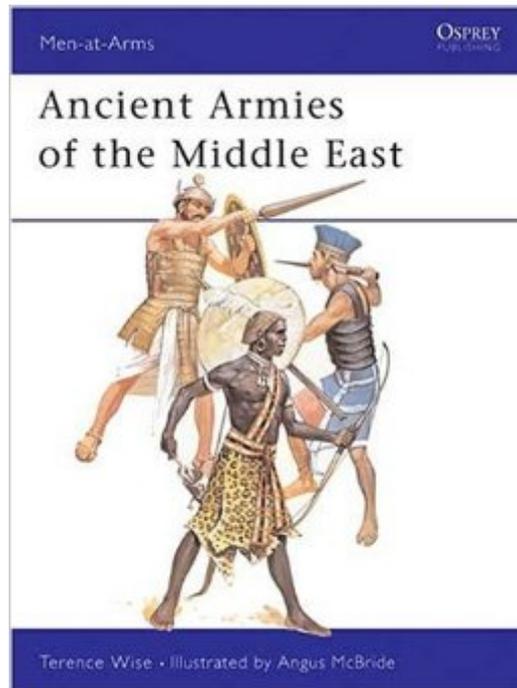


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Ancient Armies Of The Middle East (Men-at-Arms)



Synopsis

This text by Terence Wise explores some of the fascinating peoples who comprised the ancient armies of the Middle East: the Sumerians, who were the first to introduce the use of bronze into warfare, and were centuries ahead of the Egyptians in the use of the wheel â “ The Akkadians, whose citizen army was composed almost entirely of light troops â “ The Babylonians, whose people were granted land in return for army service â “ the horned warriors of the Elamites â “ the Egyptians, with their heavy spearmen and archers â “ the tribal and warlike Libyans â “ Nubians and Ethiopians â “ Hyksos â “ the armies of the Hittite Empire â “ the Sea People and others.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Covering 2500 years and a fair chunk of real estate in 40 pages, this volume of the normally quite nice Osprey Military books is only recommendable for the Angus McBride art. It concentrates on the better known states, when the limited size would have done well for a study some of the lesser known states and left the Egyptians, Hittites, Assyrians and such for their own volumes. However, it does have a nice integrated timeline, and the aforementioned wonderful Angus McBride art.

I agree with previous reviewers that this title very much bit into more than it could chew, and that some of these peoples (Israelites, Hittites, Sea Peoples) could almost deserve their own titles. Has a useful timeline, usual nice plates, and briefly covers the following peoples: The Sumerians The Akkadians The Babylonians The Elamites The Egyptians (now have their own elite title) The

Libyans
The Nubians and Ethiopians
The Hyksos
The Hittites
The Sea Peoples
The Arabs (including the Amalekites and Midianites of the Old Testament)
The Aramaeans
The Israelites (all the Tribes of Israel)
The Judaeans (otherwise, the Jews)
The Assyrians (now have their own elite title)

Wholeheartedly agree with the previous review. Too ambitious to catalog so many culturally different peoples over so long a period of time. Would've been better to concentrate on one or two at the most. However, the fabulous artwork is worth the small sum of the book's price.

I like this book because it covers many of the cultures and battles, and the geographic areas, mentioned in the Old Testament time frame of the Bible. For a 40 page booklet, it touches on many important people groups, and sets them in historic perspective, although of course a book this size cannot be comprehensive. The superb illustrations help a modern reader to get a mental picture of what these ancient warriors may have looked like. The reference is solidly based on archaeology and ancient artwork, so even though a little artistic license must be taken when interpreting period conventions, the excellent artwork gives a very reasonable interpretation and illustrates the unique characteristics of each distinct military force.

This is a reference book from Osprey Publishing which deals with the ancient armies of Mesopotamia, Egypt and other ancient powers of the Middle East. The period of time covered by the book is from 3100 B.C.E. (Before the Common Era), which date coincides with the beginning of the Bronze Age, through the downfall of the Assyrian Empire in 612 B.C.E.

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