This is a major new study of the ideas and practices involved in the making and breaking of peace treaties and truces from Classical Greece to the time of the Crusades. Leading specialists on war and peace in ancient and medieval history examine the creation of peace agreements, and explore the extent to which their terms could be manipulated to serve the interests of one side at the other’s expense. The chapters discuss a wide range of uses to which treaties and other peace agreements were put by rulers and military commanders in pursuit of both individual and collective political aims. The book also considers the wider implications of these issues for our understanding of the nature of war and peace in the ancient and medieval periods. This broad-ranging account includes chapters on ancient Persia, the Roman and Byzantine Empires, Anglo-Saxon England and the vikings.


John France is Professor of History at Swansea University. His many publications on medieval history include Victory in the East: A Military History of the First Crusade (1994) and Western Warfare in the Age of the Crusades 1000–1300 (1999).
War and Peace in Ancient and Medieval History

edited by

Philip de Souza and John France
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Note on abbreviations

Citations of Classical texts, including inscriptions, are given in their conventional, abbreviated form, corresponding to the list found at the start of the third edition of *The Oxford Classical Dictionary*, ed. S. Hornblower and A. Spawforth, Oxford, 1996. Citations from standard collections of medieval texts are also given in an abbreviated form, corresponding to the list found at the start of the third edition of *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, ed. F. L. Cross and E. A. Livingston, Oxford, 1997.