Fighting Techniques of the Medieval World: Equipment, Combat Skills and Tactics by Phyllis Jestice

Beautiful And Well Researched

Fighting Techniques of the Medieval World describes the fighting methods of soldiers in Europe and the Near East in an age before the widespread use of gunpowder. The book explores the unique tactics required to win battles with the technology available and demonstrates how, in some respects, little has changed of the art of war. Using specially commissioned artwork to illustrate the battles, equipment, and tactics of the era, Fighting Techniques of the Medieval World shows in detail the ways in which armies prevailed over their foes. The book is essential for any reader interested in the realities and means of medieval warfare.

My Personal Review:
The Medieval world from 500 to 1500 witnessed a series of battles that are still studied today. These include the victories of the British archers at Crecy and Agincourt, as well as the French victory over the British at Hastings that permanently changed the government of England.

This book is a detailed study of weapons, tactics and strategy from that time. It concentrates mostly on the European armies but includes such battles as the Siege of Constantinople when the Turkish Sultan Mehmet II essentially ended the Byzantine empire.

The selection of chapter titles gives a good summary of what the book is teaching: The Role of Infantry, Mounted Warfare, Command and Control, Siege Techniques, and Naval Warfare. The book is beautifully illustrated, including several drawings and illustrations created specially for this edition. The authors are a mixture of British and American writers and professors specializing in the warfare of this time period.

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