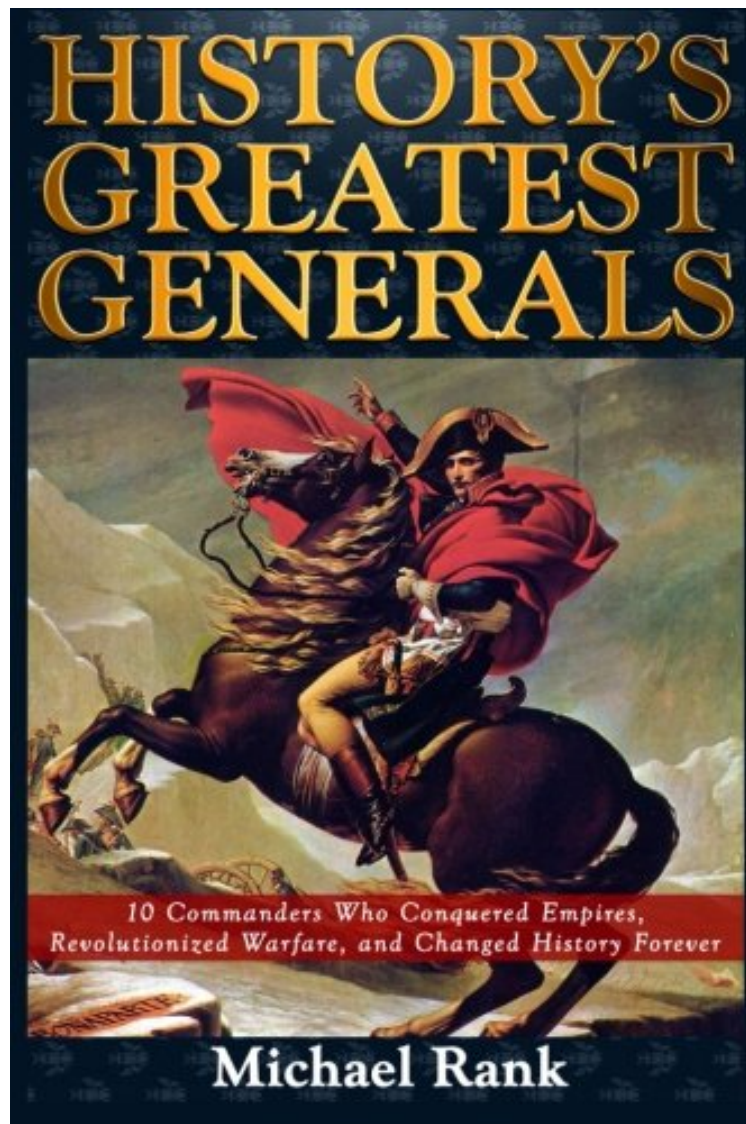


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History's Greatest Generals: 10 Commanders Who Conquered Empires, Revolutionized Warfare, and Changed History Forever

Michael Rank

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Michael Rank : History's Greatest Generals: 10 Commanders Who Conquered Empires, Revolutionized Warfare, and Changed History Forever before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised History's Greatest Generals: 10 Commanders Who Conquered Empires, Revolutionized Warfare, and Changed History Forever:

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By Sonny Laskin
Gives a good overview of generals all throughout history and a brief biography of each general. Good in explaining the main theme that a good general is not one who wins a battle in a war but the good general is one who converts that battle to a political diplomatic objective. Thus generals like Caesar, Napoleon and Khalid ibn-al-Walid were not only good fighters but also great diplomats.
Author's writing style leaves a lot to be desired. I felt like I was reading a essay from a high school student for his social studies class with big vocab words put in sporadically to make the piece look better. I was surprised this guy is a phd author, when I read his back cover bio.
Overall, its OK for the price you pay, thank god I only paid \$3. A good brief overview on history something similar to an overview given by Cliff Note pamphlets that sell in shops and bookstores.
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A very interesting reading!
By MedMan
Michael Rank is an author that can turn any topic into an entertaining and compelling reading.
This book covers the lives and careers of some extraordinary people that changed the course of our history. If you were only to examine their tactics and military campaigns, you would not have a full insight into the far reaching effects of their actions. Yes, they were highly successful in battle, and yes, they could command tens of thousands of people with a wink of an eye. But the concepts and culture which they instilled in the conquered territories are still felt in our modern age (Napoleonic Code being one of the grand examples).
I would highly recommend this book not only to history buffs and fans of military strategy, but also to people interested in the thought processes of great visionaries and risk takers who manage to exert significant influence and change lives of thousands of people. Great read!
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I'm a sucker for a good history book
By Customer
And this is a good history book! The one drawback to a lot of books in this category is their denseness. Sometimes there is just TOO much information presented to reasonably digest. While Mr. Rank's book is very informative and well-researched, it also flows very nicely. The tone is almost conversational in some places, and because of that I was fully engaged from the first page to the last. I'm happy to say I learned quite a few things along the way as well. A great read for history fans, and an excellent primer for students.

From the #1 bestselling author of *The Crusades and the Soldiers of the Cross* comes an exciting new book on the greatest minds of military leadership in history. Whether it is Hannibal of Carthage marching elephants across the Alps and attacking the heart of Rome, Khalid ibn al-Walid boasting an undefeated military career and destroying the Persian Empire while subduing the Byzantines, or Russian General Alexander Suvurov and his elevation of the bayonet to a work of art that could cut down any European army, great military leaders have exerted tremendous influence on society. This book will look at the lives of the ten greatest military commanders in history. Some conquered the fullest expanse of the known world, as did Alexander the Great. Still others were master statesmen and capable of translating military victory into long-term political gains, such as Julius Caesar, whose vanquishing of the Gauls and his political opponents laid the groundwork for several centuries of unmatched Roman imperial might. It will also look at the tactics they used to bring down stronger armies and befuddle them at every turn; whether it is Napoleon, who nearly conquered Europe through his deadly manoeuvre *sur les derrieres* and marching unexpectedly away from the enemy's main strength and concentrating on a weak but vital enemy point; or Hannibal's double entrapment maneuver, which has been the envy of military strategists for the last 2,000 years. Whatever their background, these rulers show that the right military commander at the right time in history can destroy an empire, change civilization, and alter the course of world history forever.

About the Author
Michael Rank is a historian of the Middle East and a former journalist. He is the author of the Kindle #1 best-seller *"From Muhammed to Butj Khalifa: A Crash-Course in 2,000 Years of Middle East History"* and *"History's Worst Dictators: A Short Guide to the Most Brutal Rulers, From Emperor Nero to Ivan the Terrible."* He blogs about history, religion, society, and culture at the website <http://michaelrank.net>. You can connect with him there, and he would love it if you did.