

Art of War Quotes (– Sun Tzu)

A list of quotes by Chinese Philosopher Sun Tzu (孙子 in Chinese) in his groundbreaking work "The Art of War."

1. "Quickness is the essence of the war." – **Sun Tzu**
2. "To know your Enemy, you must become your Enemy." – **Sun Tzu**
3. "If your enemy is secure at all points, be prepared for him. If he is in superior strength, evade him. If your opponent is temperamental, seek to irritate him. Pretend to be weak, that he may grow arrogant. If he is taking his ease, give him no rest. If his forces are united, separate them. If sovereign and subject are in accord, put division between them. Attack him where he is unprepared, appear where you are not expected." – **Sun Tzu**
4. "Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory. Tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat." – **Sun Tzu**
5. "There are not more than five musical notes, yet the combinations of these five give rise to more melodies than can ever be heard. There are not more than five primary colors, yet in combination they produce more hues than can ever been seen. There are not more than five cardinal tastes, yet combinations of them yield more flavors than can ever be tasted." – **Sun Tzu**
6. "You have to believe in yourself."/ – **Sun Tzu**
7. "Know yourself and you will win all battles." – **Sun Tzu**
8. "There is no instance of a nation benefitting from prolonged warfare."
9. "If the mind is willing, the flesh could go on and on without many things." – **Sun Tzu**
10. "Know thy self, know thy enemy. A thousand battles, a thousand victories." – **Sun Tzu**
11. "Treat **your** men as you would your own beloved sons. And they will follow you into the deepest valley." – **Sun Tzu**
12. "Be extremely subtle, even to the point of formlessness. Be extremely mysterious, even to the point of soundlessness. Thereby you can be the director of the opponent's fate." – **Sun Tzu**
13. "If you wait by the river long enough, the bodies of your enemies will float by." – **Sun Tzu**
14. "Invincibility lies in the defence; the possibility of victory in the attack." – **Sun Tzu**
15. "Engage people with what they expect; it is what they are able to discern and confirms their projections. It settles them into predictable patterns of response, occupying their minds while you wait for the extraordinary moment — that which they cannot anticipate." – **Sun Tzu**

16. "If you are far from the enemy, make him believe you are near." – **Sun Tzu**
17. "When strong, avoid them. If of high morale, depress them. Seem humble to fill them with conceit. If at ease, exhaust them. If united, separate them. Attack their weaknesses. Emerge to their surprise." – **Sun Tzu**
18. "Move swift as the Wind and closely-formed as the Wood. Attack like the Fire and be still as the Mountain." – **Sun Tzu**
19. "Keep your friends close, and your enemies closer." – **Sun Tzu**
20. "When the enemy is relaxed, make them toil. When full, starve them. When settled, make them move." – **Sun Tzu**
21. "Supreme excellence consists of breaking the enemy's resistance without fighting." – **Sun Tzu**
22. "Victorious warriors win first and then go to war, while defeated warriors go to war first and then seek to win." – **Sun Tzu**
23. "Victory usually goes to the army who has better trained officers and men." – **Sun Tzu**
24. "He who wishes to fight must first count the cost." – **Sun Tzu**
25. "A kingdom that has once been destroyed can never come again into being; nor can the dead ever be brought back to life." – **Sun Tzu**
26. "The opportunity to secure ourselves against defeat lies in our own hands, but the opportunity of defeating the enemy is provided by the enemy himself." – **Sun Tzu**
27. "It is only the enlightened ruler and the wise general who will use the highest intelligence of the army for the purposes of spying, and thereby they achieve great results." – **Sun Tzu**
28. "A leader leads by example, not by force." – **Sun Tzu**
29. "The supreme art of war is to subdue the enemy without fighting." – **Sun Tzu**
30. "The greatest victory is that which requires no battle." – **Sun Tzu**
31. "Appear weak when you are strong, and strong when you are weak." – **Sun Tzu**
32. "All warfare is based on deception. Hence, when able to attack, we must seem unable; when using our forces, we must seem inactive; when we are near, we must make the enemy believe we are far away; when far away, we must make him believe we are near." – **Sun Tzu**
33. "Let your plans be dark and impenetrable as night, and when you move, fall like a thunderbolt." – **Sun Tzu**
34. "So in war, the way is to avoid what is strong, and strike at what is weak." – **Sun Tzu**
35. "Even the finest sword plunged into salt water will eventually rust." – **Sun Tzu**

36. "If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle." – **Sun Tzu**
37. "Regard your soldiers as your children, and they will follow you into the deepest valleys; look on them as your own beloved sons, and they will stand by you even unto death." – **Sun Tzu**
38. "Opportunities multiply as they are seized." – **Sun Tzu**
39. "To fight and conquer in all our battles is not supreme excellence; supreme excellence consists in breaking the enemy's resistance without fighting." – **Sun Tzu**
40. "The quality of decision is like the well-timed swoop of a falcon which enables it to strike and destroy its victim." – **Sun Tzu**
41. "Can you imagine what I would do if I could do all I can?" – **Sun Tzu**
42. "He will win who knows when to fight and when not to fight." – **Sun Tzu**

