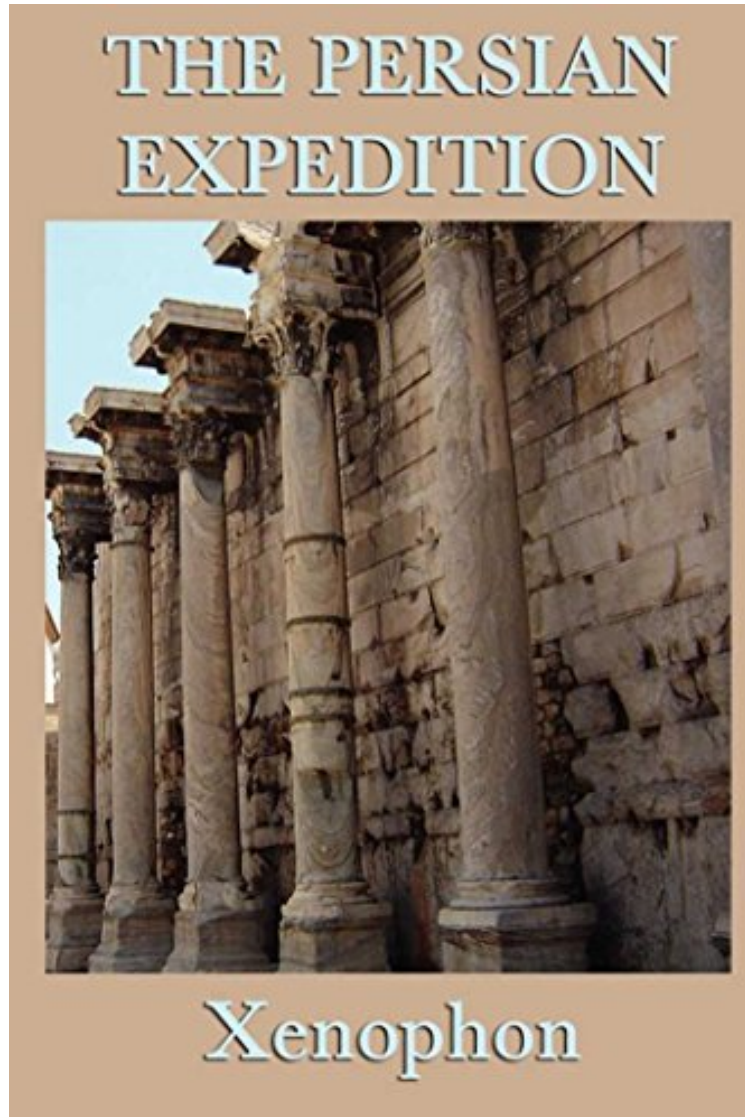


[Library ebook] The Persian Expedition (English Edition)

The Persian Expedition (English Edition)

Von Xenophon

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Von Xenophon : The Persian Expedition (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Persian Expedition (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Mercenaries Run AmokVon R. A ForczykThe march of "the 10,000" (actually about 12,500 started the march) is an epic tale but it lacks any real military lessons. Xenophon, like most ancient writers, is unreliable when it comes to numbers: for example, he claimed that the Persian army at the Battle of Cunaxa was over 1 million strong and that the Greeks suffered only one hoplite wounded. More than likely, Greek casualties were slight because the battle was more

