SUAD JOSEPH LAB: Media Project
Representing Muslims and Islam in *The New York Times*: 1851 – 2020.
University of California, Davis
Undergraduate Research Conference &
Middle East/South Asia Studies Student Research Symposium

Azka Fayyaz 2015 History

The Middle East and North Africa in U.S. Media Representations 1910-1919: Orientalizing and Criminalizing of Armenians and Armenian-Americans

My research explores *The New York Times*' representation of Armenians and Armenian-Americans through the use of newspapers articles from the years 1910-1919. My findings demonstrate that a pattern of negative depiction of Armenians existed during this period of time. I argue that these findings challenge the notion that the NYT was an objective newspaper during that period. To produce these findings, I reviewed 1973 articles under the term "Armenian" in the database ProQuest. Through an in-depth analysis of the relevant articles, I found that Armenians are portrayed as criminals and more broadly as Orients, people of the East and thus inherently different from Occidents or Westerners. Preliminary findings suggest a similar pattern of representation in *The New York Times* of other groups as well. This paper suggests that the criminalization of the Armenians subjects can be seen as a part of the larger pattern of Orientalizing of the Armenians. The NYT thus contributes to the "Othering" of the Armenians. This research is part of a larger project analyzing 150 years of *The New York Times* conducted in the lab of Professor Suad Joseph.