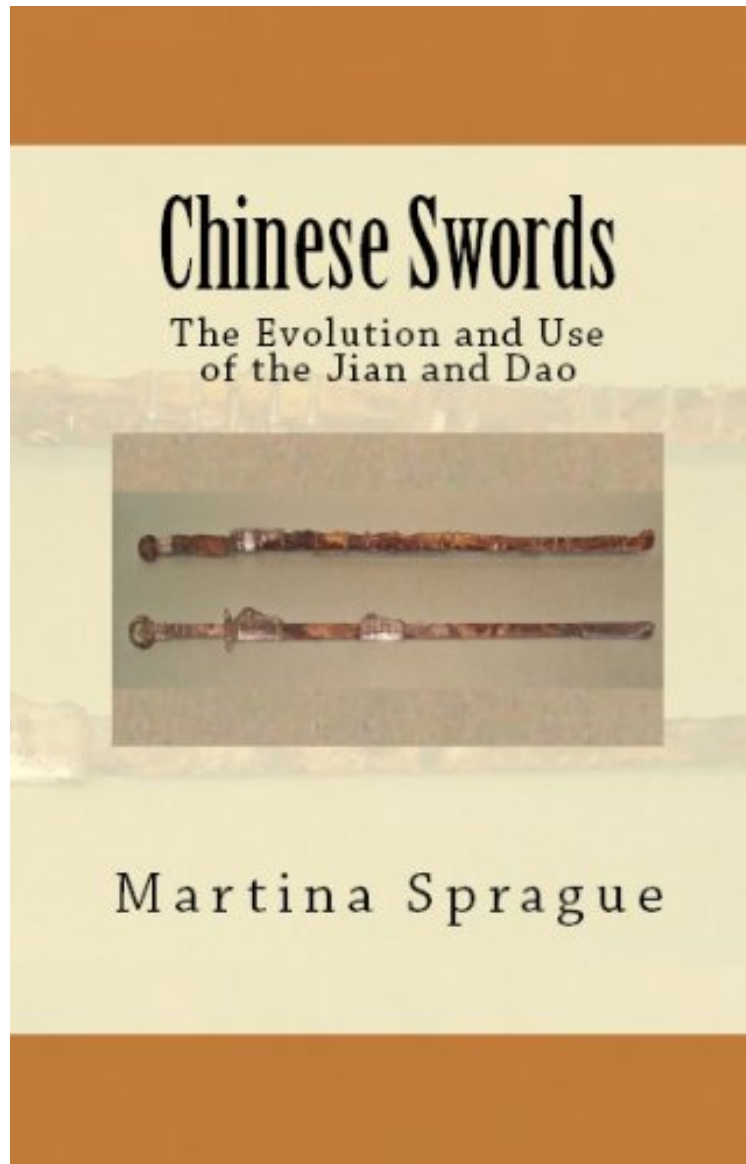


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Chinese Swords: The Evolution and Use of the Jian and Dao (Knives, Swords, and Bayonets: A World History of Edged Weapon Warfare Book 5) (English Edition)

Von Martina Sprague

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KurzbeschreibungEdged weapons became a mainstay in early Chinese history and through the Ming (1368-1644 CE) and Qing (1644-1912 CE) dynasties. The Chinese used swords to settle personal disputes, win military battles, and indicate one's social and martial status through the end of the Imperial Period.China, a country of vast resources, developed its metal and iron industry earlier than its western counterparts and achieved great advances in metallurgic science. There were two classes of Chinese swords: the straight double edgedjianand the slightly curved single edgeddao. The jian proved effective mainly for chivalry combat in the Zhou Dynasty (1045-256 BCE), and was later carried by the nobility as a symbol of status. Military officers, perhaps because of their association with the nobility, seem to have preferred the double edged jian over the dao. The dao proved useful mainly in cavalry combat, which started to gain popularity in the Western Han Dynasty (202 BCE-9 CE). The dao was a true soldier's weapon that required more attention to fighting skill than finesse.This book follows a chronological path through China's dynasties, exploring sword design and swordsmanship. The concluding remarks recap the long history of the sword with focus on the philosophical value one assigned the weapon.*Knives, Swords, and Bayonets: A World History of Edged Weapon Warfare* is a book series that examines the history of edged weapons in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Americas, and the Middle East and surrounding areas before gunpowder increased the distance between combatants. The book series takes a critical look at the relationship between the soldier, his weapon, and the social and political mores of the times. Each book examines the historical background and metallurgic science of the knife, sword, or bayonet respectively, and explores the handling characteristics and combat applications of each weapon.Saveby purchasing the full 10-book series in a single paperback volume (538 pages).Look for *Knives, Swords, and Bayonets: A World History of Edged Weapon Warfare*(the full series).The full series comprises the following books, which can be read in any order:1. *Kukris and Gurkhas: Nepalese Kukri Combat Knives and the Men Who Wield Them*2. *Machete, Kris, and Throwing Iron: Edged Weapons of Latin America, Indonesia, and Africa*3. *Cold Steel: The Knife in Army, Navy, and Special Forces Operations*4. *Japanese Swords: The Katana and Gunto in Medieval and Modern Japanese Warfare*5. *Chinese Swords: The Evolution and Use of the Jian and Dao*6. *Yatagan, Khanda, and Jamdhar: Swords and Sabers of Persia and India*7. *Sickle Sword and Battle Axe: Edged Weapons of Ancient Egypt*8. *Gladius and Spatha: Swords and Warfare in the Classical World*9. *Longsword and Saber: Swords and Swordsmen of Medieval and Modern Europe*10. *Pike, Halberd, and Bayonet: Sharp Weapons in Near Modern and Modern Warfare*Note that the books are written for those with an interest in exploring the historical beginnings of edged weaponry, how edged weapons have been used in war in different parts of the world, and the value the soldier attached to his weapon. Military, social, and political history is discussed. Arms collectors or others with detailed interest in the finer points of weaponsmithing may want to look for books that are more heavily illustrated.KurzbeschreibungEdged weapons became a mainstay in early Chinese history and through the Ming (1368-1644 CE) and Qing (1644-1912 CE) dynasties. The Chinese used swords to settle personal disputes, win military battles, and indicate one's social and martial status through the end of the Imperial Period.China, a country of vast resources, developed its metal and iron industry earlier than its western counterparts and achieved great advances in metallurgic science. There were two classes of Chinese swords: the straight double edgedjianand the slightly curved single edgeddao. The jian proved effective mainly for chivalry combat in the Zhou Dynasty (1045-256 BCE), and was later carried by the nobility as a symbol of status. 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ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende
Martina Sprague has a Master of Arts Degree in Military History from Norwich University in Vermont. She is the author of numerous books about military and general history. For more information, please visit her Web site: www.modernfighter.com.