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JAMES PICKETT, Associate Professor of History at the University of Pittsburgh, focuses on empire and Islam as entangled sources of authority, with particular attention to historical memory and state formation. His first book, *Polymaths of Islam: Power and Networks of Knowledge in Central Asia*, appeared in 2020. His next book project compares Bukhara's transformation into a Russian protectorate with the Indian princely state of Hyderabad's parallel trajectory into semi-colonial status.