of a meeting engagement that stopped once Cyrus got himself killed by stupidly charging into the enemy masses with only his personal escort. After treacherously murdering the Greek officers in a fake parley, the Persians made only half-hearted efforts to block or harass the retreating Greeks. The Greek army was handicapped not only by the loss of its officers and Persian allies but by its own composition; an infantry-pure force with virtually no cavalry and only a handful of archers. The Greeks suffered heavily from the constant skirmishing with the mountain tribes in Armenia and even more from the winter snows. Some points are evident. Unlike the earlier Greek armies in the Peloponnesian Wars that were motivated by patriotism or the later Macedonian army that was a professional force, Xenophon's army was a diverse force, with loose cohesion and poor discipline that was motivated primarily by a desire for plunder and booty. This was a mercenary army. Amazingly, individual subordinate commanders would abandon their troops and strike off on their own when they could commandeer ships. Xenophon himself was probably more of a politically ambitious military dilettante than a true soldier. When the army reached safety, the ingrate subordinates turned on Xenophon and threatened him with death over pay issues. This was a force with absolutely no loyalty to any city or leader. By the end of the march, the army lost almost all cohesion and began to split into ethnic groups. Surprisingly, the returning Greek mercenaries were quite brutal to the Greek colonies in Asia Minor that received them. It is also amazing how military decisions were made, particularly the heavy influence of religious sacrifices and soothsayers - I don't think Alexander would have put up with so much of this nonsense (e.g. the Gordian knot episode). At one point, the Greeks stopped their attack during an opposed river-crossing and conducted sacrifices in the middle of the river on whether or not to proceed. Reconnaissance was not a Greek strongpoint, since they tended to blunder into trouble, had poor local security and relied very heavily on dumb luck. Probably the thing that saved their stranded army was the unwillingness of their foes to come to grips at close range and overwhelm them. They actually fought no large-scale battles during the entire expedition, including the tactical oddity of Cunaxa. Rex Warner's translation is excellent and quite clean of misunderstanding. There is only one map depicting the general route of the Greek mercenaries.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The most famous account of a military withdrawal in history Von R. D. Allison (dallison@biochem.med.ufl.edu) This is an excellent translation of Xenophon's classic report, also known as "Anabasis." Xenophon (c. 430 B. C. to c. 355 B. C.) was a Greek soldier and historian who was born in Athens and was a student of Socrates. In 401 B. C., Xenophon joined an army of Greek mercenaries who were aiding Cyrus the Younger in his military campaign against his brother, King Artaxerxes II. Unfortunately, Cyrus was killed in the Battle of Cunaxa in 401 B. C. and the 10000 Greeks find themselves alone in enemy territory, more than 1000 miles from the nearest Greek colony. In addition, the leaders of the force were treacherously murdered by the Persian satrap Tissaphernes. Xenophon is one of the Greek leaders chosen to lead the army in retreat out of Persia. In a march that lasted five months, traveled over 1500 miles, and overcoming many obstacles (both external and internal), they finally reach the colony of Trapezus (now Trabzon, Turkey) on the Black Sea. This book, which (in the original Greek) is usually the first book read by modern students of the ancient Greek language, is Xenophon's eyewitness account of that retreat and is one of the most famous books in military history. It should be required reading for everyone.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Warfare during classical age of Greece comes to life. Von Ein Kunde This historical book deals with a group of Greek mercenaries who are hired to fight a war in Persia as one brother, Cyrus, builds an army to take the kingdom from his brother, Artaxerxes, around 400 BC. Although Xenophon's histories are really memoirs from his own experience, there are probably many errors in proportion but no errors in flavor. And this is a good account of how battles were fought and how armies worked at this time. Provides a good fill between the end of the Peloponnesian War and Alexander the Great. Typically straight-forward reading, although it is sometimes difficult to keep track of the men, especially if you put the book down for a few days. But a Glossary is provided for just this problem as is a map so you can follow their movements. Overall good if you are interested in the history of war or Ancient Greece and Persia. It's only real fault is that it starts to drag towards the end. Deserves three and a half stars for how it reads. Historically it's a gem.

Kurzbeschreibung In "The Persian Expedition", Xenophon, a young Athenian noble who sought his destiny abroad, provides an enthralling eyewitness account of the attempt by a Greek mercenary army - the Ten Thousand - to help Prince Cyrus overthrow his brother and take the Persian throne. When the Greeks were then betrayed by their Persian employers, they were forced to march home through hundreds of miles of difficult terrain - adrift in a hostile country and under constant attack from the unforgiving Persians and warlike tribes. In this outstanding description of endurance and individual bravery, Xenophon, one of those chosen to lead the retreating army, provides a vivid narrative of the campaign and its aftermath, and his account remains one of the best pictures we have of Greeks confronting a 'barbarian' world. Kurzbeschreibung In "The Persian Expedition", Xenophon, a young Athenian noble who sought his destiny abroad, provides an enthralling eyewitness account of the attempt by a Greek mercenary army - the Ten Thousand - to help Prince Cyrus overthrow his brother and take the Persian throne. When the Greeks were then betrayed by their Persian employers, they were forced to march home through hundreds of miles of difficult

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