

HISTORY

The Greatest HEROES

DVD VIDEO

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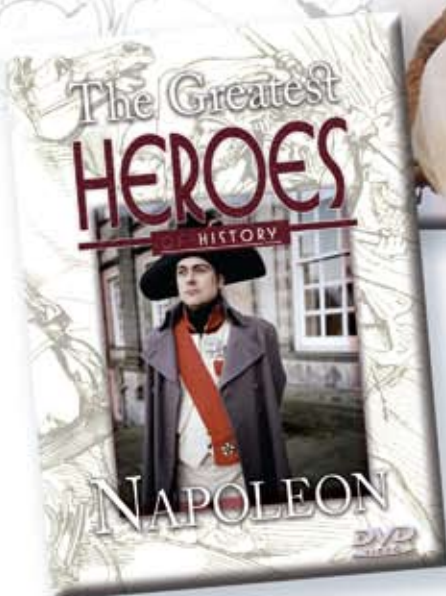
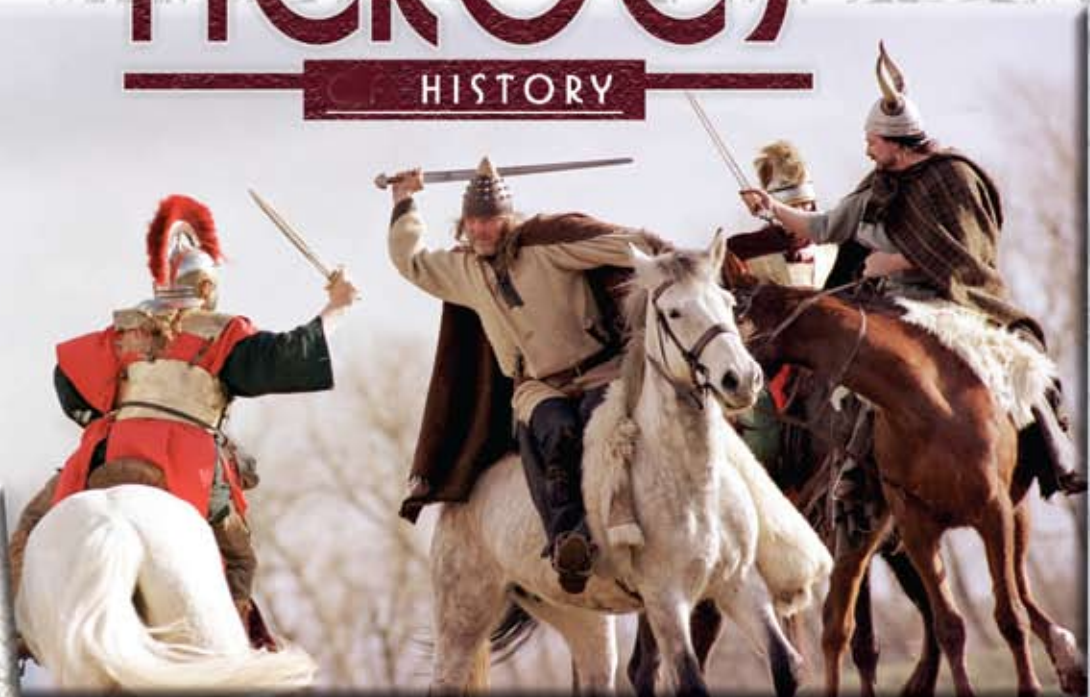
A series of documentaries charting the exploits of some of history's most formidable figures.

7 x 24 minute programs
Directed by Jane Quigley
A Wark Clements Production
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THE GREATEST HEROES IN HISTORY SERIES

DVD Format Set of 7 \$385.00 PED220
DIGITAL Format Set of 7 \$484.00 PEL514

or available individually



Alexander the Great

The legend and legacy of Macedonian King, Alexander the Great (356-323 BC) unrivalled military genius and conqueror of the ancient world.

The passion, brilliance and excess with which Alexander lived reflected his hard warrior upbringing, his education at the hands of Aristotle, and his firm conviction, that he was born of the gods.

Alexander intimidated the Greek world into submission by destroying Thebes and set about satisfying his lust for power and thirst for knowledge by conquering the 200-year-old enemy of Persia. But he was unable to convince his loyal and battle-worn armies to follow him beyond Afghanistan and Pakistan into India and died at the age of 33.

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Hannibal

The military genius of risk-taking Carthaginian General Hannibal Barca (247-182BC).

The ancient city state of Carthage (modern-day Tunisia) dominated north Africa and the Mediterranean for 600 years, during which time the first Punic Wars were waged against the Romans - a bitter and bloody 100-year campaign.

The son of a general, Hannibal embraced his nation's loathing of Italy and he led the Carthaginian armies during the second Punic Wars. Hannibal's charisma, presence and strength ensured his loyal troops would follow him anywhere. Despite the Romans' best efforts, Hannibal outsmarted his enemy in battle numerous times, before finally losing to Roman general Scipio at Zama in 202 BC.

