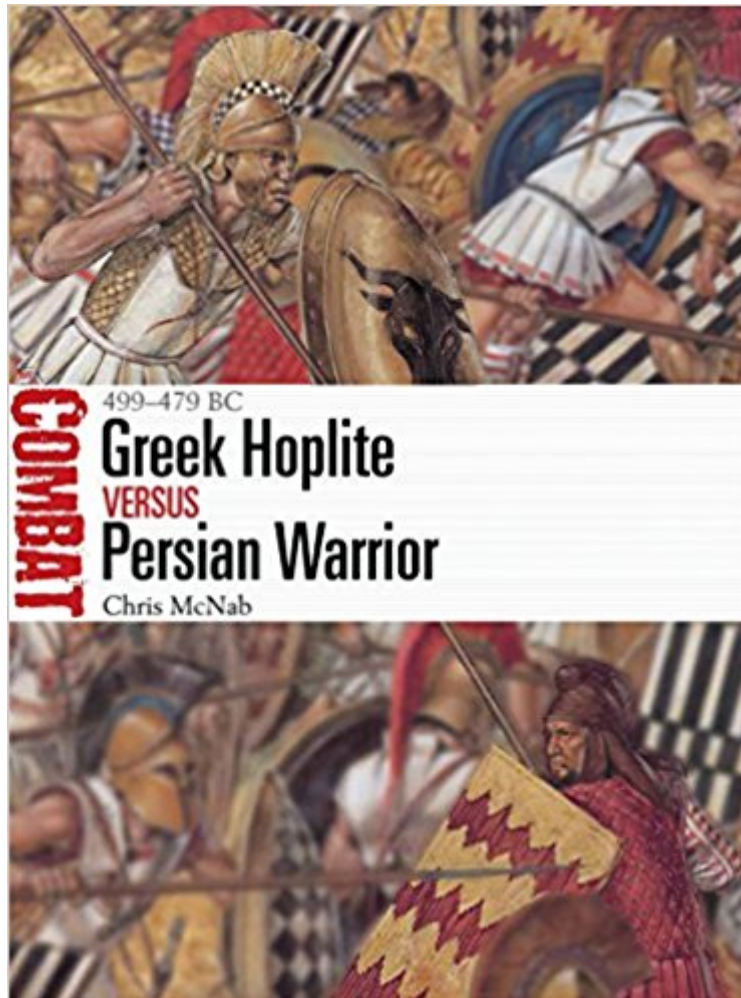




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The Greco-Persian Wars (499–449 BC) convulsed Greece, Asia Minor, and the Near East for half a century. Through a series of bloody invasions and pitched battles, the mighty Persian Empire pitted itself against the smaller armies of the Greeks, strengthened through strategic alliances. This epic conflict also brought together two different styles of warfare: the Greek hoplite phalanx and the combined spear and projectile weapon-armed Persian infantry. Analyzing the battles of Marathon, Thermopylae, and Plataea from the eyes of a soldier, this study explores the experience of front-line combat in the Greco-Persian Wars. Fully illustrated with modern photographs and archival images, and drawing directly on primary sources and the most authoritative recent research, this is the enthralling story of the fighting men of Greece and Persia and the tactics and technologies they employed.

Book Information

Series: Combat (Book 31)

Paperback: 80 pages

Publisher: Osprey Publishing (March 20, 2018)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1472825748

ISBN-13: 978-1472825742

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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