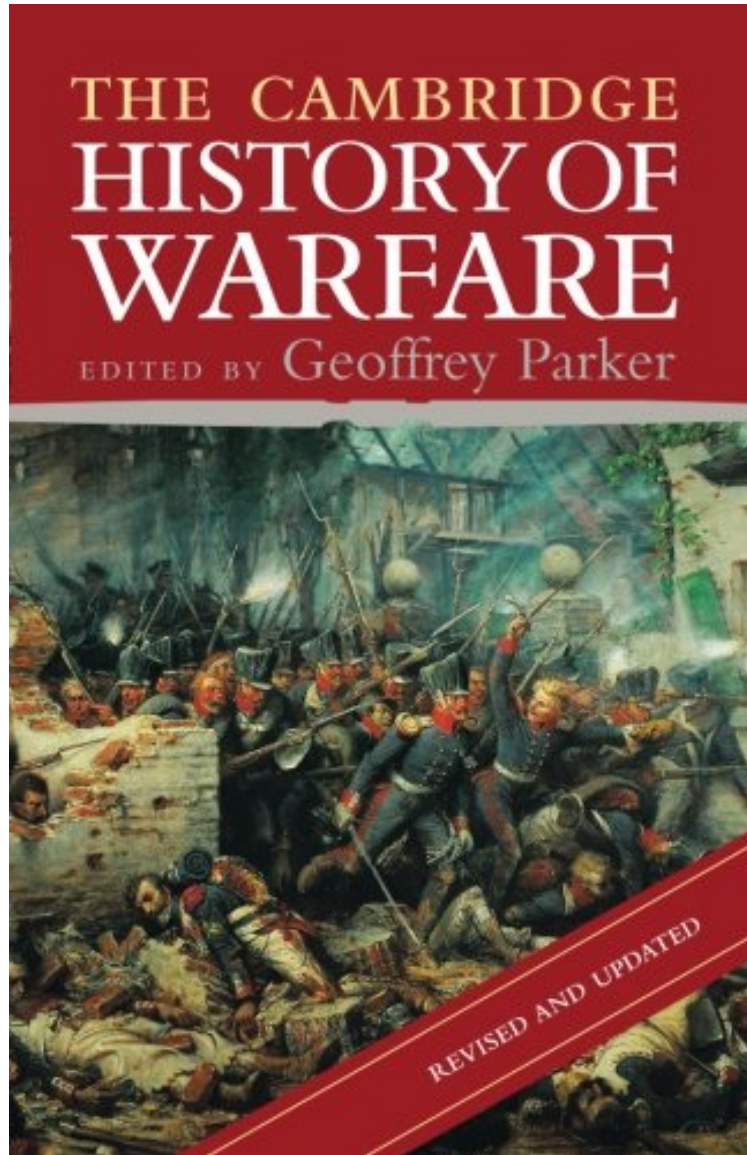


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The Cambridge History of Warfare

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11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Exactly the overview for which I was searchingBy K. YostThis book offers an excellent overview of warfare throughout the ages, from the Assyrians to the present day, and covering the personalities, weapons, strategies, tactics and technologies used. It should be noted that it covers only warfare as it has impacted and been fought in the Western culture, with no reference at all to important forces like the Mongols and

only very brief interludes relating to the likes of China and Japan (except insofar as their wars involved Western opponents as in the Russo-Japanese War or World War II). It is not a work for experts, in my opinion, but a terrific primer for those who are new to the subject and looking to ground themselves in the subject before moving on to more focussed and analytical works. One very helpful feature of the book is that it contains diagrams of several key battles, showing troop deployments and movements. Many other overview texts on the history of warfare which I have seen merely describe the battles, and I found the diagrams particularly useful in clarifying how these fights developed. My one criticism of the book is that it might have used more such diagrams, but that is a quibble. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Required for MIL-ED course. Book met my requirement and ...By A. Thomas Required for MIL-ED course. Book met my requirement and all pages were present. Was the desired year/ edition printing required. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book! By P. J. SNYDER Outstanding history book that logically explains the Western Way of Warfare and how it came to dominate the globe. Its definitely worth the few extra \$\$ to get the illustrations, as they both further explain concepts, and are interesting/entertaining.

A compelling subject, war is common to almost all known societies and almost all periods of history. The Cambridge History of Warfare is a comprehensive account of war in the West. The combined effort of seven leading experts, this book treats the history of all aspects of the subject: the development of warfare on land, seas, and air; weapons and technology; strategy and defense; discipline and intelligence; mercenaries and standing armies; cavalry and infantry; chivalry and blitzkrieg; guerrilla assault and nuclear warfare. It places in context particular key elements in the history of armed engagement, from the Greek victory at Marathon, through the advent of gunpower in medieval England and France, to the jungle warfare of Vietnam and the strategic air strikes of the Gulf War. Throughout, there is an emphasis on the socio-economic aspects of military progress and how these help explain the rise of the West over the past two millenia to global military dominance.

"Here is the story of war as the driving force in the rise of the West from the Greeks to our own day. Written by some of the world's leading experts in military history, this remarkable book combines scholarship with style. Without pulling any punches about the misery of the battlefield, it makes the case for the centrality of warfare in the history of the West and the world. Rarely has so much learning, lucidity, and wisdom been found between two covers." -Barry Strauss, Cornell University, and author of *The Battle of Salamis: The Naval Encounter that Saved Greece--and Western Civilization* "This is, simply, the best survey of the history of warfare in half a century. It explains what the Western way of war is, whence it came, and how it dominated the planet down to the present day. The product of the collaboration of some of the best military historians now writing, it offers judgments as well as a compelling narrative, an argument as well as a story. There can be no better introduction to the study of military history." -Eliot A. Cohen, Robert E. Osgood Professor, Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies "This is a thought-provoking, enjoyable book to read and a good one to have on hand for reference." -Air Power "...Parker and his collaborators have produced an impressive and immensely useful survey, within which are invaluable--not least because they are concise, clearly written and very readable--surveys of major conflicts. In addition, the contributions of the various authors are made to fit into a coherent overall pattern or thesis. The volume will no doubt--and deserves to--find a large market among those seeking among other things to set recent conflicts, and developments in the ways of war, into historical context." -H-German, Christopher Storrs, Department of History, University of Dundee, United Kingdom "...exceptional...beautifully illustrated...A highly readable book, and an interesting one, both for the expert and the amateur enthusiast. A must for college libraries." - U.S.I. Journal "This is an attractive book. The numerous illustrations are marvelous and are integrated well with the text." -Journal of World History "This book deserves close attention from the student of military affairs...a valuable overview of the history of warfare..." -Foreign Affairs "...this is a well-written and handsomely-presented volume...the illustrations are pertinent, and the captions interesting...the range of scholarship is impressive...and it has all been pulled together by the finest military historian currently writing, who has also contributed several important sections." -History in Focus About the Author Geoffrey Parker is Andreas Dorpalen Professor of History at Ohio State University.