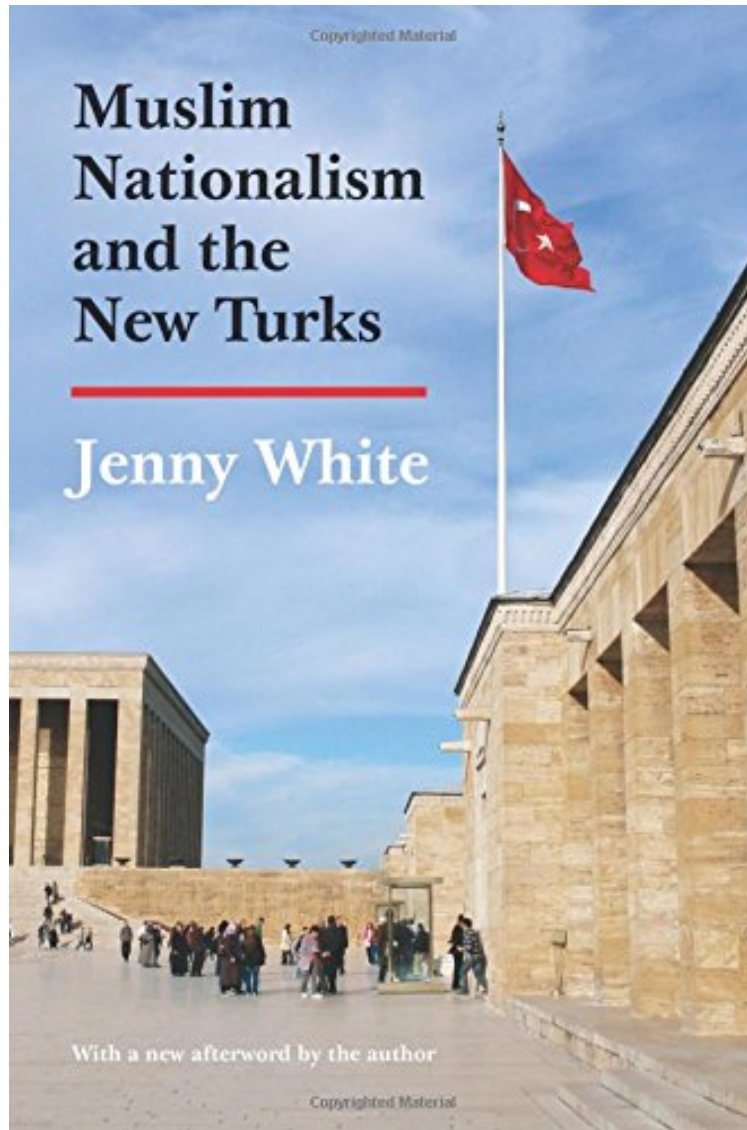


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Jenny White

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#291309 in Books White Jenny 2014-04-27Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.10 x 1.00 x 6.00l, .0 #File Name: 0691161925288 pagesMuslim Nationalism and the New Turks | File size: 66.Mb

Jenny White : Muslim Nationalism and the New Turks (Princeton Studies in Muslim Politics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Muslim Nationalism and the New Turks (Princeton Studies in Muslim Politics):

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Providces background for understanding current events in TurkeyBy Paul DurrenbergerThis is an insightful analysis of the current political/cultural situation in Turkey that people in

Europe and the U.S. know only via highly selective press treatment if at all. When the Prime Minister wanted to build in the last green space in Istanbul, protesters halted construction. Police cleared away the protesters. The protesters gathered again. Police methods became progressively more brutal as the demonstrations grew and then started in other towns and cities throughout Turkey. What was behind it? The press were baffled or offered little in the way of convincing explanations. White, in this sequel to her two previous books on Turkey, offers an insightful understanding, written before the demonstrations started. The Third Republic (since 1923), opened Turkey to the world and to the market and removed government controls of a number of enterprises. In the wake of this, there grew a group of successful businessmen who could finance new patterns of consumption, no less market based, based on Islamic notions. At the same time, identity itself became a commodity, something one could choose from a number of models offered--the Kemalist secularist, the conservative Islamist, some kind of Turkish Islam less influenced by the Arabian world, or the pre-republic Ottoman identity. People could mix and match elements and elect an Ottoman style house with a modified Turkish dress style for women. With the new openness arose the AK party, originally Islamist but progressively modified at the insistence of the Army and Courts that stood watch over Atatürk's legacy of a democratic republic. When they won a third election, AKP began to re-define the shape of the Republic by purges of the courts and the Army. AKP won, but by only a slim majority. That meant that a good half of the voters did not support them. Half of the people in Turkey are under 30 years of age and searching for meaningful identities in the new marketplace of identity. While many have benefited from AKP policies and reforms, many have not or have suffered. A number of journalists languish in prison, and dissidents are in exile or in prison. In all of these elements, one sees the seething unrest that recently boiled over into the streets of Turkish cities. The whole world watches to see how these issues will be resolved. A new election is scheduled in about a year.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Unique Work
By yorz This is a stimulating and profound work by an author who knows her topic inside out. Professor White does an admirable job of disentangling the intricate threads of modern-day Turkish society and politics, all informed by a real empathy for her subjects. The treatment of the status of women in Turkey today seems especially insightful and original. Don't be put off by the bits of academic jargon sprinkled throughout, especially at the beginning - this book is the real deal and a must read for anyone with a serious interest in the Turkish scene.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good argument, worst methodology.
By Faruk Seref One of the worst Turkey ethnographies ever. There is actually no ethnography. She rather trusts her experience in Turkish politics but totally failed at interpreting lots of issues. I actually agree with her main argument that the mainstream Islamists in Turkey have become more nationalist and have better relation with the Turkish state recently, but her methodology and some keywords she chose made it really not trustworthy at all.

