First Nationalism Then Identity

On Bosnian Muslims and Their Bosniak Identity

A volume in the Ethnic Conflict: Studies in Nationality, Race, and Culture series

First Nationalism Then Identity focuses on the case of Bosnian Muslims, a rare historic instance of a new nation emerging. Although for Bosnian Muslims the process of national emergence and the assertion of a new salient identity have been going on for over two decades, Mirsad Kriještorac is the first to explain the significance of the whole process and how the adoption of their new Bosniak identity occurred. He provides a historical overview of Yugoslav and Bosnian Slavic Muslims' transformation into a full-fledged distinct and independent national group as well as addresses the important question in the field of nationalism studies about the relationship between and workings of nationalism and identity. While this book is noteworthy for ordinary readers interested in the case of Bosnian Muslims, it is an important contribution to the scholarly debate on the role of nationalism in the political life of a group and adds an interdisciplinary perspective to comparative politics scholarship by drawing from anthropology, history, geography, and sociology.

Mirsad Kriještorac is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Broward College.

- "This book constitutes a significant contribution to our academic understanding of Bosnia, the Bosniaks, and the former Yugoslavia, and will be of interest to scholars and students of memory, nationhood, nationalism, and identity."
- -Marko Attila Hoare, Sarajevo School of Science and Technology
- "This is a welcome academic study, which focuses on the important topic of nationalism among Bosniaks, provides a comprehensive historical account of the relevant developments, and presents an analysis of an original dataset."
- -Renat Shaykhutdinov, Florida Atlantic University



