Caucasus)
Author: S. Frederick Starr
Publisher: M E Sharpe (2004)
ISBN: 0765613182

Required Reading:

In addition to the above monographs we will be reading a variety of articles. These will generally be available via e-reserve.
Tentative Seminar Schedule

Unit I – Introduction to Islam in China

January 11  - Introductory Meeting
   Reading: No Reading

January 18* - Conceptualizing Islam in China
   Reading: Gladney, *Muslim Chinese: Ethnic Nationalism in the People’s Republic*

January 25* - Islam and Northwest China
   Reading: Starr, Xinjiang: *China’s Muslim Borderlands*

Unit II – Imperial China and Islam

February 1*  - Guest Speaker: James Millward
   Reading: Millward, *Beyond the Pass: Economy, Ethnicity, and Empire in Qing Central Asia*

February 8   - New Trends and Emerging Orthodoxy

February 15* - Yakub Beg
   Reading: Kim, *Holy War in China: The Muslim Rebellion and State in Chinese Central Asia*

February 22 - Muslim Chinese: Which Hui?

March 1*   - Betwixt and Between: Muslim Chinese of Northwest China
   Reading: Lipman, *Familiar Strangers: A History of Muslims in Northwest China*

March 7-11: Spring Break

Unit III – Islam in 20th Century China

March 15*  - Forging a New Identity
   Reading: Gillette, *Between Mecca and Beijing:*

March 22  - Making Minorities: the Muslim Chinese in PR China

March 29  - No Class (Paper topics & Bibliographies due)
   Reading: No Reading

April 5*  - No Class (Schedule Conference with Prof)
   Reading: No Reading

April 12  - No Class (Schedule Conference with Prof)
   Reading: No Reading

April 19  - No Class (Schedule Conference with Prof)
   Reading: No Reading

April 26  - Presentations: Bibliographies and Papers due
   Reading: No Reading
Muslim Chinese book. Read reviews from worldâ€™s largest community for readers. This second edition of Dru Gladney's critically acclaimed study of the Musl...Â Start by marking â€œMuslim Chinese: Ethnic Nationalism in the People's Republicâ€ as Want to Read: Want to Read savingâ€¦ Want to Read. Currently Reading. Read. Other editions. Enlarge cover. Muslim Chinese: Ethnic Na has been added to your Cart. Add to Cart. Buy Now.Â â€œMuslim Chinese is an anthropological study of the Hui based on three years' fieldwork in China and supported by a formidable battery of references, including most of the important scholarship on Hui history, society, and literature that has emerged...A vivid and detailed picture of Hui life and attitudes.â€•China Quarterly. About the Author.Â It covers an important factor in China's political life. It is certainly worth reading by people interested in China's political life; it is a definite factor which can create a chink in China's political life. Read more. Helpful. Muslim Chineseâ€œ Ethnic Nationalism in the People's Republic 2e. ISBN: 9780262570749.Â Chinese nationalism. For the political party, see Chinese Nationalist Party. Chinese nationalism (simplified Chinese: 国民主义; traditional Chinese: 國民主義; pinyin: Zhângguó mÃnzúzhǔyì), sometimes synonymous with Chinese patriotism (simplified Chinese: 爱国主义; pinyin: Àìguó zhǔyì), is referred to by the Chinese government as Chinese nationalism (simplified Chinese: 爱国主义; pinyin: Àìguó zhǔyì). Learn more. Ethnic minorities in China For a list of ethnic groups in China, see List of ethnic groups in China. Ethnolinguistic map of mainland China and Taiwan Ethnic minorities in China are the non Han Chinese population in the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Chinaâ€… Wikipedia. Republic of Macedonia For other uses,