



دانشکده مطالعات جهان

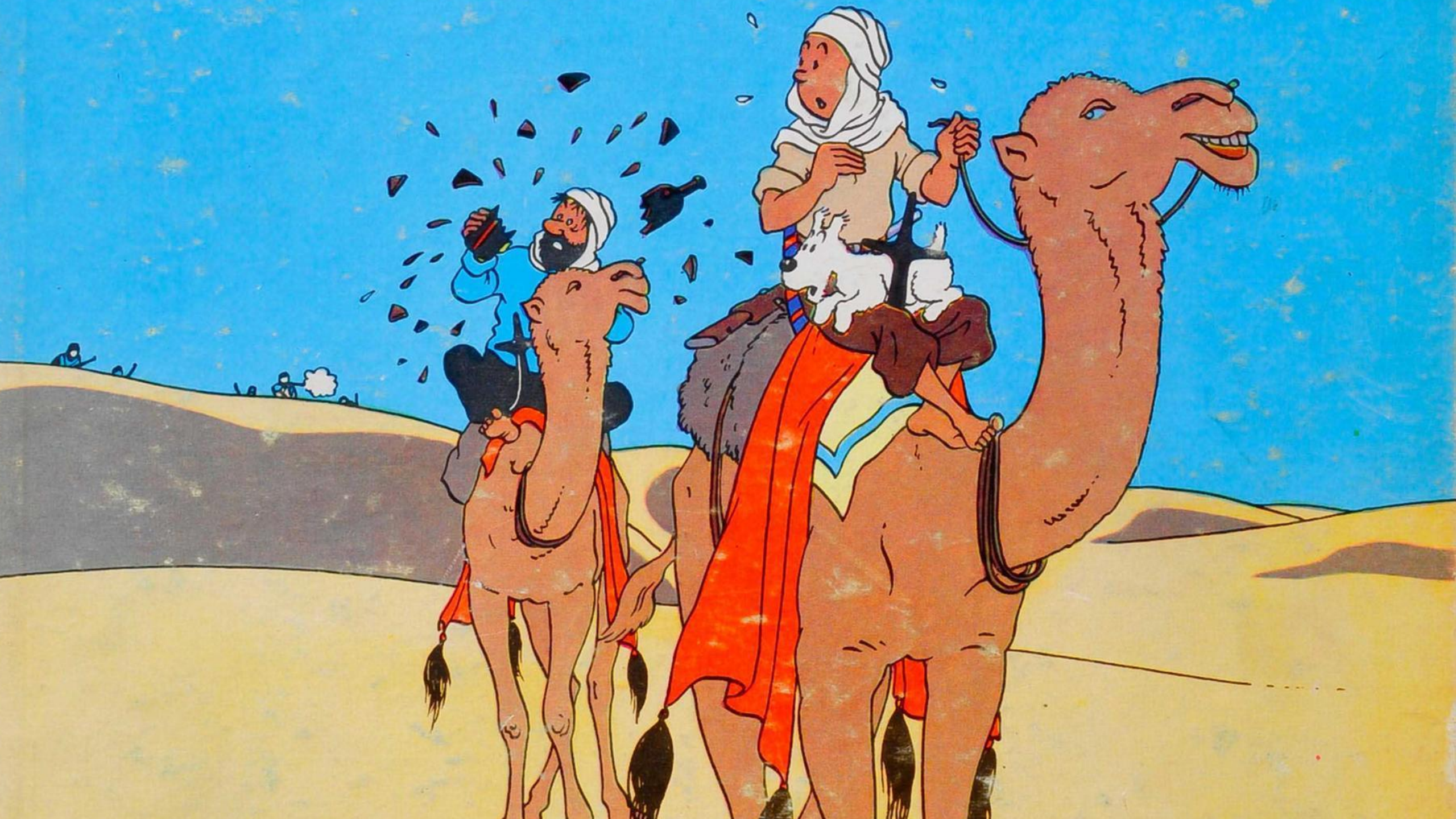
Orientalism

Department of Europe Studies – British Studies

FWS, University of Tehran

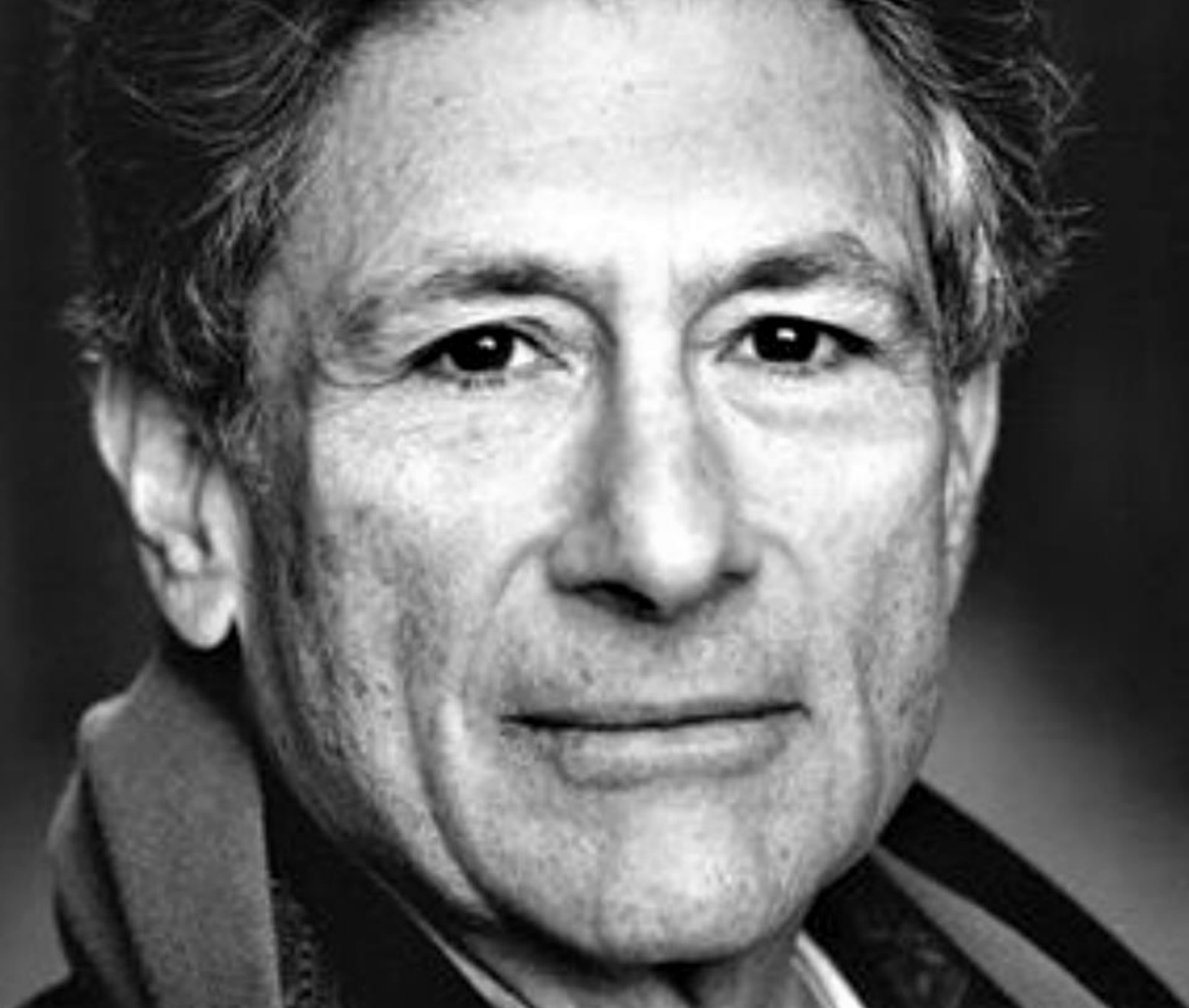
Sasan Karim, PhD.







