The land between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan Valley has been one of the most disputed territories in history. Since the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948, Palestinians and Israelis have each sought claim to the national identity of the land through various martial, social and scientific tactics, but no method has offered as much legitimacy and national controversy as that of the map. *The Politics of Maps* delves beneath the battlefield to unearth the cartographic strife behind the Israel/Palestine conflict. Blending science and technology studies, sociology, and geography with a host of archival material, in-depth interviews and ethnographies, this book explores how the geographical sciences came to be entangled with the politics, territorial claim-making, and nation-state building of Israel/Palestine.

**Features**

- Offers the first systematic analysis of critical cartography, with historical context, in Israel/Palestine
- Includes interview with cartographers that speak first-hand about the designing of maps in complex territories
- Analyzes the role of maps in constituting a national identity in an intractable conflict

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