6.4. Art of War Quotes (– **Sun Tzu**) with translation of Tigriyina

30 RACTICAL LIFE LESSONS FROM SUN TZU'S ART OF WAR

30 ጥራት-ክብር (ሐቅቂ) ሐይወት ለዝዮኒ ካብ ሱን ጺ ኣርት\ብልሃት\ ጥበብ ናይ ጐርራ (ውግግኢ)
(Give your ideas more depth ንብ ብዙሕ ዕምቁት ናብ ናትካ ኢደኣ)

1. "Quickness is the essence of the war." እታ ቅልጣፊ ወይ ቅልጥፍንና ኢያ ዓይነተይና ናይ እታ ውግግኢ/ጐርራ. La rapidità è l'essenza della guerra.
2. "You have to believe in yourself." ይግብበኣካ እመነ ኣብ ናትካ ባዕሊ.
3. "To know your Enemy, you must become your Enemy." ምእንቲ ፈለጠ\ ኣለለየ እቲ ናትካ ጸላኢ, ይግብብኣካ ኮነ እቲ ናትካ ጸላኢ.
4. Choose your battles ምረጽ\ክረይ\መልምል እተን ናትካ ባትታሌ (ውግግኢት) Scegli le tue battaglie "He will win who knows when to fight and when not to fight." "የሸንጎፍ\ ይስዕር\ ይረትዕ መን ይፈልጥ መእስ ተዋግኦ እውን መእስ ኣይተዋግኦን
5. Timing is essential እቲ ጊዜ እዩ ዓይነተይና (መርሐ (ኣርሐው)\ መፍትሕ). "The quality of decision is like the well-timed swoop of a falcon which enables it to strike and destroy its victim." "እታ ኳሊታ ናይ እታ ውስሳኔ ኢያ ከም እቲ ወቕዒ ናይ ሐደ ሊላ ዝ ይብል እሺ ናይ ወቕዕ እውን ኣፍረሰ (ፈረሰ) እታ ናቱ ቪክቲም ወይ ቪትቲማ (ምውትቲ)."
6. know yourself, know the enemy ፈልጠ ባዕሊ, ፈለጠ እቲ ጸላኢ. "It is said that if you know your enemies and know yourself, you will not be imperiled (endangered) in a hundred battles; "ይበሃል ዝ እንተ ንስስኻ ትፈልጥ እቶም ናትካ ጸላኢቲ እውን ትፈልጥ ባዕሊኻ, ንስስኻ ኣይትነበርን ቅምሙጥ ኣብ ድንገት\ ጥሪኮሎ ኣብ ሚእቲ ባትታሌ (ውግግኢት); if you don't know your enemies and you know yourself, you will win one and lose one; እንተ ንስስኻ ኣይትፈልጥን ናትካ ጸላኢቲ እውን ንስስኻ ትፈልጥ ባዕሊኻ ንስስኻ ተሸንጎፍ\ ትሰዕር\ ትረትዕ ሐደ እውን ተጥፍኦ (ጠፍኦ) ሐደ; if you do not know your enemies nor yourself, you will be imperiled in every single battle." እንተ ንስስኻ ኣይትፈልጥን ናትካ ጸላኢ ወይ ባዕሊኻ, ትነበር ኣብ ድንገት\ ጥሪኮሎ ኣብ ኪልለው ሲንጎላ (በይና) ባትታልያ (ውግግኢ)."
7. Have a unique plan ኣልሎ ሐደ በይኑ ጥላን. "All warfare is based on deception." "ኩልላ እታ ውግግኢ\ ጐርራ ኢያ ስርርቲ (ሰርርተ) ልዕሊ እቲ ስሕተት ወይ ስሕታን (ሰሐተ)."

