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Guns, culture and moors : racial stereotypes and the cultural impact of the Moroccan participation in the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939)

Tuma, A. al

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About the author

Ali Al Tuma (Karbala, Iraq, 1979) spent several years of his early life in Spain. After moving to The Netherlands he studied at Leiden University where he received his bachelor degree in history. His bachelor thesis focused on the daily lives of soldiers in the Iraqi Army in the period 1980-1991. He went on to complete his master at the same university, writing about the motives behind the enlistment of the Moroccan troops in the Spanish Army during the Spanish Civil War. He worked as a translator before receiving an NWO research grant to write a PhD thesis. He has published articles in Dutch and in English on the histories of Morocco and the Spanish Civil War in: *War & Society; The Journal of North African Studies* and *ZemZem: Tijdschrift over het Midden-Oosten, Noord-Afrika en islam*. He also published chapters in three edited volumes, including: *Colonial Soldiers, 1914-1945. "Aliens in Uniform" in Wartime Societies* (Routledge 2016) which he co-edited with Eric Storm. In 2015 he won the Sharjah Award for Arabic Creativity (UAE) for a historical play on the Moroccan troops of the Spanish Civil War, titled *Yusuf Melik Ispanya* (Yusuf King of Spain).

