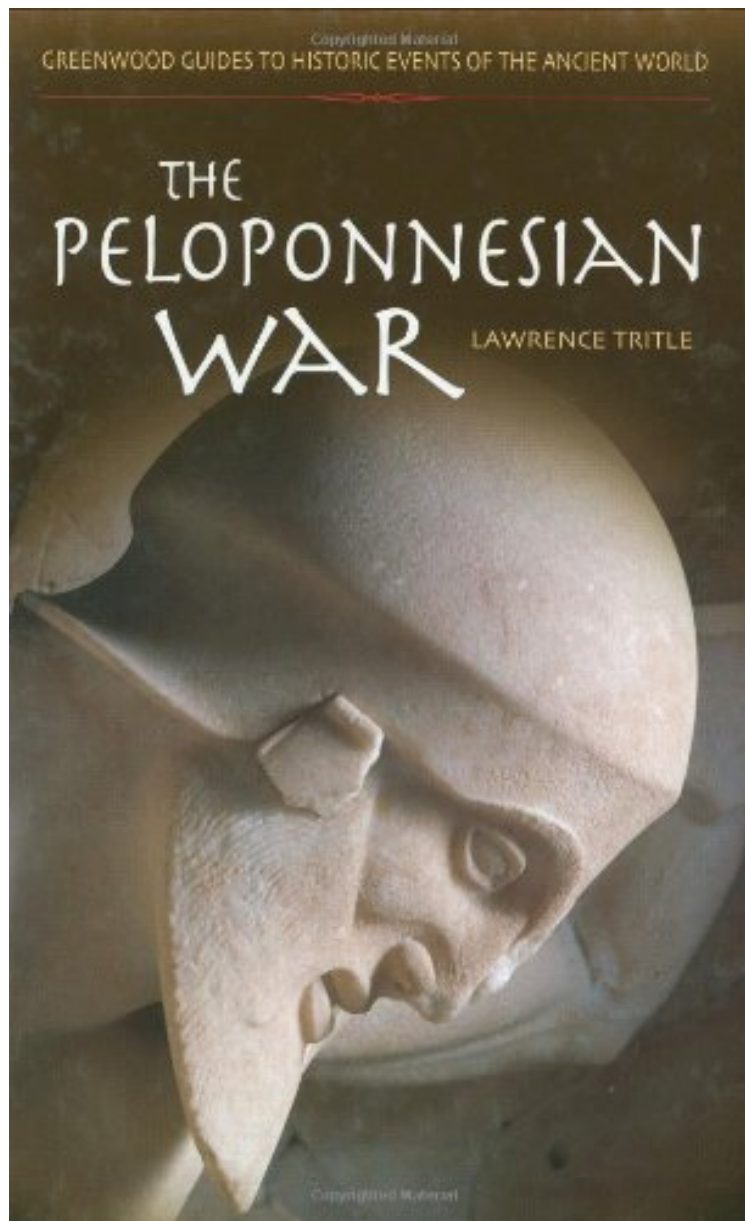


(Mobile book) The Peloponnesian War (Greenwood Guides to Historic Events of the Ancient World)

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Von Lawrence Tritle

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Von Lawrence Tritle : The Peloponnesian War (Greenwood Guides to Historic Events of the Ancient World) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Peloponnesian War (Greenwood Guides to Historic Events of the Ancient World):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Those who forget the past... Von FrKurt MessickWhen I first began to study political science, I encountered a man who had a passion for Thucydides, the great Athenian historian, one of the earliest commentators on politics in the world, and one of the earliest international correspondents. This man, Robert Hattery, from whom I learned more about political science than anyone else, impressed upon me several important truths about politics, but one of the most lasting is that much of that which we see in the world today has antecedents in the past in amazing parallel - it is possible to take the writings of Thucydides and simply change the names of the people and places and get fairly accurate accounts of many of the major wars and diplomatic situations throughout the subsequent history, even into our own time. A lot of the material in this book of the Greenwood Guides to Historic Events of the Ancient World comes directly or indirectly from Thucydides. Author Lawrence Tritle even entitled the second essay 'Thucydides Explains the Causes of War' - this is not just an exposition on the causes of the Peloponnesian War, but can be applied more generally as a political analysis of warfare and international relations generally. As Tritle states, Thucydides most likely did not envision the Peloponnesian War as being what at the time would have constituted a world war, and one that would last for 27 years. The Aegean civilisation was a centre of civilisation at the time, and had contacts (and thus, spread the warfare) as far west as Sicily and Tunisia and as far east as Persia, and as far south as Egypt. The Peloponnesian War can be divided into smaller wars: the Archidamian War was the first, and lasted ten years. It ended with the peace of Nikias, in which Athens and Sparta, the two local superpowers, declared a peace that was unsettling and unsatisfactory to the rest of the players, local and distant. Eventually tensions gave way to the Ionian War, a longer lasting phase that saw not only the destruction of countless villages, many major cities and armies, but also caused civil wars and strife. The Peloponnesian War is much less well known than its more legendary counterpart, the Trojan War (there is a Greenwood Guide available for this war, too). As Tritle states in his preface, 'Homer's war as described in the Iliad was mythic, whereas Thucydides' war was real. Homer's war explained events with tales of divine intervention; Thucydides did the same with reason and rationality.' As often happens during major wars, there are cultural advances that are unmistakable. The major architectural features of Athens that still gather in tourists were built during this time - the reign of Perikles was the start of a golden age for the arts, literature, philosophy, and economic and military expansion for Athens (and such economic and military expansion almost always comes at the price of warfare). Despite the nominal ideas of democracy in Athens at the time, slavery and other disenfranchisements were commonplace, and Perikles was the undoubted ruler. Tritle explores these situations in his subsequent chapters on political, cultural, philosophical and social issues. Tritle's concluding chapter offers interesting and insightful analysis of a culture at war still maintaining itself and thriving in different ways, again an echo of current times. This volume contains other standard features of the Greenwood Guides - a section of biographies which offers short but useful snapshots of the key figures of the time. This includes Athenians, Spartans and others, and includes political and military figures as well as writers, philosophers, artists and more. The section on primary documents draws from the rich body of Greek literature, and includes historical and literary documents. There is a useful glossary, several maps and graphic images, and a very good index concluding the volume. Perhaps best of all is the annotated bibliography, including books categorised topically, and sections on film and electronic resources. War is hell; Thucydides might not have said it directly, but one can tell from his writing that he believed this. This is a great guide for a time that should not be forgotten.

