Record Nr. UNINA9910778552103321 Autore Whetham David Titolo Just wars and moral victories [[electronic resource]]: surprise, deception and the normative framework of European war in the later Middle Ages / / by David Whetham Leiden;; Boston,: Brill, 2009 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-40041-X 9786612400414 90-474-2485-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (276 p.) History of warfare, , 1385-7827;; v. 55 Collana 355/.47409024 Disciplina Soggetti Military art and science - Europe - History - To 1500 Surprise (Military science) - History Deception (Military science) - History Chivalry - Europe - History - To 1500 Middle Ages Europe History, Military To 1500 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction -- Metaphysical and moral context -- The role of war as a legal instrument in the Middle Ages -- The epitome of military science -- The works of Geoffroy de Charny -- Froissart : the management of chivalric expectation -- Conclusion. Sommario/riassunto While recognising the sophistication of the practice of medieval warfare, many people still have problems reconciling the widespread use of surprise and deception with the code of chivalric warfare. Was chivalry really just a meaningless veneer? If true, perhaps more perplexing are the many cases where surprise or deception were not employed and advantages were therefore sacrificed. This work argues that understanding these apparent inconsistencies requires an appreciation of the moral and legal context of medieval strategic thought. Through taking this approach, chivalric warfare can be seen

for what it was - a very real framework or system of rules that allowed a result or decision to be reached which could be accepted by both