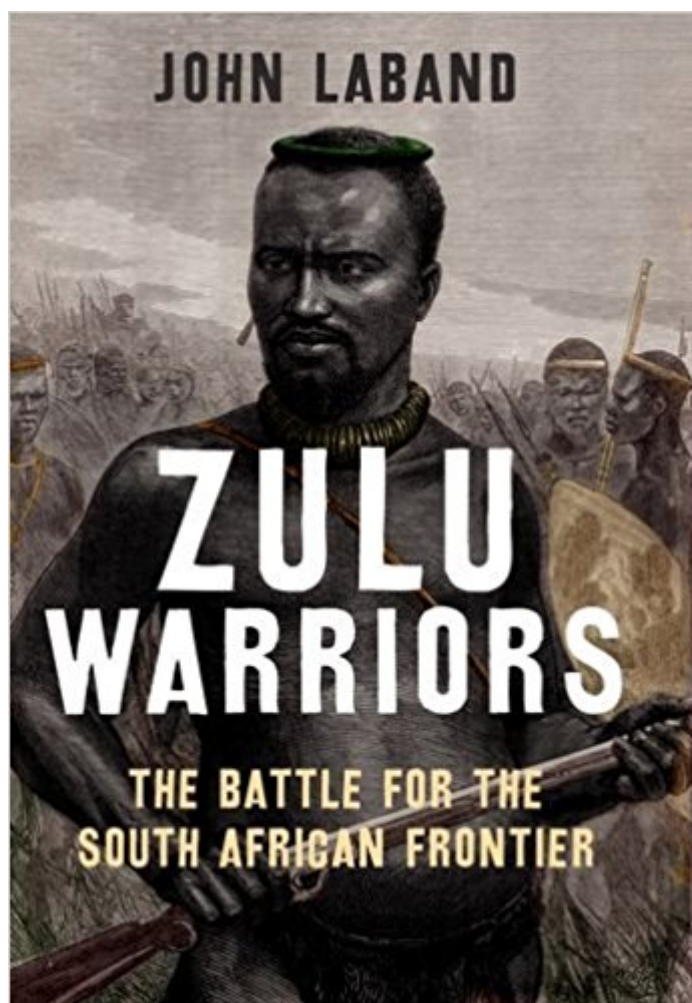


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Zulu Warriors: The Battle For The South African Frontier



Synopsis

Toward the end of the nineteenth century, the British embarked on a concerted series of campaigns in South Africa. Within three years they waged five wars against African states with the intent of destroying their military might and political independence and unifying southern Africa under imperial control. This is the first work to tell the story of this cluster of conflicts as a single whole and to narrate the experiences of the militarily outmatched African societies. Â Deftly fusing the widely differing European and African perspectives on events, John Laband details the fateful decisions of individual leaders and generals and explores why many Africans chose to join the British and colonial forces. The Xhosa, Zulu, and other African military cultures are brought to vivid life, showing how varying notions of warrior honor and manliness influenced the outcomes for African fighting men and their societies.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

John Laband is professor, Department of History, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, and the author or editor of many books on Africa.

A summary of the review on StrategyPage.Com: 'Given the great number of books on the Anglo-Zulu wars, particularly that of 1879, a new work titled Zulu Warriors might seem like more of the same, but that is not the case at all. In his opening chapter, titled 'The Shadow of Isandhlwana,' Prof. Laband (Laurier University), author of several books on African history,

points out that Isandhlwana and Rourke's Drift so dominate accounts of war in South Africa that we fail to see them within the context of much wider Anglo-Boer efforts to curb the power of the indigenous peoples and expand the frontiers of 'civilization'. He then takes us through six wars between 1876 and 1879 between the British or the Boers and various local nations, the Pedi, the Xhosa, the Zulu, and others. Laband looks at the varying military institutions of the African peoples and successfully takes their perspective on the events into account, which is important because the actions of indigenous leaders have most often been viewed through British or Boer eyes. This is an excellent work for those interested in South African military history or in colonial military operations.'For the full review, see StrategyPage.Com

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