



## Constant Battles: Why We Fight

By Steven Le Blanc

St. Martin's Griffin. Paperback. Condition: New. 256 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.1in. x 0.8in. With armed conflict in the Persian Gulf now upon us, Harvard archaeologist Steven LeBlanc takes a long-term view of the nature and roots of war, presenting a controversial thesis: The notion of the noble savage living in peace with one another and in harmony with nature is a fantasy. In *Constant Battles: The Myth of the Peaceful, Noble Savage*, LeBlanc contends that warfare and violent conflict have existed throughout human history, and that humans have never lived in ecological balance with nature. The start of the second major U. S. military action in the Persian Gulf, combined with regular headlines about spiraling environmental destruction, would tempt anyone to conclude that humankind is fast approaching a catastrophic end. But as LeBlanc brilliantly argues, the archaeological record shows that the warfare and ecological destruction we find today fit into patterns of human behavior that have gone on for millions of years. *Constant Battles* surveys human history in terms of social organization—from hunter gatherers, to tribal agriculturalists, to more complex societies. LeBlanc takes the reader on his own digs around the world -- from New Guinea to the Southwestern U....



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