

Israeli Nationalism

The question of nationalism centres around the political, social, and cultural ways by which the concept and practice of a nation is constructed, and what it means to its various bearers. This book examines the issue of Israeli nationalism, combining a sociological study of national culture with a detailed analysis of Israeli intellectual discourse. The book thus deciphers the politics of knowledge of “Israeli nationalism”.

Taking an interdisciplinary approach, the author explores the categories of thought that constitute the Jewish-Israeli “nation” as an historical entity, as a social reality and as a communal identity. Unraveling the ways in which Israeli nationhood, society, and identity had been assumed as immutable, monolithic, and closely bound objects by Zionist ideology and scholarship, he then explores how in recent times such approaches have become subject to an array of critical discourses, both in the academic disciplines of history, sociology, and cultural studies, and also in the wider sphere of Israeli identity discourse.

This unique study of the issue of Israeli nationalism will be of great interest to students and scholars of Israeli Studies, Middle East Studies, and Jewish History, as well as those working in the fields of Sociology, Political Science, History and Cultural Studies with an interest in nationalism, citizenship, social theory, and historiography.

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