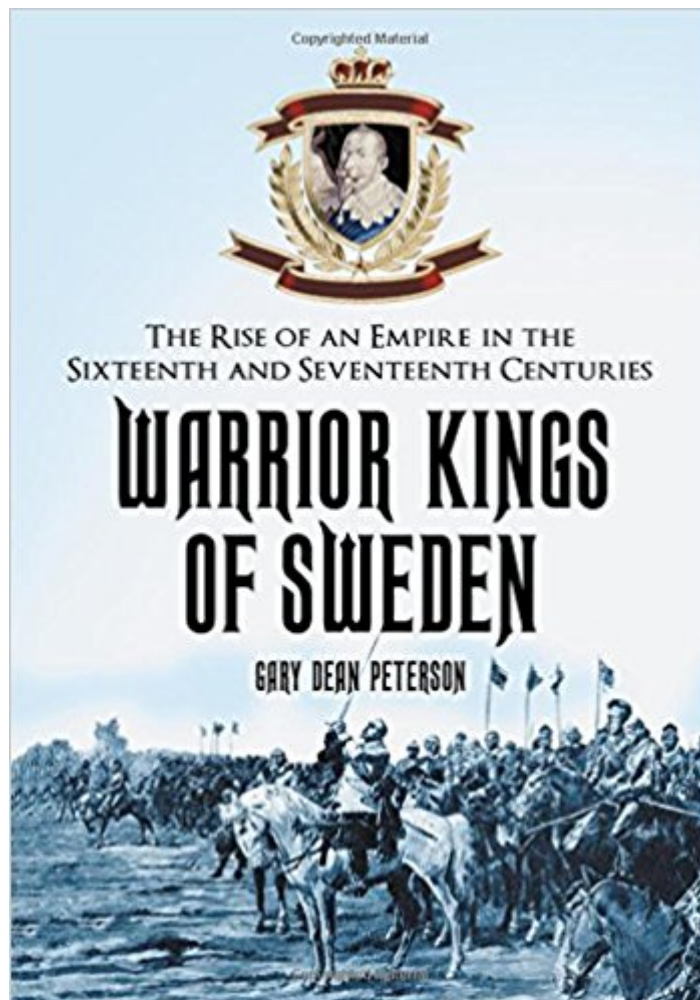




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Warrior Kings Of Sweden: The Rise Of An Empire In The Sixteenth And Seventeenth Centuries



Synopsis

For a hundred years, Sweden was the international military power of Northern Europe, in control of the entire Baltic region and among the first to colonize in Africa and America. But the history of Sweden, Finland, the Baltic States, Poland, and Prussia is largely neglected in American classrooms and scholarship. This book fills a large void in European history as it is generally presented to the American student and reader. This narrative covers Sweden's Age of Greatness (1632-1718) and the warrior-kings who governed that age. It chronologically describes the political and religious events of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and reveals how these events produced the climate for European global expansion, including the exploration and colonization of the New World. The story traces history through the reigns of Sweden's ambitious rulers, beginning with the presumably Swedish Goths who ravaged the Roman Empire in the 2nd century CE and continuing through the end of the empire in the early eighteenth century. A thorough epilogue documents the cultural flowering in the arts and sciences that commenced in the Age of Greatness and continued to blossom in the centuries that followed. This final section of the book pays special attention to the personalities that drove Sweden's far-reaching cultural progress.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am an avid reader of European History, and enjoy learning about how European actions have affected the world today. An area of European history I wasn't as familiar with was the rise and fall of the Swedish Empire, which was at one point in time a major military and economic power. I bought this book and feel it has some good strengths but also feel that there were some aspects to

the book that caused me to give it a lower rating than I otherwise would have. Strengths 1. The book was very detailed about both the society as well as the individuals who helped Sweden grow in power. It also was good about comparing Sweden's situation to other contemporary societies. 2. The book talked in depth about Gustavus Adolphus, one of the greatest military geniuses that the west has ever produced, and how his military changes caused other European armed forces to change. Weaknesses 1. There were typos throughout the book. 2. Though there was a decent bibliography, there were very minimal citations and notes. For a book that wants to detail an important period of history, there needs to be more than one or two end notes per chapter. It made the book at times look more like a blog post or high school essay than a properly referenced book. Though I don't doubt the author's expertise, the lack of citations for the numerous statements put forth caused me some consternation. 3. The price: I spent \$16 for this book. The price seemed too high when considering the issues I pointed out. Overall I thought the book was okay, and I learned from it, but be aware there are some weaknesses,

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