



Piracy in the Graeco-Roman World

By Philip de Souza

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This book is an historical study of piracy in the ancient Greek and Roman world. It examines the origins and growth of piracy, the impact of piracy on trade, and the relationship between warfare and piracy, and evaluates attempts to suppress piracy by the states and rulers of the ancient world. A major innovation is the author's discussion of the way that pirates and piracy are portrayed in major works of classical literature, including Homer, Cicero and the ancient novels.

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"...a substantial contribution to the history of maritime marauding in the Mediterranean during the classical age." The American Neptune

"Philip de Souza, who is a senior lecturer in classical studies at St. Mary's University College in England, has done a splendid job of research and has succeeded in deciphering many of the mysteries about piracy in the ancient Mediterranean. It is a book written for classical scholars and the true pirate enthusiasts..." Bowling Green, KY News

"This meticulous work of scholarship will not be superseded for many decades." Choice

"Piracy is an excellent, even 'sexy' topic. De Souza's work, particularly the chapters on Hellenistic and Roman piracy, touches on many of these subjects in an interesting and enlightening manner." BMR, Kathryn Simonsen, University of Alberta

"...no one until now has undertaken a careful analysis of the portrayal of piracy by contemporary writers...it is essential for anyone dealing with these periods of history." The Northern Mariner

"Philip de Souza's excellent new book on ancient piracy is mostly concerned with the impact of outlaw violence at the level of the private world." The International History Review

About the Author

Philip de Souza was Senior Lecturer in Classical Studies at St Mary's University College, Strawberry Hill. He is also the author of Seafaring and Civilisation (2001; 1861973624) and the forthcoming Ancient Naval Warfare.

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