

SUAD JOSEPH LAB: Media Project  
Representing Muslims and Islam in *The New York Times*: 1851 – 2020.  
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The Middle East and North Africa in U.S. Media Representations: An Analysis of the Term  
"Orient" in *The New York Times* (1900-1909)

This research is part of a larger project, conducted in the lab of Doctor Suad Joseph, that analyzes how the Middle East, Arabs, Muslims and Islam have been represented in *The New York Times* over a 150 year period. I searched the ProQuest *New York Times* Newspaper database for the term "Orient" for the years 1900-1909 which produced 16,759 results. Thus far, I have examined 644 articles from January to April 1900 alone of which 24 are relevant to my research. First, I have found that the term "Orient" was used to generalize Asia and the Middle East into one geographical category. I argue that the civilizations in these regions of the world were grouped together with complete disregard for cultural and religious distinctions. Second, many articles shared the common theme of alienating the "Orient" from the "Occident." In doing so, people of the "Orient" were described in inferior terms and often belittled. Lastly, these articles often insinuated the mistreatment of women in the "Orient," in which the involvement of religion was frequently emphasized.