

Religious Nationalism
LeChase 161
T&Th 14:00-15:15
Aaron W. Hughes
Office Hours (zoom): Friday, 12:00-1:00 or by appointment
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Course Description

Recent years have seen a renewed sense of nationalism, only this time tinged with an underlying and powerful religious dimension. This class seeks to illumine this religious nationalism from a comparative perspective. Using an analytical frame, we will examine the historical rise of religious nationalism, its key elements and defining features, before examining a set of particular case studies (e.g., India, Pakistan, Iran, the United States).

Textbooks:

Mark Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*
Peter van der Veer, *Religious Nationalism: Hindus and Muslims in India*
Roy Mottahedeh, *Mantle of the Prophet*

Academic integrity is a fundamental university value. Through the honest completion of academic work, students sustain the integrity of the university while facilitating

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Week One

01/13 Introductions

Week Two

01/18 What is a nation? What is religion?

read: Gellner, *Nations and Nationalism*, 1-7, 52-61, 118-136 (pdf)

01/20 read: Anderson, *Imagined Communities*, 1-46 (pdf)

Week Three

01/25 read: (1) Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, introduction and ch. 1 (1-38)

(2) van der Veer, *Religious Nationalism*, preface (ix-xvi)

01/27 no class

Week Four

02/01 Religion without Nationalism

watch: "The Mission" (2.5 hours)

02/03 Nationalism without Religion

read: on Quebec (pdf)

watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHAOpGv-NQ8> (70 mins)

Week Five

02/08 read: (1) Huntington, <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/system/files/c0007.pdf>
(pp. 3-27)

(2) interesting pairing: (Burg in *Haaretz*)

India

02/10 read: Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, 103-115

watch: Ram Ke Naam (75 mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMT18TMNQbY&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0ovbh4M003ZSL4mKSfLa2HivVSH0R46vbJTmZg3mB6wN20anOSPJRk1p4>)

Week Six

02/15 read: van der Veer, *Religious Nationalism*, 1-24; 56-77

watch: *The World Before Her* (amazon)

interesting pairing: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/11/us/how-white-evangelical-christians-fused-with-trump-extremism.html?fbclid=IwAR2v1rrAJKBeYp5P4JR9HwcWjPSbnAnu0g7ju7N8HeBskMABqsFz1jT2dY0>

02/17 read: van der Veer, *Religious Nationalism*, 79-137

Week Seven

02/22 no class

02/24 read: van der Veer, *Religious Nationalism*, 138-191

watch: Final Solution (2.5 hours)

https://cjp.org.in/final-solution/?fbclid=IwAR1TOPWO3_iGYzyB9XcQum4YMpcVfi3B_SwV6TOTMWEgoX1F9BLv_rwm74Q

Week Eight

Iran

03/01 read: Mottahedeh, *The Mantle of the Prophet*, 7-109

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJzuRf3Pyjk> (43 mins)

03/03 read: Mottahedeh, *The Mantle of the Prophet*, 110-185

watch: watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdsFrwJb8NM> (1 hour)

Week Nine

SPRING BREAK

Week Ten

03/15 read: Mottahedeh, *The Mantle of the Prophet*, 186-268

Watch: Persepolis

03/17 no class

Week Eleven

Middle East

03/22 read: Israel's Declaration of Independence; and
 Hamas Charter

03/24 read: Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, 54-72

Watch: Forever Pure (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Z9eEqctAGI>)

Week Twelve

03/29 read: Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, 193-211

watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wY_URYzvw8&bpctr=1610764550
(1 hour)

03/31 no class

Week Thirteen

America

04/05 Robert N. Bellah, "Civil religion in America" *Daedalus* 96:1 (1967): 1-21

