



## The Glorious Art of Peace: From the Iliad to Iraq

By Gittings, John.

Oxford. 1 Cloth(s), 2012. hard. Book Condition: New. Human progress and prosperity depend on a peaceful environment, and people generally have always sought to live in peace, yet our perception of the past is too often dominated by a narrative concerned with war. Former Guardian foreign correspondent John Gittings demolishes the myth that peace is uninspiring, and that being in conflict is our natural state. Beginning with a new analysis of the treatment of peace in Homer's Iliad, Gittings explores powerful anti-war arguments by classical Greek and Chinese thinkers, as well as by the early Christians. He also finds a significant shift in Shakespeare's later plays towards a more peace-oriented view, traces the growth of the international movement for peace from the Enlightenment to the present day, and assesses the inspirational role of Tolstoy and Gandhi in advocating non-violence. Gittings concludes that, instead of being obsessed by a new war on terror, we should be focusing our energies on seeking peaceful solutions to the challenges of nuclear proliferation, conflict and extremism, poverty and inequality, and climate change. "Gittings provides an ambitious overview of the perceptions of peace from ancient times to the present within literature, art, and philosophy. His arguments challenge..."



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