8. Disguise your plans አምሰለ (መሰለ) ናትካ ጥላንስ (ጥሮግራም). "When able to attack, we must seem unable; when using our forces, we must seem inactive; "መአስ ንሕና ኢና ኡብ መዓርግ ናይ አሰረ\ አትታካካሪ ይግብበአና መሰለ ሰንናፋት\ ሕምማቻት; መአስ ንሕና ንለምድ ናትና ሓይሊታት\ ብርታዐታት ንሕና ይግብበአና መሰለ ሀክካያት\ ዓድዲውዲል\ ዝኩባት; when we are near, we must make the enemy believe we are far away; መአስ ንሕና ኢና ጥቓ\ ቀረባ\ ጎረብት, ይግብበአና ገበረ አመነ ናብ እቲ ጸላኢ ዝ ንሕና ኢና ርሑቕ; when far away, we must make him believe we are near. መአስ ንሕና ኢና ርሑቕ ይግብበአና ገበረ አመነ ናብ እቲ ጸላኢ ዝ ንሕና ኢና ጥቓ.
9. The best way to win is not to fight at all እቲ ብሉጽ ስርዓት\ አገባብራ (ገበረ)\ ዕልሊ ምእንቲ አሸንጎል\ ሰዐረ\ ረትዐ እዩ አይተዋግአን ካን ወይ ብፍጽጹም (ፈጽጸመ)\ ብጭርራሽ (ጨርረሽ). "To win 100 battles is not the height of skill, to subdue the enemy without fighting is." "አሸንጎል\ ሰዐረ\ ረትዐ 100 ባትታሌ\ ውግግአት አይአዩን እቲ ማሰሲሞ\ ልዑል ናይ እታ አቢሊታ (ብልሃት\ ክአለት\ ውሕላለ), መለሽ እቲ ጸልኢ ብዘይ ተዋግአ እዩ."
10. Change represents opportunity እቲ ልውዋጠ (ለውዋጠ) ይውክክል (ወክክለ) ሐንቲ ምሽውንት. "In the midst of chaos, there is opportunity." "አብ እቲ መንጎ ናይ እቲ ካለሰ\ ድብልቕ\ ዝርግርግ (ዘረገ), አልላ እታ ምሽውንት." (ወይ ዝርግርግ ናይ ሐደ ዕድጋ ይምሸሹው ናብ ሐደ ሰረቕ)
11. Success breeds success እቲ ዐወት ይወልድ እቲ ዐወት. "Opportunities multiply as they are seized." እተን ምሽውንታት ይሞልቲፒካኖ ቀስ ብቀስ ዝ ይመጸ ቅንጡባት (ቀንተብ)
12. No one profits from prolonged warfare ሐደክኣ ይረብሕ\ ይነግድ\ የጥርይ ካብ እታ ጎርራ\ውግግእ ትጸንሕ ናብ ነዊሕ. "There is no instance of a nation benefiting from prolonged warfare." "አይአልሎን አብንነት ናይ ሐንቲ ሀገር ትቅደው\ ትድማዕ ካብ ሐንቲ ጎርራ\ ውግግእ ዝ ተጸንሕ ናብ ነዊሕ."
13. The natural formation of the country is the soldier's is the best ally እታ ባሕርያዊት ሕብረት (ሐበረ) ናይ እቲ ሀገር ኢያ እታ ብልጽቲ አልለኦ ናይ እቲ ወትትሀድደር La formazione naturale del paese è che il soldato è il miglior alleato
14. If the mind is willing, the flesh could go on and on without many things እንተ እታ አእምሮ/ ቀልቢ ኢያ ፍቓደይና, እታ ስጋ ምሽክለት ከደ ቅድሚ ብዘይ ብዙሓት ነገራት. "He who has a why to live can bear almost any how." "መን አልለዎ ሐደ ንምንታይ ምእንቲ ሐየወ ይሽክል ተጸምመሎ ኩልሉ ከመይ."
15. Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory. Tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat. እታ ስትራቴጂያ ብዘይ ታክቲካ ኢያ እታ መንገድዲ ብዙሕ ዝገግዕቲ\ ዘናን ምእንቲ እታ ድል. እታ ታክቲካ ብዘይ ስትራቴጂያ ኢያ እቲ ፋሞረ ቀደም\ ፈለማ\ ፕሪማ ናይ እታ ስዕረት.
16. The general who wins the battle makes many calculations in his temple before the battle is fought. The general who loses makes but few calculations beforehand. እቲ ጀነራል ዝ ይሰዕር እታ ውግግእ\ ባትታልያ ይገብር ብዙሓት ገምገማታት ኡብ እታ ናቱ መታልሕ ቅድሚ እታ ባትታልያ ኢያ ትውግእቲ (ተዋግእ). እቲ ጀነራል ዝ ይጠፍ ይገብር ሒደት ገምገማታት ኡብ ዕርቡን.
17. "Move not unless you see an advantage; use not your troops unless there is something to be gained; fight not unless the position is critical." "አይተወዛወዝ ትርፎ እንተ ንሰሰኻ ትርእይ ሐደ ጥቅሚ\ ቫንታጅጅዮ; አይትልመድ እተን ናትካ ትፋፕፕ ትርፎ እንተ አልላ ግዛዕ ካብ አጥርየ\ ረብሐ\ ነደ; አይኮነን ተዋግእ ትርፎ እንተ እታ መቓምጦ ኢያ ክራቲካል\ ከባድ\ ረዝዛን."
18. "Attack is the secret of defense; defense is the planning of an attack." "እቲ አሰረት(አሰረ)\ አትታካካ እዩ እቲ ምስጢር ናይ እታ ሕልቆ (ሐልቆ); እታ ሕልቆ ኢያ ጥላንኒንግ\ ድሎት ናይ ሐደ አሰረት\ አትታካካ." "L'attacco è il segreto della difesa; la difesa è la pianificazione di un attacco".
19. "Victorious warriors win first and then go to war, while Defeated warriors go to war first and then seek to win." "እቶም ሰዓርቲ\ ደለይናታት\ ሰብድል ተዋጋእቲ ይሰዕሩ ፈለማ እውን ድሓር ይሽዱ ናብ " አይተወዛወዝ ጎርራ\ ውግግእ, እንክ እቶም ስዑራት ይሽዱ ናብ ጎርራ ፈለማ እውን ሻዑ ይደልዩ ናይ ወይ ናብ ሰዐረ\ አሸንጎል."
20. There are not more than five musical notes, yet the combinations of these five give rise to more melodies than can ever be heard." አይአልለዎን ብዙሕ እንካብ ሐምምሽተ ሚሲካውያን ኖተ\ ምልክታት, ገና እታ ኮምቢናዥኒ ናይ እዚአን ሐምምሽተ ኖተ ይህባ ሰሰን ናብ ብዙሕ መሎዴ\ ጣዕሚታት ናይ ክንደይ እንተ ማንም ይክአል ከትቶ ሰምዑ."

