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World Civilization

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Research and Writing 11

The first thing I think of when I think of the Crusades that took place throughout the 12th and 13th centuries is that they were a type of a pilgrimage or war. Warriors with a religious motivation or Christian values without the backing of the church. As the textbook pointed out some of the motives for the Crusades were not based on religion but rather were influenced by economics. The Crusades were fundamentally about European Christians going to the Holy Land to defend Christian landmarks to prevent Islam from controlling the area. The "Holy Land" refers to today's Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and parts of Lebanon and Syria. Crusades are significant for European and Middle Eastern history. The Crusades led to Europeans learning about Hindu Arabic Numerals, which were new concepts in math as well as a new numbering system that we still use in our society today. Europeans gained access to new medical knowledge and other ideas as well. The crusades also made it possible for Europeans to gain access to many new trade opportunities with goods that they never had access prior to the crusades.

Crusades that were caused by opposing ideals began to lead to the sharing of the faith to new areas. One of the biggest cultural afterimages of these three religions and interaction still continues today. Beyond religion, the interaction between different groups of people led to a spread of scientific and philosophical knowledge.

The Crusades was a central part in the rise of power in the Catholic Church, showing the ability of the Pope to organize and inspire European Christians to fight for a religious cause.

Pope Urban II argued for Europeans to assist the Byzantine Empire. Relations and communication between the Byzantines and the Western forces deteriorated with each Crusade. Several more Pope's used their influence in the two centuries that followed to call for and organize further Crusades influenced historical events including the Renaissance, which led to a shift in European culture. One of the most important effects of the Crusades was the increased trade and economy that is prevalent today.

Beck, E. (n.d.). *Significance of the crusades*. HISTORY CRUNCH - History Articles, Biographies, Infographics, Resources and More. Retrieved April 10, 2023, from <https://www.historycrunch.com/significance-of-the-crusades.html#/>