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Description

Disputes over land are an enduring feature of African politics. Although many of these issues are not new, they change continuously and are extremely complex and embedded. This may lead to the inability to deal with such issues and, subsequently, to questions about the legitimacy of the forms of intervention and prevention of conflicts. The ways in which these issues are dealt with often do not take into consideration this complexity of their major and thus potentially recurring causes. The Struggle over Land in Africa: Conflicts, Politics and Change is a compelling book which analyses the role of land as a place and source of conflict, especially with regard to policy development, crisis management and post-war/post-conflict reconstruction. The authors’ main aim is to gain insight into the nature of policy-making concerning land and to delve into the underlying causes of these land issues, not only at national level but also in terms of broader Africa. The book covers land issues in Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, northern Cameroon, Namibia, Mozambique, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Some of the themes explored in this powerful volume include: Ethnic and indigenous land conflicts, Traditionalism versus modernity, renewed land interests, land use and conflict, state building, politics and land (for example Agricultural land reform); land policy development, planning, inclusiveness/non-inclusiveness; regional scopes of land conflicts and changing norms.

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