

Muslim Representation in American Literature Post 9/11

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The post-traumatic aftermath of 9/11 has been portrayed in many fields including political analyses, documentaries, film and memoirs. Several novels have also recently appeared which deal directly with the effect of the September 11 attacks on individuals, in or outside of the United States. Though, the novels often claim to deal with post- traumatic aftermath of the incident, the writers regularly use the Oreintalist sterotyping and it seems that the after 9/11 this attitudes toward Muslims and Arabs have hardened and streghten the old Orientalist discourse; in words of Said: “as so far as the United States seems to be concerned, it is only a slight overstatement to say that Moslems and Arabs are essentially seen as either oil suppliers or potential terrorists”. Considering the fact that mass media generally and literature in this case specifically, has a significant effect on shaping people's knowledge, attitude and interest toward a subject and that the novels produced in this genres such as John Updike’s *Terrorist* were often best sellers and have received positive reviews, this paper examines the way in which a number of US fiction writers have responded to 9/11 attacks and how Muslims and their ideologies are represented in the novels.

Key Words: 9/11, Orientalism, Representation, Ideology, Literature.