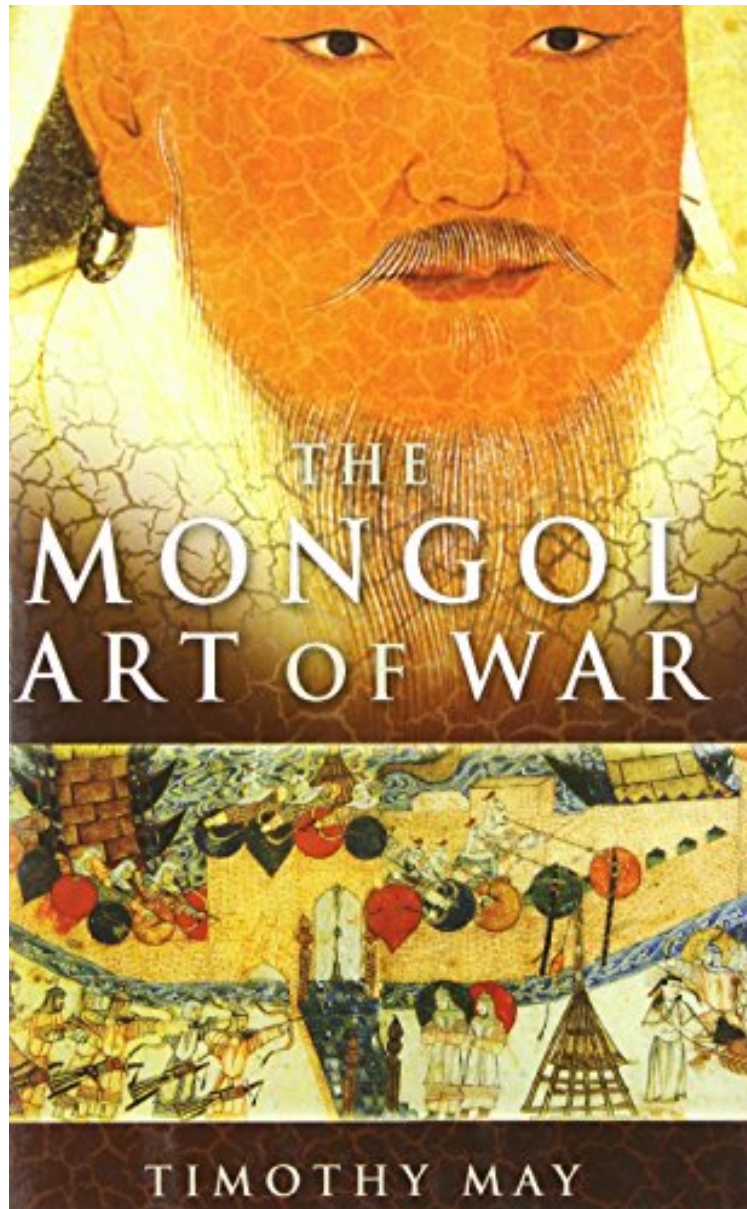


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The Mongol Art of War: Chinggis Khan and the Mongol military system

Timothy May

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Timothy May : The Mongol Art of War: Chinggis Khan and the Mongol military system before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Mongol Art of War: Chinggis Khan and the Mongol military system:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Pretty good By DEA bit repetitive at times, but the intro chapter is an especially useful summary of Mongolian history. Good contextual analysis of how and why the Mongols did what they did best. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Very Good Book on Operational Details Pertaining to the Art of Mongolian War By Master Hahn Easily one of the better books on this topic. As there are several quality reviews listed, I would prefer to them with some additional comments. One wanting a full in depth view of the Mongol Empire as well as the Mongolian Art of War would do well to read application books by Morris Rossabi, Thomas Craughwell and Richard Gabriel's book on the Mongolian general, Subotai. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Review By James Hamilton Given that there are few surviving historical chronicles from the time, I thought the book was very thoroughly researched and reasonably well written. Other books that I have read about Mongolian history and the "rise of Chinggis Khan" are written in a rather folksy manner so, I was pleased with the style and tone.

"An authoritative study of one of history's most feared and successful armies. . . . May concludes this definitive study by tracing the Mongol legacy to modern mechanized warfare."—Publishers Weekly "They razed cities to the ground, burnt woods, pulled down castles, tore up the vine trees, destroyed gardens, and massacred the citizens and husbandmen; if by chance they did spare any who begged their lives, they compelled them, as slaves of the lowest condition, to fight in front of them against their own kindred." —Matthew Paris recounting the devastation of Poland and Hungary in 1240 During the thirteenth century, Mongol armies under Chinggis Khan and his successors established the largest contiguous land empire in history, stretching across Asia and into eastern Europe. Contemporary descriptions of their conquests have led to a popular misconception that the Mongols were an undisciplined horde of terrifying horsemen who swept over opponents by sheer force of numbers. The Mongol army actually used highly trained regiments led by brilliant tacticians, such as Subotai, that carried out planned and practiced maneuvers. It was the strength, quality, and versatility of the Mongol military organization, not unchecked ferocity, that made them the pre-eminent warriors of their time. In *The Mongol Art of War*, historian Timothy May overturns myths and misunderstandings that distort our understanding of Mongol warfare, and demonstrates that the armies of Chinggis Khan had more in common with modern ones than with the armies of ancient Rome and those of the medieval kingdoms they confronted. Describing the make-up of the Mongol army from its inception to the demise of the Mongol Empire, the author examines the recruitment, weaponry, and training of the Mongol warrior. He also analyzes the organization, tactics, and strategies the Mongols used, how they adapted to fighting in different conditions and terrain—such as using harsh winter weather to their advantage—and overcame a variety of opponents by steadily changing and adopting new tactics and modes of combat.

About the Author Timothy May, a leading expert on the Mongol empire, is a professor of history at North Georgia College and State University.