Orientalism vs. شرقشناسی

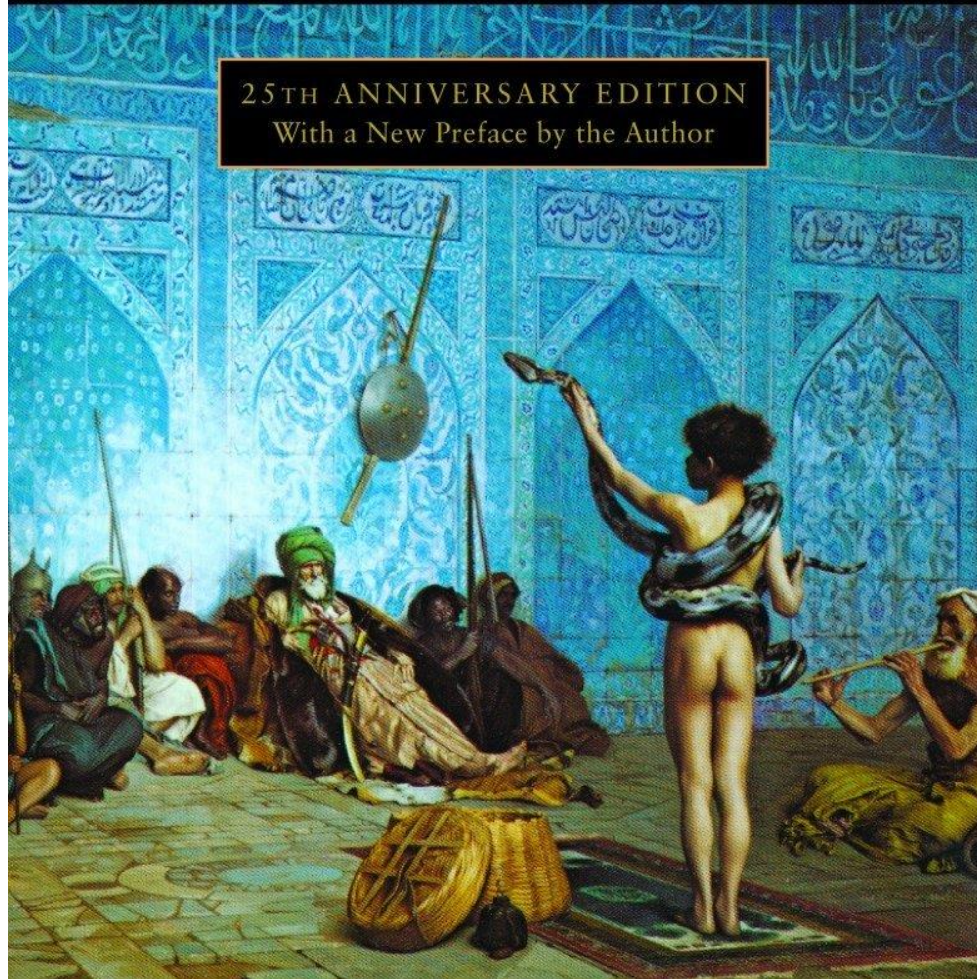


“Intellectual history on a high order . . . and very exciting.” —*The New York Times*

EDWARD W. SAID

Orientalism

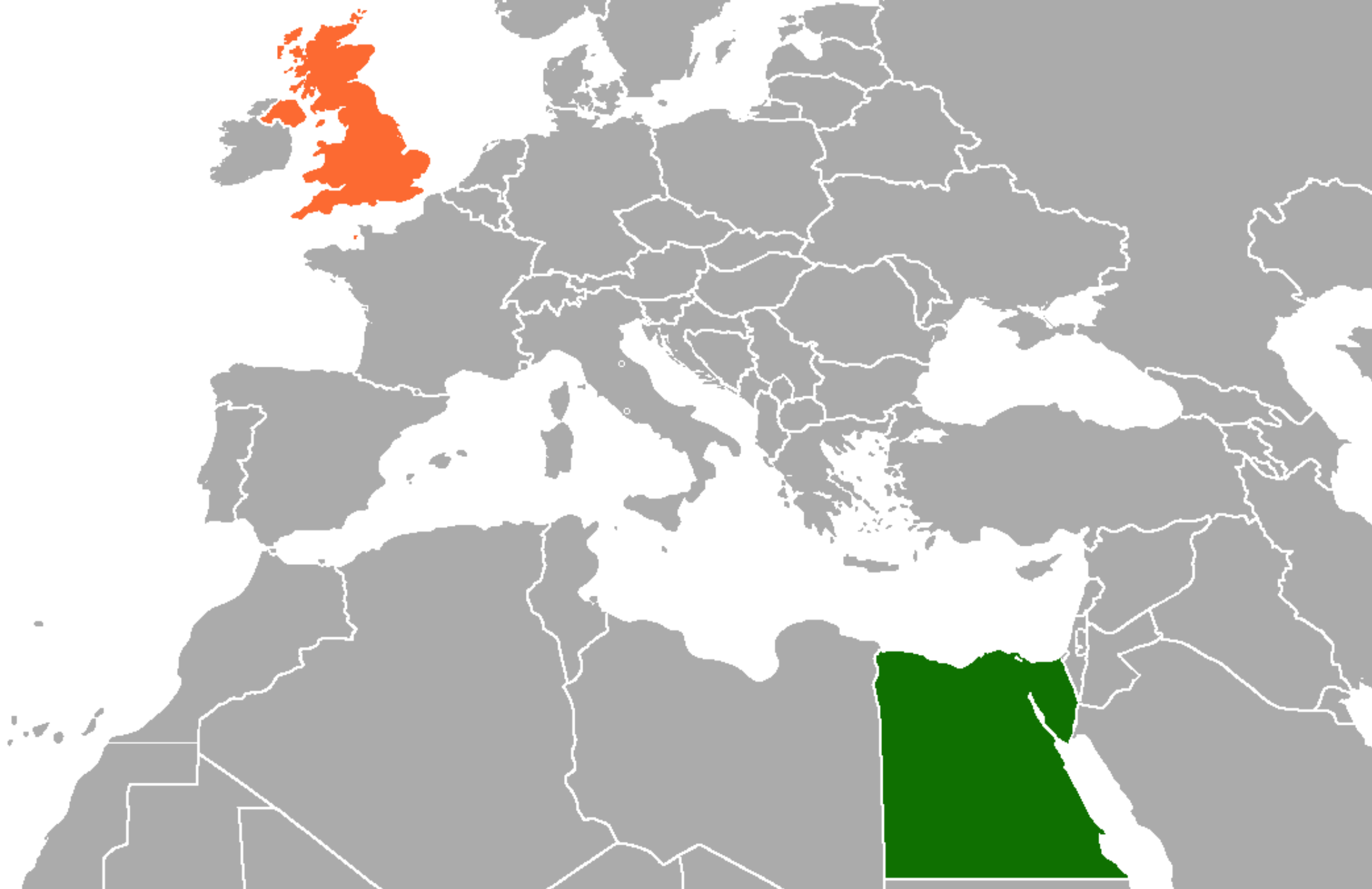
25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION
With a New Preface by the Author



