



The Peloponnesian War

By Donald Kagan

Download now

Read Online ➔

The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan

For almost three decades at the end of the fifth century B.C., Athens and Sparta fought a war that changed the Greek world and its civilization forever. A conflict unprecedented in its brutality, the Peloponnesian War brought a collapse in the institutions, beliefs, and customs that were the foundations of society. Today, scholars in fields ranging from international relations and political and military history to political philosophy continue to study the war for its timeless relevance to the history of our own time.

Now Donald Kagan, classical scholar and historian of international relations, ancient and modern, presents a sweeping new narrative of this epic contest that captures all its drama, action, and tragedy. In describing the rise and fall of a great empire he examines the clash between two disparate societies, the interplay of intelligence and chance in human affairs, the role of great human beings in determining the course of events, and the challenge of leadership and the limits in which it must operate. The result is an engrossing, fresh perspective on a key historical event that will be welcomed by general readers and history buffs alike—and anyone seeking a better understanding of the pivotal events that shaped the world as we know it.

📄 [Download The Peloponnesian War ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online The Peloponnesian War ...pdf](#)

The Peloponnesian War

By Donald Kagan

The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan

For almost three decades at the end of the fifth century B.C., Athens and Sparta fought a war that changed the Greek world and its civilization forever. A conflict unprecedented in its brutality, the Peloponnesian War brought a collapse in the institutions, beliefs, and customs that were the foundations of society. Today, scholars in fields ranging from international relations and political and military history to political philosophy continue to study the war for its timeless relevance to the history of our own time.

Now Donald Kagan, classical scholar and historian of international relations, ancient and modern, presents a sweeping new narrative of this epic contest that captures all its drama, action, and tragedy. In describing the rise and fall of a great empire he examines the clash between two disparate societies, the interplay of intelligence and chance in human affairs, the role of great human beings in determining the course of events, and the challenge of leadership and the limits in which it must operate. The result is an engrossing, fresh perspective on a key historical event that will be welcomed by general readers and history buffs alike-and anyone seeking a better understanding of the pivotal events that shaped the world as we know it.

The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #869141 in Books
- Brand: Historical Books Viking Press
- Published on: 2003-05
- Released on: 2003-05-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.60" h x 1.67" w x 6.52" l, 1.90 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 511 pages

 [Download The Peloponnesian War ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Peloponnesian War ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Beginning in 1978, Kagan's publication of the four-volume History of the Peloponnesian War established him as the leading authority on that seminal period in Greek history. Despite its accessible writing style, however, the work's formidable length tended to restrict its audience to the academic community. This single volume, based on the original's scholarship but incorporating significant new dimensions, is intended for the educated general reader. Kagan, a chaired professor of classics and history at Yale, describes his intention to offer both intellectual pleasure and a source of the wisdom so many have sought by studying this war. On both aims he succeeds admirably. The war between the Athenian Empire and the Spartan Alliance, fought in the last half of the 5th century B.C., was tragedy. Fifty years earlier, the united Greek states had defeated the Persian Empire and inaugurated an era of growth and achievement seldom matched and never surpassed. The Peloponnesian War, however, inaugurated a period of brutality and destruction unprecedented in the Greek world. Like the Great War in 1914-1918, participants recognized even while the fighting went on that things were changing utterly. The contemporary history written by Thucydides is the best source for this complex story, but not the only one, and much of the value of this work lies in Kagan's brilliant contextualization of his ancient predecessor's work. The volume's ultimate worth, however, lies in the perceptive, magisterial judgment Kagan brings to his account of the war that ended the glory that was ancient Greece. Kagan gives us neither heroes and villains nor victors and victims. What infuses his pages is above all a sense of agency: men making and implementing decisions that seemed right at the time however they ended. Such lessons will not be lost on contemporary readers.

Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Yale historian Kagan is the author of several books on the Peloponnesian War, including a four-volume set that is a leading academic work on the conflict between Athens and Sparta in the fifth century B.C.E. His latest mass-market book is likewise truly impressive, presenting a thorough, yet concise, erudite, yet accessible, narrative encompassing ancient Greece's 30-year Great War. His primary source is, of course, Thucydides' epic history, but Kagan draws on Aristotle, Xenophon, and others to provide an objective, nuanced perspective on the military drama. And it's quite a drama: the clash of democracy and oligarchy, the testing of great leaders, the innovative military tactics, and the unprecedented human cost. The Peloponnesian War has been likened to World War I and the Cold War--both themselves dramatic, paradigm-shifting clashes of civilizations--but Kagan wisely lets his readers make these connections for themselves. It is to the author's great credit that the war's many characters and places are presented accessibly enough to feel relevant to modern events, two and a half millennia later. Don't worry, Thucydides fans, the classic is safe. But Kagan's history is excellent. *Brendan Driscoll*

Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Review

"A fresh, clear and fast-moving account. . . for general readers." -- *New York Times Book Review*

"The best account [of the Peloponnesian War] now available." --*Los Angeles Times Book Review*

"Kagan. . . describes his intention to offer both intellectual pleasure and a source of the wisdom so many have sought by studying this war. On both aims he succeeds admirably. . . The contemporary history written by Thucydides is the best source for this complex story, but not the only one, and much of the value of this work lies in Kagan's brilliant contextualization of his ancient predecessor's work. The volume's ultimate

worth, however, lies in the perceptive, magisterial judgment Kagan brings to his account of the war that ended the glory that was ancient Greece. Kagan gives us neither heroes and villains nor victors and victims. What infuses his pages is above all a sense of agency: men making and implementing decisions that seemed right at the time however they ended. Such lessons will not be lost on contemporary readers." --*Publishers Weekly*

"Drawing on incomparable knowledge as a classicist, international relations theorist and military historian, Donald Kagan. . . has devoted a single volume to guiding us through that epic of miscalculation, hubris, and strategic overreach, supplying supplemental observations and correctives to Thucydides' classic History of the Peloponnesian War." -- *Washington Post*

"Truly impressive, presenting a thorough, yet concise, erudite, yet accessible, narrative encompassing ancient Greece's thirty-year Great War. His primary source is, of course, Thucydides' epic history, but Kagan draws on Aristotle, Xenophon, and others to provide an objective, nuanced perspective on the military drama. . . . It is to the author's great credit that the war's many characters and places are presented accessibly enough to feel relevant to modern events, two and a half millennia later. Don't worry, Thucydides fans, the classic is safe. But Kagan's history is excellent." --*Booklist* (starred review)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Anthony Powell:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite book and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you can add your knowledge by the reserve entitled The Peloponnesian War. Try to make the book The Peloponnesian War as your close friend. It means that it can being your friend when you really feel alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than ever before. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you personally. The book makes you much more confidence because you can know everything by the book. So , let's make new experience as well as knowledge with this book.

Thomas Kelly:

Have you spare time to get a day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their own spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to the Mall. How about open or read a book entitled The Peloponnesian War? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have various other opinion?

Mark Miller:

Book is to be different per grade. Book for children till adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important for all of us. The book The Peloponnesian War has been making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is extremely advantages for you. The book The Peloponnesian War is not only giving you a lot more new information but also to become your friend

when you really feel bored. You can spend your own spend time to read your reserve. Try to make relationship with the book The Peloponnesian War. You never truly feel lose out for everything in the event you read some books.

John Tammaro:

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. The advantages you got of course the knowledge the actual information inside the book that improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of e-book you read, if you want have more knowledge just go with education and learning books but if you want experience happy read one using theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. The particular The Peloponnesian War is kind of e-book which is giving the reader unstable experience.

Download and Read Online The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan #NDERQWX6LIB

Read The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan for online ebook

The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan books to read online.

Online The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan ebook PDF download

The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan Doc

The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan Mobipocket

The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan EPub

NDERQWX6LIB: The Peloponnesian War By Donald Kagan