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THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES PRESENTS
THE FOURTH ANNUAL SIDDIQI LECTURE IN ISLAMIC STUDIES

Race, Islam, and the African Diaspora

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 24, 2017 at 5:30 PM
JAMES R. COX AUDITORIUM,
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LECTURE SUMMARY
In his lecture, Professor Curtis will address issues of global anti-black racism in the African Diaspora, with a focus on Islamic ritual practices that utilize ideas of Black/African identity. He will compare the practices of African American Muslims in the United States to those of the Ghawarna of Jordan, the Stambeli of Tunis, and the Siddis of Gujarat. An association between black identity and healing can be a powerful antidote to racism. Curtis argues, however, that if modern and reformist versions of Islam deny the Islamic authenticity of such practices, this may get in the way of racial healing.

PROGRAM
OPENING REMARKS
Rosalind I. J. Hackett
Professor and Head of Religious Studies

WELCOME
Carolyn Hodges
Professor and Chair of the Africana Studies program

SPEAKER INTRODUCTION
Manuela Ceballos
Religious Studies

EDWARD E. CURTIS, IV
“Race, Islam, and the African Diaspora”

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

CLOSING REMARKS
Nadeem Siddiqi

RECEPTION

THE 2017 SIDDIQI LECTURER:
Edward E. Curtis IV, Millennium Chair of the Liberal Arts and professor of religious studies at the Indiana University School of Liberal Arts in Indianapolis, is author or editor of 10 books about Muslim American and African American studies, including Muslim Americans in the Military: Centuries of Service and Muslims in America: A Short History. He is the recipient of Carnegie, Fulbright, Mellon, and National Endowment for the Humanities fellowships and grants.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS
• The Call of Bilal: Islam in the African Diaspora (2014)
• Encyclopedia of Muslim-American History (2010)
• Muslims in America: A Short History (2009)
• Islam in Black America (2002)
• “For American Muslims, Everything Did Not Change after 9/11,” Religion and Politics, July 5, 2012