## Who Really Won The Battle Of Marathon? Shocking Secrets Revealed!

The Battle of Marathon is one of the most celebrated battles in history, known for the triumph of the Greeks over the mighty Persian Empire. However, what if everything we thought we knew about this epic battle is mistaken? What if the true winners of the Battle of Marathon were not the Greeks? In this article, we will delve into the shocking secrets and controversial theories surrounding the Battle of Marathon, uncovering an alternative perspective that challenges the conventional narrative.

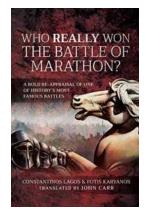
#### **The Conventional Narrative**

According to the conventional narrative, the Battle of Marathon took place in 490 BC and marked a decisive victory for the Greeks against the Persians. Led by the Athenians, the outnumbered Greek forces managed to repel the Persian invasion and secure their homeland. The runner Pheidippides famously ran from the battlefield to Athens, delivering the news of the victory, before collapsing and dying.

### **Challenging the Conventional Narrative**

While the Greek victory at Marathon is widely celebrated, some historians argue that the true winners of the battle were not the Greeks but the Persians. They propose an alternative interpretation of the events that challenges the conventional narrative. According to this theory, the Persians strategically retreated from the battlefield, luring the Greeks into a false sense of triumph.

Who Really Won the Battle of Marathon?: A Bold Re-appraisal of One of History's Most Famous



#### **Battles** by Andrew Goldsmith (Kindle Edition)

**★** ★ ★ ★ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 12673 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 492 pages

Lending : Enabled



#### **The Persian Strategy**

The Persian Empire, led by King Darius I, had set its sights on the conquest of Greece. As the Persian forces landed at Marathon, the Athenians mobilized their army, forming an alliance with the city-state of Plataea. When the two armies clashed, the Greeks initially found themselves at a disadvantage due to the sheer size of the Persian army.

However, the Persian commanders, recognizing the resilience of the Greeks, devised a cunning strategy. They pretended to retreat, intentionally luring the Greeks into pursuing them. The Athenian general Miltiades fell for the trap and ordered his troops to chase after the retreating Persians, leaving their defensive positions.

Unbeknownst to the Greeks, the Persians had left a small force behind to guard their ships. Seizing the opportunity, this force quickly boarded their vessels and set sail for Athens, intent on capturing the city. It was only when Miltiades realized the danger that he quickly ordered his soldiers to return to defend their homeland.

#### The Return to Athens

As the Greeks rushed back to Athens, they faced a daunting challenge. The Persian force had arrived before them and was already launching an assault on the city. The Athenians, however, managed to repel the invaders and drive them back to their ships. The Persian fleet, fearing further losses, retreated and sailed back to the safety of Persia.

#### The True Winners

While the Greeks ultimately managed to defend Athens and repel the Persian invaders, some argue that the true winners of the Battle of Marathon were the Persians. By strategically retreating and luring the Greeks away from their defensive positions, the Persians had managed to strike a significant blow. Their surprise attack on Athens could have had devastating consequences, potentially altering the course of history.

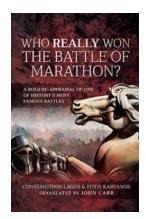
### Legacy and Significance

The Battle of Marathon holds immense historical significance, regardless of the true winners. It symbolizes the defiance of a smaller force against a larger one, as well as the resilience and determination of the Greek city-states in the face of a formidable enemy.

The legacy of the Battle of Marathon can be seen in various aspects of modern culture. The marathon race, for example, traces its origins back to the runner Pheidippides, who allegedly ran from Marathon to Athens to deliver the news of the Greek victory. The battle also inspired countless works of art, literature, and film, immortalizing the enduring spirit of the Greeks.

While the conventional narrative of the Battle of Marathon celebrates the Greek victory, alternative theories challenge this perspective. The idea that the Persians strategically retreated and launched a surprise attack on Athens offers a fresh

and controversial interpretation of the events. Regardless of who truly won the Battle of Marathon, its historical significance remains undeniable, reminding us of the timeless power of courage and determination in the face of adversity.



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"An excellent book" that takes a new look at the historic clash between the ancient Greeks and Persians (Army Rumour Service).

The Battle of Marathon in 490 BC, in which an Athenian-led Greek force defeated a Persian invasion, is one of the most decisive battles in antiquity, studied for centuries. It is famed as a triumph of the Greek hoplite heavy infantry phalanx against massively superior Persian numbers. But this exciting reassessment of the evidence, including new archaeological findings, overturns many long-held assumptions. In particular, the authors argue that the Greek numerical inferiority was less marked than previously thought, largely because the hoplites were accompanied by many light infantrymen who are given unprecedented credit for

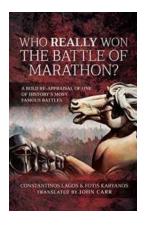
their role in the fighting. The contribution of these poorer citizens, it is argued, led to the immediate strengthening of democracy in Athens.

Also tackled is the much-debated mystery of the whereabouts of the Persian cavalry, generally thought to have been absent on the day of battle. Their bold answer is that it was not only present but played a central role in the fighting. However, the Greeks managed to defeat the Persian cavalry by their ingenious use of the terrain. The authors also claim to have located the site of the Greek camp. This thoroughly researched and compelling reassessment is an exciting new take on this justly famous event.



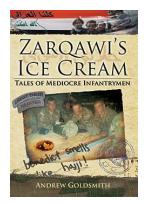
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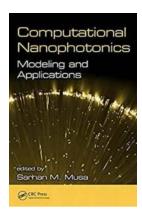
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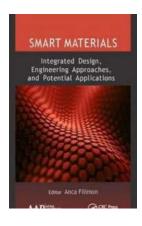
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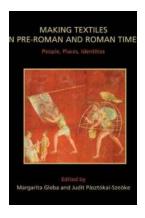
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