



The Hittites

Oliver Robert Gurney

Download now

Read Online ➔

The Hittites

Oliver Robert Gurney

The Hittites Oliver Robert Gurney

This book was first published by Penguin Books in 1952. This Folio edition follows the revised edition from 1990, with further revisions by the author. Illustrations by Simon Noyes. Map by Reginald Piggott

The Hittites Details

Date : Published February 5th 1991 by Penguin Books (first published 1952)

ISBN : 9780140126013

Author : Oliver Robert Gurney

Format : Paperback 240 pages

Genre : History, Ancient History, Nonfiction, Literature, Ancient

 [Download The Hittites ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Hittites ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Hittites Oliver Robert Gurney

From Reader Review The Hittites for online ebook

Eric says

Very interesting. I'm not so very familiar with pre-classical antiquity, but I'm interested in all the new insights resulting from modern research techniques, technology, & findings in the past few decades, so I'm checking out the recent books on the ancient civilizations. Not much was known about the Hittites 40 years ago, but now the tablets can be deciphered, locations of cities have been proven, and relations with surrounding cultures can be assessed. Maybe I'll read about the Egyptians next.

Zach says

Interesting and reasonably well written. It's just that there's a lot that we don't know about the Hittites and this book is generally content to say that and move on. It's worthwhile reading to get some context about a major near eastern power, there's just not as much information as Sumer, Egypt, Babylon, or Assyria.

Sean Brennan says

The trouble with reading a history which is now over 60 years old is always wondering what information contained within is now obsolete, and what is not. On the whole a little too Academic for my tastes such as the section on linguistics but still an interesting read!

Mark says

Hittites! I remember in my high school ancient history class as we breezed past the glories of Pharaonic Egypt and mighty Babylon that the Hittites received the briefest of mentions. What I did not know in high school was that the Hittite Empire was completely lost to history and only recently re-discovered in the 19th century. What was most interesting was learning how long it took to decipher the Hittite language, almost 60 years (from the 1890s to the 1950s) to crack the meaning of Hittite hieroglyphics. It turns out that Hittite is the earliest known Indo-European language, which is awesome. Words like "eat" and "drink" in Hittite are startling similar to modern German and English.

GoldGato says

Until I read this book, I only had a very vague idea of the Hittites. I guess I got my "ites" mixed up, because I didn't realize they were one of the major ancient civilizations lost to history until the discovery of the Aleppo Stone in the 19th century. The Stone had all but been rubbed away by local inhabitants because they thought it was a cure for diseased eyes. A strange way to re-discover Asia Minor's most formidable people.

Mighty builders of empire and the most formidable foe of Ramesses II, the Hittites dominated Asia Minor for hundreds of years...and then vanished. Was it war? Fire? Famine? Disease? Did the Four Horsemen all visit at once?

What is this, O gods, that you have done? You have let in a plague and the Land of Hatti, all of it, is dying...

I believe the Hittites are connected to the Trojans. At the very least, Homer must have heard about their great debacle and used it for his *Iliad*. Were the Trojans actually the Hittites themselves? Or were they the next generation? So many questions, so few answers, as much is lost.

This is the Folio Society edition, which means I was scared to touch it. Gorgeous imprinted cover, drop-dead gorgeous typesetting, and color photographs that make the reader yearn for a little expedition to modern-day Turkey.

Book Season = Summer (but not for the beach)

Charles says

Remains the definitive volume on the Hittites by a scholar of the old school, who understood his subject intellectually and viscerally.

Barnaby Thieme says

A short, readable introduction to the history and culture of the Anatolian Hittites. A classic.

