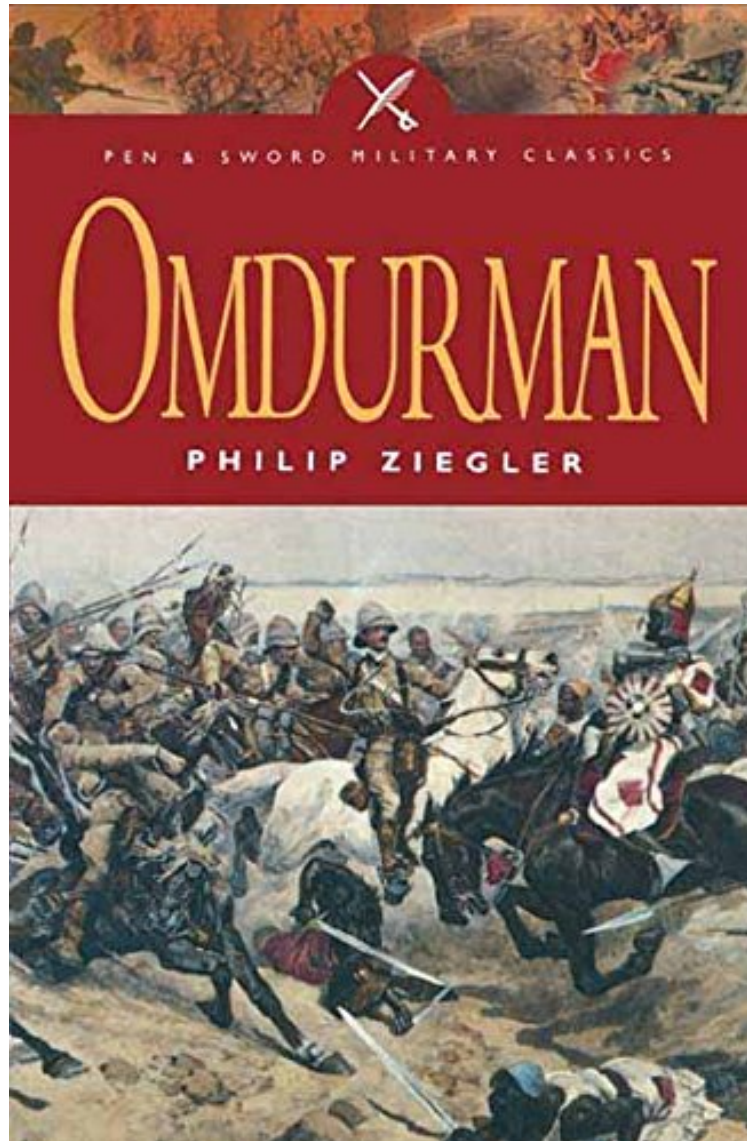


(Free pdf) Omdurman (Pen and Sword Military Classics)

Omdurman (Pen and Sword Military Classics)

Von John Meredith

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Von John Meredith : Omdurman (Pen and Sword Military Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Omdurman (Pen and Sword Military Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Well-written account of the Battle of OmdurmanVon Peter UysOmdurman is a really gripping account of Kitchener's conquest of Omdurman from the Mahdist forces in 1898. The prologue provides the background on the 1885 fall of Khartoum and death of General Gordon. The Mahdi died that same year and was succeeded by the Khalifa Abdullahi.

The rest of that decade, the Egyptian and Sudanese troops of the Khedive were being properly trained to become a disciplined force. In 1889 they defeated an attempted Mahdist invasion of Egypt at Toski north of Wadi Halfa in Nubia. Kitchener's success required a huge effort, including building a railway from Wadi Halfa through the Nubian desert to where the Atbara joins the Nile. After the Anglo-Egyptian force took Dongola in 1896, the reluctance of the British government to allow its further advance was overcome through the sensational reports of the brave spy Reginald Wingate. The army, joined by gun-boats, easily took Abadia and Berber. On 1st September 1898 the gun-boat bombardment first destroyed the island forts then turned their howitzers on the inner city walls. Soon the Mahdi's tomb had taken some direct hits. Meanwhile the army was establishing itself on the south slopes of the Kerreri hills. On the day of battle, the thousands of dervishes that stormed the Anglo-Egyptian position were repelled mainly by artillery. The action and the various close shaves are expertly narrated by Ziegler, including the famous charge of the 21st lancers. The battle turned into a wholesale slaughter of the Khalifa's forces that retreated into the city. As the army entered Omdurman on 2nd September, the Khalifa fled. Prisoners were freed and the Mahdi's tomb was razed to the ground the next day. On Sunday 4th September representatives of every regiment and corps crossed the Nile to Khartoum where a ceremony was held in Gordon's honor. The text is enhanced by plenty of black and white illustrations and many maps and the book concludes with a bibliography and index. The bulk of Omdurman deals with the battle itself and the few days preceding it. For in-depth history of the campaign, recommended books include *The Mahdist State in the Sudan, 1881-98: A Study of Its Origins, Development and Overthrow* by P M Holt and *The River War: An Account of the Reconquest of the Sudan* by Winston Churchill.

Kurzbeschreibung Personal accounts of a legendary battle seen through the eyes of Private George Teigh and Lieutenant Samuel FitzGibbon Cox amongst others. Both the Private and the Officer kept diaries, both recorded the same events, but with vastly differing views. Difficulties with boots, bullets and gunboats are described, but it is the eye-witness accounts that give full flavour to a fascinating campaign, which saw the last full cavalry charge. Kurzbeschreibung Personal accounts of a legendary battle seen through the eyes of Private George Teigh and Lieutenant Samuel FitzGibbon Cox amongst others. Both the Private and the Officer kept diaries, both recorded the same events, but with vastly differing views. Difficulties with boots, bullets and gunboats are described, but it is the eye-witness accounts that give full flavour to a fascinating campaign, which saw the last full cavalry charge. Synopsis The death of General Gordon in Khartoum at the hand of the Dervishes serving the fanatical Mahdi is one of the most celebrated events in the history of the 19th century. Equally dramatic and colourful, but perhaps less well-known, is the extraordinary battle fourteen years later in which Kitchener avenged the murder of Gordon at Omdurman, just across the Nile from Khartoum. General Kitchener amassed his Anglo-Egyptian troops in Cairo and set off into the desert with a motley army which, as time went on, included the Grenadier Guards, the Rifle Brigade and kilted Highlanders; the Camel Corps with 5,000 camels; infantry packed into trucks on the newly constructed railway line; and a flotilla of gunboats overloaded with cavalry and supplies. The going was often tough and the opposition from the Government in London seemed sometimes as obdurate as that provided by the Dervishes. But, in 1898 the army at last came in sight of Omdurman, capital of the Mahdi's successor, the Khalifa. The story of the battle which followed, a clash between spears, swords and frenzied courage on the one hand and the grim application of rifle and gunboat fire on the other, is breathtaking, bizarre and beautifully handled by the author. Towards the climax came the last great cavalry charge in history, that of the 21st Lancers, made memorable by one of the young officers who led it, Winston Churchill.