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Front Matter

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FOREWORD

September 11, 2021 marked the twentieth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. We mourn the loss of 2,996 innocent lives taken on that day.

In an effort to do justice for those killed, the resulting “War on Terror” has subjected innocent Muslims, Arab Americans, and South Asians to targeted government surveillance and attacks. Through this series we hope to shed light on the enduring trauma faced by people of color in the aftermath of 9/11.

This collection of essays explores and analyzes the racist and discriminatory policies and practices implemented by the U.S. government’s misplaced and sometimes malicious effort to seek justice after 9/11. We aim to give voice to the stories and narratives of those who have been victimized and marginalized.

“Systemic rights violations of minority communities is not a uniquely post-9/11 phenomenon. Whether it is our nation’s original sins of African enslavement and near extermination of Native Americans or targeting Black dissidents and anti-war activists in the 20th century, the underlying causes traverse time. Only when we learn our history through the experiences of the subordinated can we finally dismantle the laws and policies that collectively punish minorities our government decides are the next scapegoat.” – Sahar Aziz

Sincerely,

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