



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:

Andrew Fox:

The knowledge that you get from The Peloponnesian War could be the more deep you digging the information that hide inside words the more you get interested in reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to be aware of but The Peloponnesian War giving you joy feeling of reading. The copy writer conveys their point in particular way that can be understood by anyone who read this because the author of this e-book is well-known enough. This particular book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We recommend you for having this kind of The Peloponnesian War instantly.

Melanie Archer:

Information is provisions for individuals to get better life, information today can get by anyone from everywhere. The information can be a expertise or any news even a problem. What people must be consider while those information which is inside the former life are hard to be find than now is taking seriously which one is suitable to believe or which one the actual resource are convinced. If you receive the unstable resource then you understand it as your main information it will have huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen inside you if you take The Peloponnesian War as the daily resource information.

Olivia Cook:

Reading a book to be new life style in this 12 months; every people loves to read a book. When you go through a book you can get a lot of benefit. When you read guides, you can improve your knowledge, due to the fact book has a lot of information upon it. The information that you will get depend on what types of book that you have read. If you need to get information about your examine, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, this sort of us novel, comics, along with soon. The The Peloponnesian War offer you a new experience in studying a book.

Alice Myers:

It is possible to spend your free time to see this book this publication. This The Peloponnesian War is simple to create you can read it in the area, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not have got much space to bring typically the printed book, you can buy the particular e-book. It is make you much easier to read it. You can save the book in your smart phone. Consequently there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

**Download and Read Online The Peloponnesian War By Donald
Kagan #LNS780C3UOY**

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