

THE CRUSADES

A War of Religions

The Crusades

What were they?

- “crusade” means “marked with the cross”
- a series of Christian military campaigns
- primary goal was to take the Holy Land from Muslims
- there were 9 primary crusades lasting from 1095 to 1272
- mostly unsuccessful



Why did they happen?

- Christian pilgrims visiting holy sites in Jerusalem began experiencing increased harassment and danger
- in 1009, the caliph al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah sacked the pilgrimage hospice in Jerusalem and destroyed the Church of the Holy Sepulchre
- the Church saw an opportunity to reuniting the Christian world

Mobilizing for the Crusades



- Pope Urban traveled to various cities
- promised to remit all sins for those who died on the Crusade
- serfs were allowed to leave the land
- citizens who financed the Crusades were exempted from taxes
- prisoners were freed

The Crusaders were a varied assembly

- the poor
- adventurers
- merchants
- laborless lords
- religious individuals



Timeline of the Crusades

The First Crusade (1096 - 1099):

The People's Crusade - Freeing the Holy Lands. (Peter the Hermit)

The Second Crusade (1144 -1155):

The Third Crusade (1187 -1192):

Richard the Lionheart of England (made a truce with Saladin), Philip II of France, and HRE Frederick I

The Fourth Crusade (1202 -1204):

The Fourth Crusade led by Fulk of Neuil French/Flemish advanced on Constantinople

The Children's Crusade (1212):

Led by a French peasant boy, Stephen of Cloyes

The Fifth Crusade (1217 - 1221):

The Fifth of the Crusades led by King Andrew II of Hungary, Duke Leopold VI of Austria, John of Brienne

The Sixth Crusade (1228 - 1229):

The Sixth of the Crusades led by Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II

The Seventh Crusade (1248 - 1254):

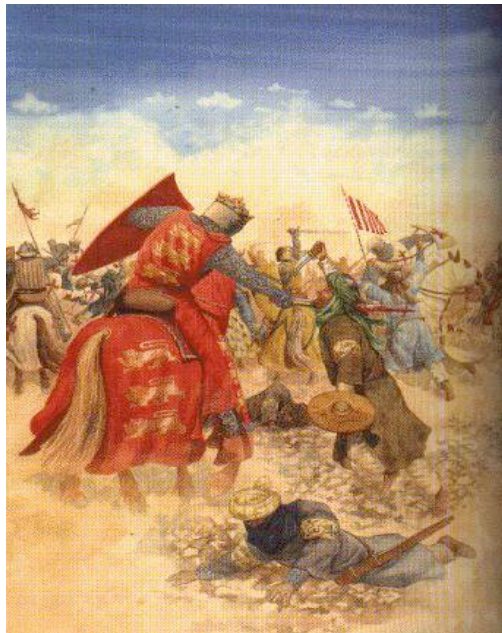
The Seventh of the Crusades led by Louis IX of France

The Eighth Crusade (1270):

The Eighth of the Crusades led by Louis IX of France

The Ninth Crusade (1271 - 1272):

The Ninth of the Crusades led by Prince Edward (later Edward I of England)



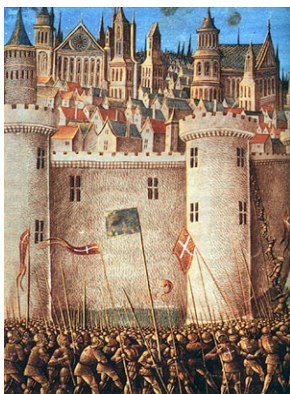
Europe on the Eve of the Crusades



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First Crusade

1096 - 1099



- 1095 - Byzantine emperor Alexius I called for help defending his empire against the Seljuk Turks
 - The Council of Clermont - Pope Urban II called on Christians to join a war against the Turks
 - *“The frenzy of the barbarians has devastated the churches in the east, and has even – shame to say – seized into slavery the holy city of Christ, Jerusalem.”*
- 1096 – Armies from France, Germany, & Italy set out
- 1099 - take Jerusalem and four small Crusader states created
 - Edessa, Tripoli, Antioch and Jerusalem

Results of the First Crusade

- most of the Crusaders returned to Europe after freeing Jerusalem
- land was parceled into independent fiefs
- several ports were ceded to several Italian city-states
- the native Christian population came to look back fondly on the era of Islamic rule
- Muslim refugees demanded a force retake Jerusalem
- in 1144, Muslims retook Christian land
- spurred the Second Crusade



The Second Crusade

1144 -1155

- in response to the loss of Christian land, St. Bernard of Clairvaux appealed to Pope Eugenius II to call for another Crusade
- Bernard persuaded King Louis VII of France and then Emperor Conrad III of Germany to accept the Crusade
- 1147 the Germans and the French joined
- first of the crusades to be led by European kings
- Laid siege to Damascus (failed in 1148)



The Third Crusade

1187 -1192



- In 1175, the great Muslim leader Saladin united Egypt and Muslim Syria
- In 1187 Saladin recaptured Jerusalem for the Muslims
- Pope Gregory VIII called for a Crusade to reconquer Jerusalem

- was led by Europe's most important leaders:
 - Richard I of England
 - Philip II of France
 - Frederick I, Holy Roman Emperor
- Frederick drowned and an ill Philip II returned to France
- Richard was then the lone leader
- In the end Richard and Saladin signed a peace for three years:
 - Richard would keep the coastal cities he had captured
 - Muslims and Christians could pass freely into and from each other's territory
 - Pilgrims would be protected in Jerusalem
- But... Jerusalem would remain in Muslim hands

The Fourth Crusade

1202 -1204



- the death of Saladin in 1193 renewed hope for another Crusade
- 1202 Pope Innocent III initiated a Crusade
- In exchange for its financial support, the rich city-state of Venice demanded the capture of the port city of Zara
- seizing Constantinople would also provide financial benefit and restore it to the Western Church
- The Crusaders captured and looted Constantinople in 1204
- Most Crusaders returned home and only a handful continued to Palestine
- The capture of Constantinople left it vulnerable

