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Seven Pashas for Ceylon, or Exile and the Limits of Muslim Community

This presentation, taken from a chapter of my forthcoming book, *Islam under Empire*, revisits the story of the exile of seven demoted Egyptian military leaders exiled to Colombo with their families in 1883. First focusing on British anxieties about their potential for stirring up the island's Muslim communities, it tracks their relative integration while not losing sight of the disagreements that saw the famous Ahmad Urabi both lauded and loathed before his eventual return to Cairo. In the process, too, it asks just what the Muslim community was, and where the Malays, once praised as the most loyal of imperial subjects, figured in the story.