Research



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Cockburn, C. The Space Between Us: Negotiating Gender and National Identity in Conflict, Zed Books, London and New York, 1998.

Lindsey, C. The Detention of Women in Wartime, *International Review of Red Cross*, No. 842, June 2001.

Announcement

NEH Summer Institute on Contemporary Islam

We invite all interested college and university teachers, from all disciplines, to apply for the NEH Summer Institute on Diversity and Debates in Contemporary Islam, to be held at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO, June 21 to July 30, 2004. Through discussions, readings, lectures, and film, we will explore the diversity of Muslims social, religious, and intellectual lives around the world. We will bring to Colorado Springs leading scholars of Islam in the Middle East, Asia, Europe and North America, from history, anthropology, and religious studies. No specific prior knowledge or expertise is required. Contact John R. Bowen via email.

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Films

Jenin Jenin

Directed by Mohamed Bakri

'Where is God,' an elderly man desperately wonders when surveying the debris in the Palestinian refugee camp Jenin.

The film, directed and co-produced by Palestinian actor and director Mohammed Bakri, includes testimony from Jenin residents after the Israeli army's Defensive Wall operation, during which the city and camp were the scenes of fierce fighting. The operation ended with Jenin flattened and scores of Palestinians dead. Palestinians as well as numerous human rights groups accused Israel of committing war crimes in the April 2002 attack on the refugee camp. "Jenin Jenin" shows the extent to which

the prolonged oppression and terror has affected the state of mind of the Palestinian inhabitants of Jenin.

Bitterness and grief are the prevailing feelings among the majority of the population. Many have lost loved ones or are still searching for victims and furniture among the debris. A little girl, who does not seem to be much older than twelve, tells her story but knows no fear. The ongoing violence in her day-to-day life only nourishes her feelings of hatred and the urge to take revenge. She tells what she would do to Prime Minister Sharon if he visited the camp and she shouts that the Palestinians will never give up the struggle. They will keep on producing children, who can continue the fight against injustice.

The sad question forces itself on the spectator. What will become of a country, a people when its children are confronted with war and violence from a very early age?

Banned in Israel, "Jenin Jenin" is dedicated to Iyad Samudi, the producer of the film, who returned home to Yamun after the shooting of the film was completed. On June 23, as Israeli forces besieged Yamun, Samudi was shot and killed as he was leaving a military-closed area with three friends.

http://www.arabfilm.com/item/242/

Generation X-Saddam

Directed by Shelley Saywell

On the eve of the 2003 U.S. invasion, filmmaker Shelley Saywell traveled to Iraq to film the lives of ordinary people - especially young Iraqis - who were caught between Saddam's tyranny and a devastated economy (for which they blamed the West).

Now, Saywell returns to find the people she met and interviewed before the war. What happened to them? Have they survived? Have their feelings about Saddam and the U.S. changed, or remained the same?

Traveling from Baghdad to Basra, across the severely damaged country, Saywell visits the ruined university campus, the back streets of Baghdad on night patrol, the blood soaked cells of Abu Graib prison, and the mass graves where mothers search for a scrap of familiar clothing.

Surprisingly, Saywell finds all her protagonists. There are surprises, some ironies, and we hear some things that could not be told while Saddam was in power.

But many anti-American feelings remain. Most pervasive is the sense of desperate confusion, the constant worry about what lies ahead in the dangerous, chaotic life under occupation.

http://www.frif.com/new2003/genx.html