دانشگاه مطالعات جهان



Sir Arthur James Balfour
13th June 1910





CLASSIC REPRINT SERIES

ENGLAND IN EGYPT



by
Sir Alfred Milner

Forgotten Books



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"What right have you to take up these airs of superiority with regard to people whom you choose to call Oriental?"

“I take up no attitude of superiority. But I ask [Robertson and anyone else) ... who has even the most superficial knowledge of history, if they will look in the face the facts with which a British statesman has to deal when he is put in a position of supremacy over great races like the inhabitants of Egypt and countries in the East. We know the civilization of Egypt better than we know the civilization of any other country. We know it further back; we know it more intimately; we know more about it. It goes far beyond the petty span of the history of our race, which is lost in the prehistoric period at a time when the Egyptian civilization had already passed its prime. Look at all the Oriental countries. Do not talk about superiority or inferiority.” [Sir Arthur James Balfour]



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Knowledge and Power

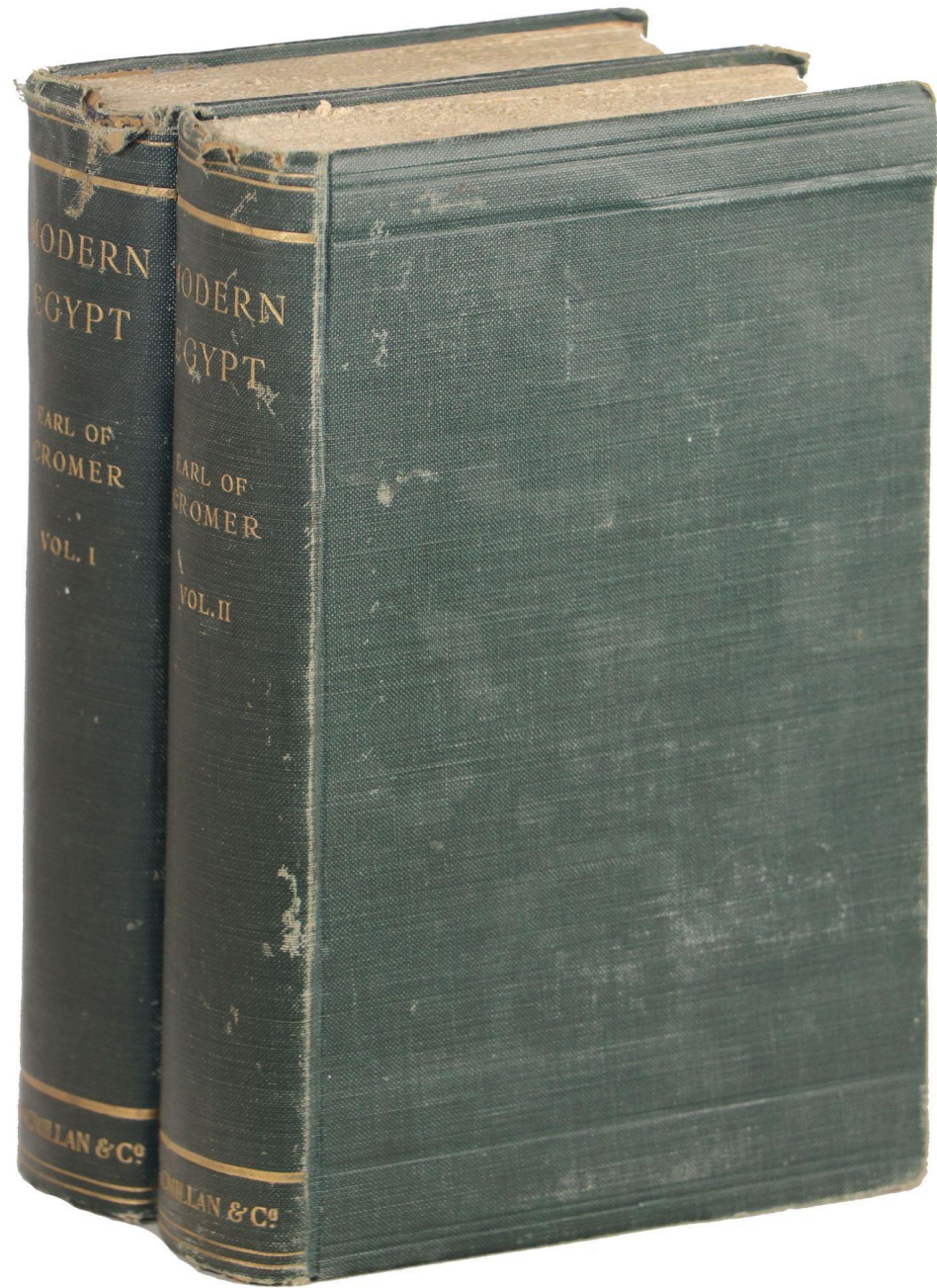
Baconian themes

Supremacy in his mind is associated with "our" knowledge of Egypt and not principally with military or economic power.

There are **Westerners**, and there are **Oriental**s. The former dominate; the latter must be dominated, which usually means having their land occupied, their internal affairs rigidly controlled, their blood and treasure put at the disposal of one or another Western power. That Balfour and Cromer, as we shall soon see, could strip humanity down to such ruthless cultural and racial essences was not at all an indication of their particular viciousness. Rather it was an indication of how streamlined a general doctrine had become by the time they put it to use how streamlined and effective.



Sir Cormer



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“Accuracy is abhorrent to the Oriental mind. Every Anglo-Indian should always remember that maxim." Want of accuracy, which easily degenerates into untruthfulness, is in fact the main characteristic of the Oriental mind.”

