

Abstract

Title:

Education and Training of Hoplites in the Ancient Sparta and Athens

Objectives:

The objective of the thesis is to create the comprehensive overview of the education and training of soldiers in the ancient Sparta and Athens with emphasis on the army physical training and special physical training and following comparison with approach to training of current soldiers.

Methods:

The thesis is a development study of armies of the ancient Sparta and Athens with focus on the education and physical training, utilizing the methods of historical research. For the scientific research I have chosen the methods: direct, indirect, perspective, retrospective, induction, comparative method and internal and external criticism of sources.

Results:

In the thesis I research the approach to education and training of soldiers in the ancient Sparta and Athens. The Spartan system of raising boys started in childhood and took almost their whole life. Compared to that, the Athenian training focused more on the education than on the military training which did not begin until the age of 18. Both the Athenian and Spartan society raised their citizens to strong patriotism so they would defend their homeland in case of need. In combat the soldiers mainly utilized their spear and shield, and their combat tactics was to form solid phalanx in which the soldiers could protect one another. The Greek soldier was also influenced by the way the society worked. The Greek states led many wars in which they were successful thanks to their well thought-out training part of which was also emphasis on the physical ability. In comparison to the current training management of the Army of the Czech Republic in the area of physical preparation, it could be said that they coincide in many aspects although they are largely adapted to modern time and laws.

Keywords:

army, physical training, society, war

