



'Theoretically astute, lucidly written and argued with rigour and impeccable logic, this wide-ranging magisterial synthesis is indispensable reading for anybody concerned with war and peace, colonialism and post-colonialism, indigenous rights, contemporary land-grabbing, debates over sovereignty, agricultural development, social justice movements, environmental conservation or the human future.'

Marc Edelman, City University of New York

'Chinese planning ecotourist resorts in Iceland, Saudi Arabians planting rice in sub-Saharan Africa and South Koreans raising cattle in Australia? In *Land*, Derek Hall explains how and why these unfamiliar associations may soon become the new norm. The explanation rests on the contention that land and its control are as fundamental as ever to national and international geopolitics, transnational trade and human survival.'

Nancy Lee Peluso, University of California, Berkeley

'This book is essential reading for an overview of the complex yet crucial dynamics pertaining to land use and conflict, from the local to the global.'

Kurt Schock, Rutgers University

'An excellent overview of a very complicated set of issues. Particularly impressive is Hall's ability to maintain a conceptual framework while providing good analysis and rich empirical detail.'

Wendy Wolford, Cornell University

Land is one of the world's most emotionally resonant resources, and control over it is fundamental to almost all human activity. From the local level to the global, we are often in conflict over the ground beneath our feet. But because human relationships to land are so complex, it can be difficult to think them through in a unified way. This path-breaking book aims to change that by combining insights from multiple disciplines to develop a framework for understanding the transnational relations of land today.

Struggles over land, argues Derek Hall, relate to three basic issues: land's role as territory, its status as property and the ways in which its use is regulated. This timely introduction explores key dimensions of these themes, including interstate wars over territory, the efforts of non-governmental organizations to protect property rights and environments in the global South, and the 'land grabs' attempted by contemporary corporations and governments. Drawing on a wide range of cases and examples – from the Afghanistan–Pakistan border to the Canadian Arctic, China's urban fringe to rural Honduras – the book provides new ways of thinking about the political dynamics of land in the twenty-first century.

This richly detailed and authoritative guide will be of interest to students across the social sciences, as well as anyone interested in current affairs and contemporary geopolitics.

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Contents

	<i>Figures and Tables</i>	vi
	<i>Acronyms</i>	vii
	<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
1	Introduction	1
2	Interstate Struggles	23
3	Frontiers	52
4	Land Booms	82
5	Titling and Conservation	112
6	Social Movements	139
7	Conclusion	167
	<i>Selected Readings</i>	175
	<i>Notes and References</i>	181
	<i>Index</i>	192