Ευθυμ?α Δεσποτ?κη says

?χω μεγ?λη αδυναμ?α στους Χεττα?ους. Μ?λλον γιατ? ακ?μη κι η προγιαγι? μου τους ?ξερε -για την ακρ?βεια ?ξερε την πρωτε?ουσ? τους τη Χαττο?σσα, την οπο?α και μνημ?νευε εις την ποντιακ?ν, ?ποτε ?θελε να πει ?τι κ?τι ?ταν μακρι?. Π?ντως τους ?χω αδυναμ?α φοβερ?, γιαυτ? κι ?ταν αποφ?σισα να γρ?ψω κ?τι ψευδοελληνικ?-ψευδοποντιακ?, οι αντ?παλοι των ηρ?ων μου, αν και ?χι οι κακο?, ?ταν κ?ποιοι που ?μοιαζαν με Χεττα?ους.

Για να κ?νεις κ?τι τ?τοιο ?μω? χρει?ζεσαι ?πειρο δι?βασμα. Κι ?χω κ?νει ?πειρο χεττα??κο δι?βασμα. Και το βιβλ?ο του Γκ?ρνε? ε?ναι απ? τα καλ?τερα που ?χω διαβ?σει.

Απλ? αλλ? ?χι απλο?κ?, λεπτομερ?ς αλλ? ?χι μπουκωτικ? και τ?μιο στις πηγ?ς και τις ιδ?ες του, ζωντανε?ει με προσοχ? και τρυφερ?τητα ?ναν λα? που για αι?νες ε?χε με?νει ξεχασμ?νος. ?ναν λα? που κ?ποιοι (ναι, φ?λτατε Ραμσ?, εσ?να εννο?) προσπ?θησαν να μας πε?σουν ?τι τον ν?κησαν, εν? παραλ?γο να νικηθο?ν απ? αυτ?ν. ?να λα? που πιθαν?ν να ?ταν κοντιν?τερα στην ισ?τητα των δ?ο φ?λων απ? εμ?ς, κοντιν?τερα στην ανεξιθρησκε?α απ? εμ?ς και κοντιν?τερα στο απ?λυτο δ?καιο απ? μας.

Σταματ? εδ?, τους αγαπ? τ?σο πολ?, που μπορ? να γρ?φω γι' αυτο?ς για ?ρες. Αν πετ?χετε πουθεν? το βιβλ?ο, διαβ?στε το. Θα τους αγαπ?σετε κι εσε?ς ?πως κι εγ?.

Triumphal Reads says

4 out of 5 stars - Full review can be found at - <https://triumphalreads.com/hittites-o...>

Cons - No real wrap-up/reflection

- Some esoteric sections (Hittite and ancient Anatolian languages)

Pros - Great chapter on Hittite law

-Solid overview of much of everything

- Folio Society edition

- Extensive bibliography

Jonathan says

An excellent introduction to the topic. Though there are more up-to-date/indepth works on the Hittites, most notably Trevor Bryce's publications, Gurney's book should still be read. Firstly, it highlights how advanced our understanding of the Hittites was in the period between the 20s and the 50s, and in light of subsequent discoveries, how much there was still left to learn. Secondly, there is something to learn from his reference to theories that have now fallen out of favor, and thirdly its section on Hittite language is concise and very well written. There are a few negatives. The sections on art and literature felt a bit tacked on, though that may be a result of a lack of material at the time this book was published. This was the first book published for a english general readership - most of the Hittite scholarship of that time being in German and Czech. I would also deduct one star on this edition as the maps are inadequate. There are a number of sites referenced in the book that do not appear on the map or are obviously outside the view that the map takes. There are many landmarks in Anatolia that are also better known by their names from classical history that I feel would have benefitted from some sort of dual-labeling.

Pam Baddeley says

An introduction to the civilisation of the Hittites, a people who lived on the Anatolian plateau and also in what is now Syria, and were contemporaneous with other better known nations such as the Assyrians and Egyptians. It gives a good coverage of the various aspects, though the linguistics section is rather erudite, assuming knowledge of Latin and ancient Greek.

The version I read is an ex library discard, rather old, so I don't know how different the 1990 update is, which presumably itself is somewhat out of date, but this work still seems to be a basic primer on the subject.

Fredrick Danysh says

Coming from Palestine, the Hittites were an ancient tribe. This history looks at their history and culture to

include religious practices, language, and race.
