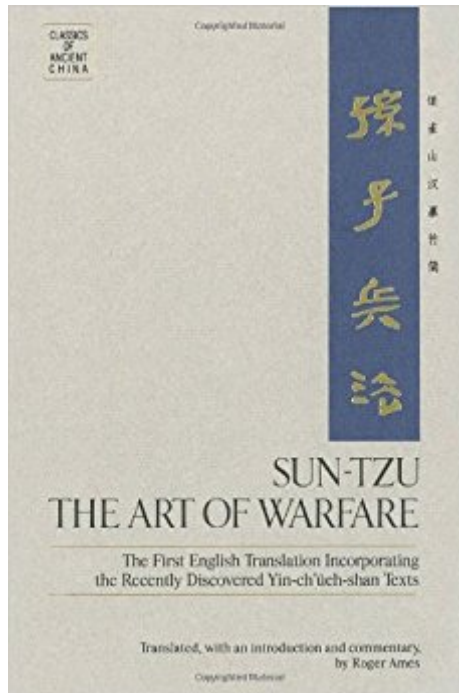




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Sun Tzu: The Art Of Warfare



Synopsis

The most widely read military classic in human history, newly translated and revised in accordance with newly discovered materials of unprecedented historical significance. Fluid, crisp and rigorously faithful to the original, this new text is destined to stand as the definitive version of this cornerstone work of Classical Chinese. Of compelling importance not only to students of Chinese history and literature, but to all readers interested in the art or the philosophy of war.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is an essential text for any library with a research collection in Chinese history and philosophy, as it is the first translation of the military/philosophy work Sun-tzu ping fa to incorporate the five chapters unearthed by archaeologists in 1972 at Yin-chueh-shan in Shantung province, China. It is also the first English translation to use the 13-chapter version of Sun-tzu found in that same dig dated 1000 years prior to previously available texts. The translator, who heads the University of Hawai'i's Center for Chinese Studies, provides an elucidating introduction to the text, the excavations, and the authorship of Sun-tzu and describes its import as a philosophical text. The translation adds the romanized form for certain key translated terms, which some readers may find intrusive. Some of the translated fragments are so brief as to be impenetrable, but their inclusion results in a level of completeness never before reached in a translation of Sun-tzu. Since there was frequent mention of this book as Gordon Gekko's primer in the film Wall Street, there may be popular interest in it as well.--Ed.- D.E. Perushek, Univ. of Tennessee Libs., Knoxville Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Chinese

By far the best English translation of the Art of War. Only Ralph Sawyer's translation came close but doesn't have the same fluidity and clarity as this book. Why also great: contains the original Chinese characters on the other side of the book, and copious notes to the passages in question. I have yet to come across a better Art of War.

Profound, eternal text for life and war - any conflict in general - so it's clearly understandable why so many graduate business programs require, study and discuss this text. The extensive research for the best translation proved worth the time for Roger Ames' deep appreciation and knowledge of this language and the voice of the author. Get it, read it, live it! Resolve conflicts to the best of your ability at all costs without physical or even legal warfare, but when the "other" side will not or cannot mediate effectively, do what you must and be able to live with and respect yourself and your conscience when all is said and done. Credibility, personal integrity and honor are not just words, but most often (though not always) acknowledged, respected even revered by most arbitration entities, so be mindful of this fact too, and you will persevere and eventually most probably be the ultimate victor, while remaining wholly humble and honorable.

Electronic versions of even excellent books from reputable publishers can seem like some sort of red-headed step-child for all the attention they get. Not so here -- the endnotes have links back and forth to make referring to them a snap. The original Chinese text is provided and is legible, and there aren't any stupid formatting errors that make so many Kindle editions disappointing. Regarding the text: I have several books in the "Classics of Ancient China" series from Ballantine. They all exhibit careful editing and high scholarship and add great value to any library. Keep in mind, though, the series exists to shed light on Chinese literature, not to provide a path to enlightenment or instructions on how to prevail in conflict. The intention is scholarship, and they do it well.

Great book, everyone needs this book in their collection.

War isn't something to be studied. Anyone who reads this book needs to re-evaluated their priorities in life. That being said, it's a sound translation.

Timeless classic that will always be relevant. I was introduced to this book when I was a young officer in the US Marines. It was a great read then, and now. I purchased this copy for my son who is thinking about following in my footsteps.

Great edition of this text. This book is a must read for new leaders and Ames did a good job of wrapping the relatively short material with meaningful commentary.

This is the translated version that also includes the original Chinese text. Hence for the reader who can read traditional classic Chinese, one can truly appreciate what Sun-Tzu had achieved. His work is a masterpiece of scholarly literature as well as a demonstration of his military geniusness and insight. Another benefit of having the original text side by side is that there are still nuances missed by the standard translating due to the multiple meanings of some Chinese words and the varied use of custom slangs.

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