

"Sangarasivam's *Nationalism, Terrorism, Patriotism: A Speculative Ethnography of War* invites us to read the poetics of terror as a place of cultural value; a site where nationalism, patriotism, white supremacy, imperial politics, soldiers, insurgents, and ordinary men and women caught in the webs of racialized colonial domination all intersect in violence. The book is autobiographical, reflexive, wonderfully pluralistic, and relentless in its critique. I find it a breath of fresh air for the critical study of security and terrorism."

—**Dr. Jacob Stump**, Department of International Studies, DePaul University, Chicago, USA

"Yamuna Sangarasivam shows how the conjoined demands of nationalism and patriotism give birth to terrorism. This is an experiment in refusal, speculative imagining, writing/living - urgent and profoundly necessary. Where does terror begin and end? In a searing work defying the conventions of anthropological ethnography, a vast palimpsest of terrors emerges. Urging alternative possibilities of collective existence, Sangarasivam challenges us to defy the dehumanization of 'terrorists' lest we lose what remains of our own humanity."

—**Dr. Elizabeth Chin**, Editor-in-Chief for *American Anthropologist*, the Journal of the American Anthropological Association, and Professor of Media Design Practices at Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA, USA

This book examines the intersecting forces of nationalism, terrorism, and patriotism that normalize an acceptance of the global war on terror as essential to maintaining freedom and democracy as defined by white nation-states. Readers are introduced to speculative ethnography: an experimental methodology that bends time and space through the practice of avant-garde poetics. This study conceptualizes terrorism as a place of colonial encounters between soldiers, insurgents, civilians, and leaders of nation-states. The tactics of suicide bombings employed by the Tamil nationalist movement, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, are juxtaposed with drone strikes in asymmetric warfare where violence becomes a means of dialogue. Each chapter weaves seemingly disparate narratives from multiple experiences and sites of war, inviting readers to witness the condition of getting lost in that willful attachment to killing and being killed in service of patriotic pride and national belonging.

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