Turkey has leapt to international prominence as an economic and political powerhouse under its elected Muslim government, and is looked on by many as a model for other Muslim countries in the wake of the Arab Spring. In this book, Jenny White reveals how Turkish national identity and the meanings of Islam and secularism have undergone radical changes in today's Turkey, and asks whether the Turkish model should be viewed as a success story or a cautionary tale. This provocative book traces how Muslim nationalists blur the line between the secular and the Islamic, supporting globalization and political liberalism, yet remaining mired in authoritarianism, intolerance, and cultural norms hostile to minorities and women. In a new afterword, White analyzes the latest political developments, particularly the mass protests surrounding Gezi Park, their impact on Turkish political culture, and what they mean for the future.

One of ForeignAffairs.com's Best International Relations Books in the Best Books on the Middle East category for 2012 "[E]xcellent. . . . White makes a number of nuanced arguments, most significantly about the secularization of Turkish Islam and what she terms the sanctification of its secular sphere."--Kaya Gen, Los Angeles of Books "[P]iercing and original analysis."--Economist "[A] deeply insightful book. . . . [T]he writing is . . . clear and straightforward, and the book is chock-full of rich tidbits from Turkish society. . . . Filled with insight, Muslim Nationalism and the New Turks is sure to become a leading text for those looking to read the Turkish tea leaves."--David Lipeska, The National "Even for those already familiar with contemporary Turkey, this sometimes disturbing book will be an eye opener"--John Waterbury, Foreign Affairs "This anthropological work is grounded in a deep knowledge of Turkey, nourished by White's successive long stays and periods of fieldwork in the country; yet it is also a judicious compilation of key secondary sources."--Clarence Scalbert-Yucel, Times Higher Education "Jenny White has provided readers with insightful and nuanced access to the complexities of Turkish society and a first look at a newly emerging class of individualist Muslim nationalists."--Zeynep Kosereisoglu, Muftah "[T]his is a good book worth reading by those concerned with Turkey and broader issues of democratic transitions in the Muslim world."--Hurriyet Daily News "In this multilayered, theoretically sophisticated, and analytically rich examination of the contradictions and convergences found in contemporary expressions of 'Turkishness,' especially with respect to Muslim and secular forms of nationalisms, White offers an interpretation that reinforces Barth's emphasis on pluralism, choice, and negotiation, while also demonstrating greater understanding and synthesis of the constraints of

gender, class, ethnicity, and religion."--Choice

"It's a reviewer's job both to critique the book at hand and to detail and summarize its most salient points. It's a tribute to Boston University anthropologist Jenny White's excellent *Muslim Nationalism and the New Turks* that it makes the latter extremely difficult to do, simply by doing justice to the enormous complexity of Turkish society."--William Armstrong, *Hurriyet Daily News*

From the Inside Flap "Few questions are more urgent, especially since the eruption of the Arab Spring, than whether there is a 'Turkish model' for combining Islam with democracy. White's book, the culmination of many years of research, provides a magisterial guide to the complex reality behind this question. The book is must reading for scholars, members of the policy community, and educated citizens concerned with the interplay of religion and politics in the contemporary world."--Peter L. Berger, Boston University

"White's book is a bold and flawless analysis of the new Turkey's collective unconscious. This exceptional work must be read not only by Western observers but also by the Turks themselves."--Moris Farhi, author of *Young Turk*

"Innovative and original, this is a very important and insightful analysis of contemporary Turkish discourses on what it means to be Turkish and a member of the Turkish nation. White makes the significant argument that the divide in Turkey is not between secularism and religion, but rather is a struggle over what is sacred to the nation and where the boundaries of national identity should be drawn."--Marc Baer, author of *The Dnme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks*

"Turkey is a country of contradictions, and very few authors have managed to paint so complex a picture of it as White. It is a nation where the secular elite has dogmatically made war on all things Islamic, yet this same elite embraces a Turkish nationalism rooted in the Islamic religion. This is a well-written, engaging, and smart book about contemporary Turkey, one that will be widely read and discussed."--Henri J. Barkey, Lehigh University

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