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Encyclopedia of the Crusades
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pulls off the enviable feat of summing up seven centuries of religious warfare in a crisp 309 pages of text dennis drabelle washington post book world in this authoritative work jonathan riley smith provides the definitive account of the crusades an account of the theology of violence behind the

crusades the major crusades the experience of crusading and the crusaders themselves with a wealth of fascinating detail riley smith brings to life these stirring expeditions to the holy land and the politics and personalities behind them this new edition includes revisions throughout as well as a new preface and afterword in which jonathan riley smith surveys recent developments in the field and examines responses to the crusades in different periods from the romantics to the islamic world today from reviews of the first edition everything is here the crusades to the holy land and against the albigensians the moors the pagans in eastern europe the turks and the enemies of the popes riley smith writes a beautiful lucid prose and his book is packed with facts and action choice a concise clearly written synthesis by one of the leading historians of the crusading movement robert s gottfried historian a lively and flowing narrative with an enormous cast of characters that is not a mere catalog but a history a remarkable achievement thomas e morrissey church history superb reuven s avi yonah speculum a first rate one volume survey of the crusading movement from 1074 to 1798 southwest catholic

what is the relationship between the medieval crusades and the problems of the modern middle east were the crusades the christian equivalent of muslim jihad in this sweeping yet crisp history thomas f madden offers a brilliant and compelling narrative of the crusades and their contemporary relevance placing all of the major crusades within their medieval social economic religious and intellectual environments madden explores the uniquely medieval world that led untold thousands to leave their homes families and friends to march in christ s name to distant lands from palestine and europe s farthest reaches each crusade is recounted in a clear concise narrative the author gives special attention as well to the crusades effects on the islamic world and the christian byzantine east

the first great city the crusaders came to in 1089 was not jerusalem but constantinople the capital of the byzantine empire almost as much as jerusalem itself constantinople was the key to the foundation survival and ultimate eclipse of the crusading kingdom the byzantines had developed an ideology over seven hundred years which placed constantinople rather than rome or jerusalem at the centre of the world the attitudes of its rulers reflected this priority and led to tensions with the crusaders over military and diplomatic strategy at the same time the riches and sophistication of the great city made a lasting impression on the crusaders even though they found byzantine society alien and remote in the end the lure of the city s wealth was irresistibly fatal to the claims

of christian unity in 1204 the fourth crusade under the venetian doge enrico dandolo captured and sacked constantinople signalling the effective end of almost a thousand years of byzantine dominance in the east

in this sweeping yet crisp history the author offers a brilliant and compelling narrative of the crusades and their contemporary relevance

the six volumes of a history of the crusades will stand as the definitive history of the crusades spanning five centuries encompassing jewish moslem and christian perspectives and containing a wealth of information and analysis of the history politics economics and culture of the medieval world

a lively reimagining of how the distant medieval world of war functioned drawing on the objects used and made by crusaders throughout the middle ages crusading was justified by religious ideology but the resulting military campaigns were fueled by concrete objectives land resources power reputation crusaders amassed possessions of all sorts from castles to reliquaries campaigns required material funds and equipment while conquests produced bureaucracies taxation economic exploitation and commercial regulation wealth sustained the crusades while material objects from weaponry and military technology to carpentry and shipping conditioned them this lavishly illustrated volume considers the material trappings of crusading wars and the objects that memorialized them in architecture sculpture jewelry painting and manuscripts christopher tyerman s incorporation of the physical and visual remains of crusading enriches our understanding of how the crusaders themselves articulated their mission how they viewed their place in the world and how they related to the cultures they derived from and preyed upon

since the publication of the first edition of the crusades a reader interest in the crusades has increased dramatically fueled in part by current global interactions between the muslim world and western nations the second edition features an intriguing new chapter on perceptions of the crusades in the modern period from david hume and william wordsworth to world war i political cartoons and crusading rhetoric circulating after 9 11 islamic accounts of the treatment of prisoners have been added as well as sources detailing the homecoming of those who had ventured to the holy land including a newly translated reading on a woman crusader margaret of beverly the book contains sixteen images study questions for each reading and an index

this new and considerably expanded edition of the crusades 1095 1204 couples vivid narrative with a clear and accessible analysis of the key ideas that prompted the conquest and settlement of the holy land between the first and the fourth crusade this edition now covers the fourth crusade and the sack of constantinople along with greater coverage of the muslim response to the crusades from the capture of jerusalem in 1099 to saladin s leadership of the counter crusade culminating in his struggle with richard the lionheart during the third crusade it also examines the complex motives of the italian city states during the conquest of the levant as well as relations between the frankish settlers and the indigenous population both eastern christian and muslim in times of war and peace extended treatment of the events of the first crusade the failure of the second crusade and the prominent role of female rulers in the latin east feature too underpinned by the latest research this book also features a who s who a chronology a discussion of the historiography maps family trees and numerous illustrations a strong collection of contemporary documents including previously untranslated narratives and poems a blend of thematic and narrative chapters also consider the military orders kingship warfare and castles and pilgrimage this new edition provides an illuminating insight into one of the most famous and compelling periods of history

