

Oumou Terra

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World Civilization I

The Crusades were a series of religious wars initiated, supported, and sometimes directed by the Latin Church during the Middle Ages. The best known of these military expeditions is his expedition to the Holy Land from 1095 to 1291, aimed at conquering Jerusalem and its environs from Muslim rule. Beginning with the First Crusade that led to the capture of Jerusalem in 1099, it organized dozens of campaigns that have been the focus of European history for centuries. The Crusaders declined rapidly after the fifteenth century.

The Crusade movement involved men and women from all over Europe and influenced every aspect of daily life, from church and religious thought to politics and business. Patrons and artists of various backgrounds and traditions have also come together to create new forms of expression and find their way into art. Frescoes, mosaics, sculptures and even coins reflect a mix of Western (Latin/Catholic) and Eastern (Byzantine/East Christian) traditions. Crusades appear in history books as well as in his 12th-century French and German epics, such as his *Chanson Antioch*, an account of the Siege of Antioch in 1098.

Anyone could take part in the Crusades, but in subsequent crusades it became clear that success often depended on having good men on the battlefield. It was from the warrior class.

Support personnel such as knights, heavy cavalry (front-line armored units), archers, infantry, and siege engineers. Other strategic personnel included individuals with special abilities, such as priests who were literate and could perform ecclesiastical ceremonies and administrative duties, merchants who controlled supplies, surgeons, and the domestic staff of the Crusaders. . In the later Crusades, sailors were essential, as travel to the Holy Land involved voyages. However, the Knights were the core of the Crusades, and armies were raised under their leadership. Participation in the Crusades was widely accepted as an important feature of chivalry. Decisions about who joined the Crusades were dictated by the social and political structures of the region. When a king "bears the cross" or participates in a crusade, members of his circle are understood to have an obligation to join him out of political loyalty or duty to him, rather than as an expression of religious devotion. In Jean de Joinville's account of the Crusades, a knight said: If we take it, we lose God's favor because we do not take it for God's sake, but for fear of displeasing the king.

The most infamous episode of this period was the Fourth Crusade (1202-04), during which another attempt to retake Jerusalem ended in the sack of Constantinople, the world's largest Christian city. I was. Jonathan Phillips describes this episode. The reason for this was a combination of long-standing tensions between the Latin (Catholic) Church and the Greek Orthodox Church. The Crusaders fulfilled the terms of an overly optimistic transport treaty to the

Venetians and the Levant, and an offer to repay this from a pretender to the Byzantine throne. When the young candidates were murdered and the locals finally turned against them, they attacked and raided the city. Although delighted, he was horrified when he learned of the violence and looting that accompanied the conquest and accused the Crusaders of "the perversion of their pilgrimage." The early 13th century was marked by the diversity of the Crusaders. Crusade proved to be a flexible and adaptable concept, allowing the Church to wield violence against its enemies on many fronts. , could be refined to apply specifically to the Catholic Church, and when the Pope clashed with Emperor Frederick II over control of southern Italy, he eventually launched a crusade against him. He had already been excommunicated for failing to keep his promise to join the Crusades. The expedition achieved its original objective of the Fourth Crusade by invading Egypt but stalled outside the port of Damietta and failed to advance to Cairo. Frederick's attempts to make amends were thwarted by a serious illness, but by this time the Pope had lost patience with him. By marrying an heir) to the Holy Land, where - ironically - as an excommunicate, he negotiated the peaceful return of Jerusalem to the Christians. His diplomatic skills (he spoke Arabic), the dangers posed by his considerable resources, and the division of the Muslim world in the decades after Saladin's death made this possible. Relations between the pope and emperor improved for a short time, but in 1245 the papacy considered him a heretic and approved the crusade sermons against him.

At this point, the political landscape in the Middle East was changing. The Mongol invaders added another dimension to the struggle when they conquered much of the Islamic world in the east. They also briefly threatened Eastern Europe with a brutal invasion in 1240-1241 (which also led to the call of the Crusaders). Saladin's successor was replaced by the Mamluks. The Mamluks were ex-slave soldiers and their mastermind, Sultan his Baibars, were vehement proponents of jihad and did much to bring the crusaders to their knees in the next twenty years. James Waterson describes their progress. The struggles between the Frankish nobility were further complicated by the involvement of Italian trading cities and military orders, further weakening the Latin nations and finally, in his 1291, Sultan al-Ashraf crushed the city of Acre. and brought an end. It is to discover that Christians hold fast to the Holy Land.

Sources

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