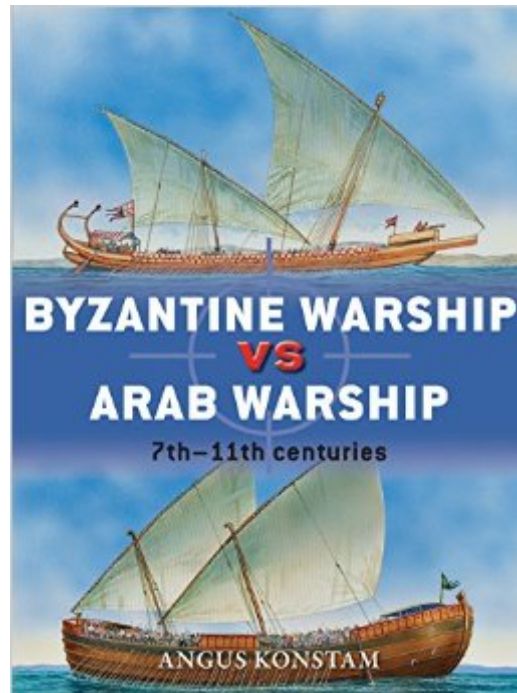


The book was found

Byzantine Warship Vs Arab Warship: 7th-11th Centuries (Duel)



Synopsis

This engaging study pits the the Byzantine dromon against the Arabic shalandi in the prolonged struggle for mastery in the Mediterranean in the four centuries after 630 AD. For four hundred years the Byzantine Empire's naval forces vied with the warships of the Islamic world for mastery of the Mediterranean. At the heart of this confrontation were the fighting vessels of the two powers, the Byzantine dromon and the Arabic shalandi, both oared warships. In those four centuries of warfare between two major maritime powers, both the Byzantines and the Arabs left us records of their doctrine and tactics, as well as of how their ships were built. Featuring full-colour artwork and rigorous analysis from an authority on naval warfare, this enthralling book offers a glimpse of the long-lost world of war at sea in the age of Byzantium.

Book Information

Series: Duel (Book 64)

Paperback: 80 pages

Publisher: Osprey Publishing (January 20, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 147280757X

ISBN-13: 978-1472807571

Product Dimensions: 7.2 x 0.2 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #492,126 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #223 in [Books > History > Middle East > Turkey](#) #1174 in [Books > History > Military > Naval](#) #9863 in [Books > History > Europe](#)

Customer Reviews

This book, like all in the Osprey *œDuel* series of which it is a part, is rather short. It is only 80 pages long and about a third of these consist of illustration of one type or another. Hence if one is looking for an academic tome on the subject this is not the book to read. A more appropriate question is, considering the limitations of the format it is part of, how well does it do at covering its topic? The answer is quite well. The author, Angus Konstam, is an eminent naval historian who has written dozens of books on the subject of naval warfare, many of which have been published by Osprey. In addition, many of his books are on vessels and naval tactics that were crudely similar to those covered in this book. For example, he has written *œRenaissance War gallery 1470-1590* and *œLepanto 1571* (both published by Osprey). His expertise on vessels and naval warfare

show through in this book. He discusses, in some detail, the construction methods used in both Arab and Byzantine vessels (very similar) and places these in historical evolutionary context. He describes how warship design moved away from the solid (but inflexible) construction techniques used in ancient Greek warships to the utilization of more flexible building techniques. These techniques made it much more difficult to sink warships via ramming, which was the preferred method in antiquity. As a result, tactics instead emphasized melees leading to boardings and attempts to sink vessels not through ramming but the utilization of fire. The Byzantine forces were much more effective here as they possessed something called 'Greek Fire', a liquid that burned on anything (including water) that was sprayed via a flamethrower like device at ranges of up to 40-50 meters.

This 'Duel series' title is a great primer, summary and overview, written by someone who knows the topic well and has definitely done his research. The context of the 'duel' between the two types of ships and, more generally, between the Byzantine and Arab fleets is well presented, despite the limited space that is available in such series. 'Muslim' or 'Islamic' might have been better terms, since at best only a minority on board would have been ethnic Arabs, but this is more a quibble than anything else. The identical starting points, that is the Late Roman Empire's liburna legacy and its improved design (the early Dromon or 'racers') is also well emphasised. So are the parallel evolutions of the two types of ships and fleets over a period of more than four centuries. At times, this little book can get quite 'technical' when describing the techniques for building these ships, how they evolved and what the specifications were. This may put off some potential readers, although if they persevere a bit, they will see that the 'design and Development' and the 'Technical Specifications' sections are useful and necessary. They will also see that they fit in very well with the rest of the book and, for the most curious readers, that they are largely a streamlined version of the much more complex explanations and descriptions that can be found in more specialised titles (in 'The Age of the Galley', edited by Robert Gardiner, in particular). The other sections are also great, including the one on 'analysis' which clearly shows the logistic limitations of naval warfare under oars in the Mediterranean throughout Antiquity, the middle Ages and the Renaissance.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Byzantine Warship vs Arab Warship: 7th-11th centuries (Duel) By the Emperor's Hand: Military Dress and Court Regalia in the later Romano- Byzantine Empire UNITED ARAB EMIRATES Country Studies: A brief, comprehensive study of United Arab Emirates Treaty Cruisers: The First

International Warship Building Competition Reeds Vol 14: Stealth Warship Technology (Reeds Marine Engineering and Technology Series) Warship 1996 The Last Ranger: Warship MAKE THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS (OR MORE) ON DRAFT KINGS AND FAN DUEL: I DID IT, NOW YOU CAN TOO. M48 Patton vs Centurion: Indo-Pakistani War 1965 (Duel) Bradley vs BMP: Desert Storm 1991 (Duel) F-86 Sabre vs MiG-15: Korea 1950-53 (Duel) US Navy Ships vs Kamikazes 1944-45 (Duel) F-15C Eagle vs MiG-23/25: Iraq 1991 (Duel) Panzer 38(t) vs BT-7: Barbarossa 1941 (Duel) Duel in the Mist 3: The Leibstandarte During the Ardennes Offensive War of Two: Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, and the Duel that Stunned the Nation Duel of Fire (Steel and Fire Book 1) The Pilgrim Church: Being Some Account of the Continuance Through Succeeding Centuries of Churches Practising the Principles Taught and Exemplified in The New Testament Twelve Centuries of Bookbindings, 400-1600 (A Pierpont Morgan Library Book) Rare & Lovely Dolls of Two Centuries

[Dmca](#)