KurzbeschreibungThe Peloponnesian War resonates with contemporary events like few other episodes in ancient history. Though a democracy, Athens warred with its neighbors for decades in a doomed bid to secure its Aegean and Mediterranean empire. The ambitious city-state's eventual reward was defeat and tyrannical rule, effectively ending Athens's Golden Age, which flourished during the war in the fifth century BC. Not coincidentally did Athens flourish economically, militarily, artistically, and philosophically during the fifth century BC. Empire created great wealth, which supported the then novel democratic government. Wealth also supported the arts and letters. This was the time of Socrates, Plato, Aristophanes, Perikles and Thucydides, figures whose works and musings on war and its effects are widely read to this day. Designed as an accessible introduction to this immensely important event, The Peloponnesian War offers readers and researchers an appealing mix of descriptive chapters, biographical sketches, and annotated primary documents. An overview of the war is presented, followed a presentation of Thucydides' account of the war's causes. A look at the intertwined, some would say poisoned, relation of democracy and empire is offered, as are chapters on how the war was represented in plays, statuary, and pottery. The ethics of war are delved into by detailing the life, teachings, and eventual death of Socrates. And, critically, a chapter is devoted to those who most often suffer the harmful consequence of war: women. A glossary of terms is present, as is an annotated timeline, maps, useful illustrations, an annotated bibliography, and a thorough index. Pressestimmen"[C]overs the early democracy created by Athens, which warred with its neighbors for decades in struggle to control the region. Tritle's history serves as a fine introduction to the event, packing in not just biographies and history, but annotated primary documents and a cultural

and social overview of the war and the times....[a]n important library reference."-MBR Bookwatch/Donovan's Bookshelf"Recommended. Lower-division undergraduates and two-year technical program students; general readers."-Choice"[S]erves its purpose very well....this book would be a useful addition to the library."-The Journal of Classics Teaching"Serves its purpose very well....this book would be a useful addition to the library."-The Journal of Classics Teaching"Covers the early democracy created by Athens, which warred with its neighbors for decades in struggle to control the region. Tritle's history serves as a fine introduction to the event, packing in not just biographies and history, but annotated primary documents and a cultural and social overview of the war and the times....an important library reference."-MBR Bookwatch/Donovan's Bookshelf?Recommended. Lower-division undergraduates and two-year technical program students; general readers.?-Choice?[S]erves its purpose very well....this book would be a useful addition to the library.?-The Journal of Classics Teaching?[C]overs the early democracy created by Athens, which warred with its neighbors for decades in struggle to control the region. Tritle's history serves as a fine introduction to the event, packing in not just biographies and history, but annotated primary documents and a cultural and social overview of the war and the times....[a]n important library reference.?-MBR Bookwatch/Donovan's BookshelfKurzbeschreibungThe Peloponnesian War resonates with contemporary events like few other episodes in ancient history. Though a democracy, Athens warred with its neighbors for decades in a doomed bid to secure its Aegean and Mediterranean empire. The ambitious city-state's eventual reward was defeat and tyrannical rule, effectively ending Athens's Golden Age, which flourished during the war in the fifth century BC. Not coincidentally did Athens flourish economically, militarily, artistically, and philosophically during the fifth century BC. Empire created great wealth, which supported the then novel democratic government. Wealth also supported the arts and letters. This was the time of Socrates, Plato, Aristophanes, Perikles and Thucydides, figures whose works and musings on war and its effects are widely read to this day.Designed as an accessible introduction to this immensely important event, The Peloponnesian War offers readers and researchers an appealing mix of descriptive chapters, biographical sketches, and annotated primary documents. An overview of the war is presented, followed a presentation of Thucydides' account of the war's causes. A look at the intertwined, some would say poisoned, relation of democracy and empire is offered, as are chapters on how the war was represented in plays, statuary, and pottery. The ethics of war are delved into by detailing the life, teachings, and eventual death of Socrates. And, critically, a chapter is devoted to those who most often suffer the harmful consequence of war: women. A glossary of terms is present, as is an annotated timeline, maps, useful illustrations, an annotated bibliography, and a thorough index.