



Forget English!: Orientalisms and World Literature

By Aamir R. Mufti

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World literature advocates have promised to move humanistic study beyond postcolonial theory and antiquated paradigms of national literary traditions. Aamir Mufti scrutinizes these claims and critiques the continuing dominance of English as both a literary language and the undisputed cultural system of global capitalism.

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Editorial Review

Review

Mufti's historical perspective and insightful analyses of India's anglophone novel generate constant echoes with the realities of anglophone writings in other cultures. (Eva Shan Chou *Times Higher Education* 2016-02-25)

A must read for anyone who is considering and exploring the idea of world literature. (Orhan Pamuk, winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature and author of *The Naive and Sentimental Novelist*)

An intelligently written, fascinating book about a theme of great importance to all scholars of language and literature. (Nuruddin Farah, winner of the Neustadt International Prize for Literature and author of *Maps*)

Aamir Mufti brilliantly elaborates Edward Said's critical itinerary to confront the contrapuntal and contradictory nature of neo-liberal capitalism while questioning the disciplinary claims of world literature. *Forget English!* is a bracing riposte to the frothy fellowship of cultural globalistas who believe that 'the earth is flat' and take the ubiquitous access to Starbucks as a sign of global prosperity and well-being. I warmly recommend *Forget English!* for its critical insight and its political commitment. (Homi Bhabha, author of *The Location of Culture*)

Written with Aamir Mufti's distinctive blend of rigor and clarity, *Forget English!* discusses the politics of world literature from the perspective of the rise of English as a global language?or global English as a mode of imperialism by other means. This is a vital contribution at the intersection of postcolonial, comparative, and world literary studies. (David Damrosch, author of *We Scholars: Changing the Culture of the University*)

Forget English! is a book that won't allow us to forget that the globalized humanities curriculum?dispatched from Euro-America to the world at large in the guise of a user-friendly World Literature?affords a highly problematic example of what Aamir Mufti calls 'one-world thinking.' (Emily Apter, author of *Against World Literature: On the Politics of Untranslatability*)

Mufti's book is in one sense a quarrel with Salman Rushdie's overly enthusiastic celebration of English-language 'postcolonial' South Asian literature, but more important, the book extends, qualifies, and enriches Edward Said's work on Orientalism, demonstrating that despite its promise, world literature does not eliminate the dominant role of the Anglophone book market in shaping South Asian literature. Nested within this persuasive argument is a rich commentary on major topics ranging from translation and unfaithful fidelity to philologist Erich Auerbach, Kashmiri poet Agha Shahid Ali, novelist Tayeb Salih (who wrote in Arabic), and a dozen others. Mufti's book is both accessible and theoretically informed. (K. Tölölyan *Choice*)

About the Author

Aamir R. Mufti is Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Users Review

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Janie Ross:

The event that you get from *Forget English!: Orientalisms and World Literature* may be the more deep you digging the information that hide inside words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to understand but *Forget English!: Orientalisms and World Literature* giving you thrill feeling of reading. The article author conveys their point in particular way that can be understood by simply anyone who read it because the author of this reserve is well-known enough. This particular book also makes your own personal vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go to you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We suggest you for having that *Forget English!: Orientalisms and World Literature* instantly.

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