



INTERVENTION NARRATIVES

AFGHANISTAN, THE UNITED STATES,
AND THE
GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

PURNIMA BOSE

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by Purnima Bose

DESCRIPTION

Intervention Narratives examines the contradictory cultural representations of the US intervention in Afghanistan that help to justify an imperial foreign policy. These narratives involve projecting Afghans as brave anti-communist warriors who suffered the consequences of American disengagement with the region following the end of the Cold War, as victimized women who can be empowered through enterprise, as innocent dogs who need to be saved by US soldiers, and as terrorists who deserve punishment for 9/11. Given that much of public political life now involves affect rather than knowledge, feelings rather than facts, familiar recurring tropes of heroism, terrorism, entrepreneurship, and canine love make the war easier to comprehend and elicit sympathy for US military forces. An indictment of US policy, Bose demonstrates that contemporary imperialism operates on an ideologically diverse cultural terrain to enlist support for the war across the political spectrum.

AUTHOR/EDITOR BIOGRAPHY

PURNIMA BOSE is associate professor of English and international studies at Indiana University in Bloomington, and also serves as chairperson of the international studies department. Her publications include *Organizing Empire: Individualism, Collective Agency & India* and co-edited volumes with Laura E. Lyons: *Cultural Critique and the Global Corporation* and a special issue of *Biography* on "Corporate Personhood."

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