

Arms and Armor of Caucasus (English and Russian Edition)

By Kirill A. Rivkin

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The book's main focus is on the development of arms and armor in Caucasus between the sixteenth and the early twentieth centuries, but it is considered in a more general context of period Eastern weapons, from those of late Mongol Empires, to Safavid Persia and the Ottomans. Its 328 large format pages are dedicated to providing both the overall classification of Caucasian weapons, as well as being a guide in both dating and attribution of such weapons to a specific culture: Circassian, Georgian, Dagestani, Chechen, Armenian, Azerbaijani, and so on. Well illustrated, with 213 photographs, including many unique, never before published items from both private and museum collections, it attempts to demonstrate all major forms of edged weapons and defensive armaments, from exceptionally rare early helmets to such classical Caucasian forms as kindjal and shashka. Most of the photographs were taken by well known still life photographers and are true works of art on their own. Though the book is in English, translations of figure captions into Russian are provided.

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Editorial Review

Review
Kirill Rivkin's book, Arms and Armor of Caucasus, presents the most extensive, detailed, and comprehensive study of this subject available in English. As such it is an absolute necessity for collectors, curators, historians and anyone else interested in this fascinating material. In addition, this handsomely produced book will make a fine addition to private and institutional libraries as a reference work and guide to this understudied and, until now, poorly understood subject --Donald J. La Rocca, Curator of Arms and Armor, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Since medieval times Caucasus was one of the most important centers of manufacturing of arms and armor. It played a crucial role on the cultural crossroads between Persia, Ottoman Empire and Middle-Eastern European policies, especially those of Russia and Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Until now, the existing knowledge of this significant region and its cultural influences was not available for English readers. Kirill Rivkin s book fills long lasting gap for collectors and scholars, paving a new standard in the research on the historical weaponry of the Near East --Michal Dziewulski, National Museum in Krakow

Kirill Rivkin s book, Arms and Armor of Caucasus, is a very good book to know a general picture of Caucasus weapon culture. The beauty of sword blade, hilt, sheath, and other design is also given perfectly from many photographs included --Masahiro Kitada, Prof. Emeritus, Tokyo University of the Arts

Users Review

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