

The Muslim World Working Group presents:
Symposium: Understanding the Arab Spring

March 23, 2012, 3:00pm

Young Library Auditorium



The Arab Spring: Are the Islamists Coming?

Professor Asef Bayat, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois &
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Abstract:

The Arab Spring with its largely civil, peaceful, and immensely popular character surprised many experts and lay observers. But an intense debate continues about the ideological underpinnings of the Arab Revolutions. Are they liberal, democratic, religious, or simply non-ideological revolutions? The recent remarkable success of religious parties in the polls in Morocco, Tunisia, and Egypt has begun to cause anxiety among those who feared of these revolutions as spearheading an Islamist takeover of the Arab world. Do these revolutions herald the entrenchment of Islamist politics in the Middle Eastern societies and states? The lecture attempts to address this question.

Commentaries:

Ihsan Bagby, Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of Kentucky

Hsain Ilahiane, Anthropology, University of Kentucky

Diane King, Anthropology, University of Kentucky

The event will be followed by a reception.



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This event is free and open to the public. For information: Please contact Ihsan Bagby, email: iabagb2@uky.edu