21. "Let your plans be dark and impenetrable as night, and When you move, fall like a thunderbolt." ግበር እቶም ናትካ ፕላንስ\ ፕሮግራማት እቶም ጸልማት እውን አሰርአልቦ\ ሐፍፊስ ከም እታ ለይቲ, እውን መአስ ንስስኻ ተወዛወዝ, ውደቕ ከም ሐደ ብርቂ."
22. "If he sends reinforcements everywhere, he will everywhere be weak." "እንተ ይልእኽ ሪምብርታዕ (አበርትዕ (በርትዕ)) አብኩልሉ, ይነበር አብኩልሉ ድኹም\ ስኑፍ." Focus is important in order to succeed. እታ ኮንሸንትራዥዮን (ምእካካብ) ኢያ ቁምነገር ምእንቲ አልሎ ዐወት. Concentrate on key areas of improvement, and don't try to be everything and anything at once. ኮንሸንትራሪ ልዕሊ መርሖ ዞና ናይ ብልጺ\ ጥቅቃወ እውን አናደየ ናይ ነበረ ኩልሉ እውን ገለመሰ አብ ሐንቲ ሳዕ
23. "A leader leads by example, not by force." ሐደ leader ይመርሕ ምስ እቲ አብንነት አይኮነን ምስ እታ ሓይሊ.
24. "He will win who knows when to fight and when not to fight." ይሰዕር መን ይፈልጥ መአስ ተዋግእ (ወግእ) እውን መአስ አይተዋግእን.
25. Treat your men as you would your own beloved sons. And they will follow you into the deepest valley." ተዋጅዐ እቶም ናትካ ሰባት ከም ተዋጅዐ እቶም ናትካ ፍቱዋት ደቅቂ. እውን ንስሳቶም ይከትተሉኻ አብ እታ ብዙሕ ዓምማቕኡ ቫልለ/ ጐልጐል.
26. "Even the finest sword plunged into salt water will eventually rust." ከዓ እታ ብዙሕ ረቃቕ ሰይፊ ጥልቕቲ አብ እታ ጨው ማይ ትውድዳእ ብ መርረተ.
27. "The supreme art of war is to subdue the enemy without fighting." እታ ልዕልቲ ብልሃት/አርተ ናይ ውግግእ\ ጐርራ ኢያ ትሕቲ አቕምመጠ (ተቕምመጠ) እቲ ጸላኢ ብዘይ ተዋግእ
28. "The greatest victory is that which requires no battle." እታ ድል ብጹሕ ዓብባይ ኢያ እዛ ዝ አይትውከስን (ተወከስ) ባትታልያ (ውግግእ) "La vittoria più grande è quella che non richiede battaglia".
29. "Appear weak when you are strong, and strong when you are weak." ተርአይ ድኹም/ ስኑፍ መአስ ንስስኻ ኢኻ ብርቱዕ, እውን ብርቱዕ መአስ ኢኻ ድኹም.
30. "The quality of decision is like the well-timed swoop of a falcon which enables it to strike and destroy its victim." እታ ከዋሊታ ናይ እታ ውሰሳኔ ኢያ ከም እቲ ምሽሽዊ ወቕዒ ናይ ሐደ ኢላ/ ጽግድም ዝ ይፈቅድ ናብ ወቕዕ እውን አፍረሰ (ፈረሰ) እታ ናቱ ቪትቲማ/vittima (ምውትቲ).