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Julius Caesar

The career of Julius Caesar, the most famous Roman leader of all.

A successful military campaign in Asia Minor enhanced Caesar's reputation as a great soldier and a nine-year campaign saw his troops conquer Gaul (now modern France), the greatest military achievement of any Roman leader.

He returned to a strife-filled Rome determined to seize power but his overwhelming ambition was his undoing. After being elected dictator-for-life, and amassing vast powers, he was stabbed to death by conspirators in the Senate.

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Nelson

Horatio Nelson's naval career ended with one of the greatest military victories in history.

Like so many of history's big names, Nelson's achievements have become shrouded in legend, and in this programme experts Mark Grove and Peter Warwick extract the man from the myth to reveal what set him apart. Nelson made his name during the French Revolution, when Britain, refusing to recognise the new French republic, was at war with France and its ally Spain.

Nelson's immortalisation was guaranteed when he died during his greatest hour at the Battle of Trafalgar.

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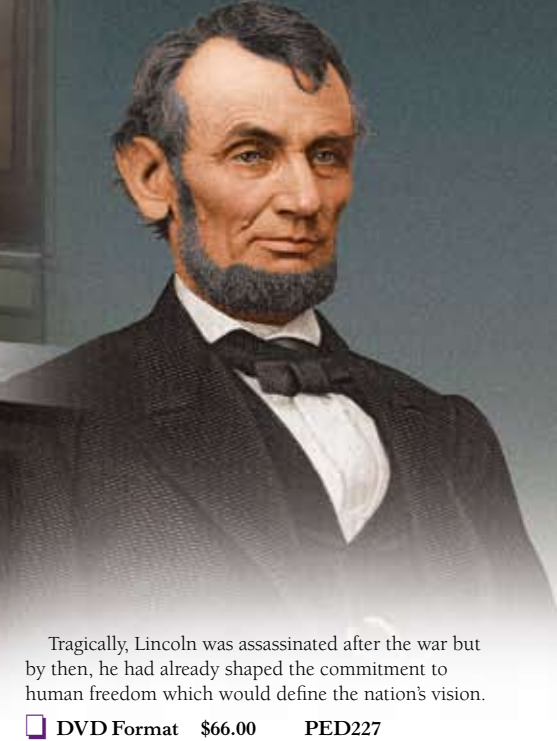
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Napoleon

Napoleon Bonaparte, the French military genius, rose to power during the Revolution and declared himself Emperor.

Educated at the Royal Military Academy, Napoleon's hunger for learning and sympathy for the Revolution set him aside from his fellow cadets. With the old order destroyed, Napoleon prospered under the wing of the feared Robespierre, and on his return from a successful Egyptian campaign, he entered Congress and seized power in a bloodless coup.

Napoleon crowned himself Emperor in 1804 and his armies conquered much of Europe. However, the disastrous march on Moscow brought his removal from power and exile to the island of Elba.

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Washington

Washington was born in 1732 and enlisted into the Virginia militia where he showed bravery and strategic brilliance as he led several successful

British expeditions against French invaders. He returned to his farm after being denied a commission by the British but responded to the call of duty when heavy British taxation inspired the colonists to unite and revolt.

Washington's troops began the eight-year War of Independence as a ragtag bunch of conscripts, but ultimately triumphed. Having already supervised the drafting of the Declaration of Independence, Washington was reluctantly appointed President for two four-year terms.

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Lincoln

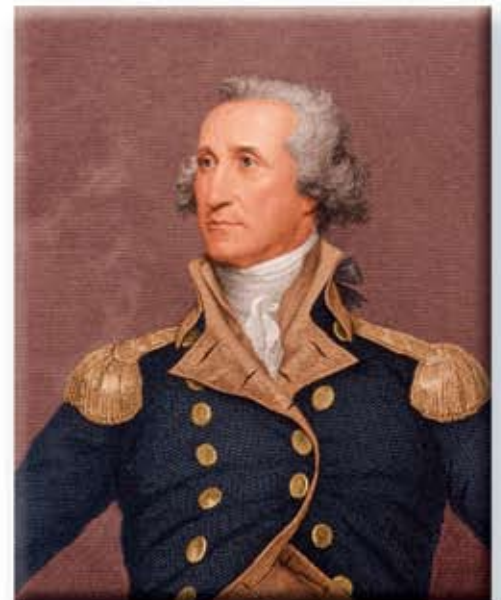
America's greatest president, Abraham Lincoln, led the political crusade for the abolition of slavery.

He developed a passion for politics, and for the notion of fairness, became a congressman, and in 1860 was elected President. His well-known hatred of slavery panicked the 'slave states' into withdrawing from the Union and forming the Confederacy. Five years of bloody conflict followed, in which Union General Ulysses S Grant ultimately led the north to victory.

Tragically, Lincoln was assassinated after the war but by then, he had already shaped the commitment to human freedom which would define the nation's vision.

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