The Oriental is irrational, depraved (fallen), childlike, "different"; thus the European is rational, virtuous, mature, "normal." But the way of enlivening the relationship was everywhere to stress the fact that the Oriental lived in a different but thoroughly organized world of his own,



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Orientalism as Objects

The West was concerned during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, an assumption had been made that the Orient and everything in it was, if not patently inferior to, then in need of corrective study by the West. The Orient was viewed as if framed by the classroom, the criminal court, the prison, the illustrated manual. Orientalism, then, is knowledge of the Orient that places things Oriental in class, court, prison, or manual for scrutiny, study, judgment, discipline, or governing.



European Colonialism

1815 – 1914

35% → 85%





What they shared, however, was not only land or profit or rule; it was the kind of **intellectual power** I have been calling Orientalism.

Orientalism has been subjected to imperialism, positivism, utopianism, historicism, Darwinism, racism, Freudianism, Marxism, Spenglerism.



- The Societe asiatique,
- The Royal Asiatic Society,
- The Deutsche Morgenlandische Gesellschaft,
- The American Oriental Society.

Orientalism as a form of thought for dealing with the foreign has typically shown the altogether regrettable tendency of any knowledge based on such hard-and-fast distinctions as "East" and "West":





Domestic Structure & Foreign Policy

Binary opposition method

the prophetic and the political foreign policy

Contemporary world: developed and developing

West

Deeply committed to the notion that the real world is external to the observer, that knowledge consists of recording and classifying data-the more accurately the better.

Post-Newtonian revolution

“Construct an international order *before* a crisis imposes it as a Necessity”

Rational, peaceful, liberal, logical, capable of holding real values,
without natural suspicion;

The latter are none of these things



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End of session#2