nine hundred years ago european history was transformed when the pope summoned a vast christian army to seize jerusalem for the next two centuries christians and muslims would be locked in deadly combat over possession of a city both revered as a holy place in this fast paced narrative history thomas asbridge tells the story of the chillingly brutal wars known as the crusades for the first time asbridge examines the crusades from the perspective of both religious groups unveiling a world of heroes assassins poet warriors and spiritual visionaries from richard the lionheart to saladin and from the forests of lebanon to the deserts of egypt the crusades reveals the horror passion and barbaric grandeur of this brutal era and how its events continue to affect world politics today thomas asbridge is the author of the first crusade a new history which was published to wide acclaim he is a professor of medieval history at the university of london brilliant authoritative and accessible thomas asbridge s the crusades is a must read professor john l esposito author of the future of islam

from the author of victory in the east a military history of the first crusade this book offers a wide ranging and innovative survey of crusading warfare and is intended as a standard reference for students and professional historians

nine hundred years ago at a church council in clermont pope urban ii delivered an impassioned sermon calling upon frankish knights to vow to march to the east to free christians from the yoke of islamic rule and to liberate the tomb of christ the holy sepulchre in jerusalem from muslim control thus began the crusades the bloody and grueling battles pitched between european knights and the islamic defenders over the course of two hundred years movements that created the legends of king arthur and the holy grail military orders such as the knights templar and an unusually rich tradition of art and architecture in the oxford illustrated history of the crusades the story of the crusades is told as never before in an engrossing authoritative and comprehensive history that ranges from the preaching of the first crusade in 1095 to the legacy of the crusading ideals and imagery that continues today here are the ideas of apologists propagandists and poets about the crusades as well as the perceptions and motives of the crusaders themselves and the means by which they joined the movement crusaders were required to take the cross which involved making a vow often at an emotional public gatherings under the influence of preachers whose business it was to whip their audiences up into a frenzy and were foresworn to wear a cross on their clothing until they returned from their mission in the east the authors describe the elaborate social and civic systems that arose to support the crusades taxation for example was formalized by the church and monarchs to raise enormous funds needed to wage war on this scale nearly 1 000 000 livres tournois were raised from the french church out of estimated total expenses of some 3 000 000 livres for louis ix s first crusade in 1248 and here are vivid descriptions of the battles themselves frightening disorienting and dangerous affairs with keen and insightful commentary on the reactions of the muslims to a christian holy war extensively illustrated with hundreds of illustrations maps chronologies and a guide to further reading the oxford illustrated history of the crusades even includes coverage of crusades outside the eastern mediterranean region and post medieval crusades from descriptions of the battles and homefront conditions to a thorough evaluation of the clash and coalescence of cultures to the legacy of the crusading movement that continues into our conflict torn twentieth century to the enduring artistic and social changes that the crusades wrought the oxford illustrated history of the crusades offers an unsurpassed panorama of one of the great movements in western history this beautiful work will engage and inform anyone with an interest in the crusades

based on the latest scholarship by experts in the field this work provides an accessible guide to the crusades fought for the liberation and defense of the holy land one of the most enduring and

consequential conflicts of the medieval world the crusades to the holy land were one of the most important religious and social movements to emerge over the course of the middle ages the warfare of the crusades affected nearly all of western europe and involved members of social groups from kings and knights down to serfs and paupers the memory of this epic long ago conflict affects relations between the western and islamic worlds in the present day the crusades to the holy land the essential reference guide provides almost 90 a z entries that detail the history of the crusades launched from western europe for the liberation or defense of the holy land covering the inception of the movement by pope urban ii in 1095 up to the early 14th century this concise single volume work provides accessible articles and perspective essays on the main crusade expeditions as well as the important crusaders countries places and institutions involved each entry is accompanied by references for further reading readers will follow the career of saladin from humble beginnings to becoming ruler of syria and egypt and reconquering almost all of the holy land from its christian rulers learn about the main sites and characteristics of the castles that were crucial to the christian domination of the holy land and understand the key aspects of crusading from motivation and recruitment to practicalities of finance and transport the reference guide also includes survey articles that provide readers with an overview of the original source materials written in latin arabic greek hebrew armenian and syriac

the crusades were among the longest and most bitter wars in human history and consisted of no less than seven major expeditions from western europe from the late 11th to the early 14th centuries for the purpose of wresting jerusalem and the holy land from the control of the muslims in the end it was the muslims who won and the christians who suffered a major setback and the middle east remained firmly in muslim hands this was one of the worst clashes between different religions and civilizations and for long it was largely forgotten or brushed over that is no longer the case with many muslims regarding western interference in the region as a repeat of the crusades while launching their own jihads so while an old conflict it is still with us today even at the time it was very hard to understand the causes and outcome of the crusades and that remains a problem today this historical dictionary of the crusades cannot claim to have resolved it but it most definitely does make the situation easier to understand the introduction provides an overview tracing the crusades from one expedition to the next and assessing their impact the actual flow of events is far easier to follow thanks to the chronology and maps help to trace the events geographically the entries and there are more than 300 of them in this second edition look more

closely at notable figures including pope gregory vii richard the lionhearted and saladin as well as important places jerusalem constantinople and others events battles and sieges as well as the use of weapons and armor the bibliography points to further reading

phillips provides an accessible introduction to the origins and development of the crusades whilst placing them in their proper historical context

this work contains information and analysis of the history politics economics and culture of the medieval world the six volumes stand as a history of the crusades spanning five centuries encompassing jewish muslim and christian perspectives

unlike traditional references that recount political and military history this encyclopedia includes entries on a wide range of aspects related to daily life during the medieval crusades the medieval crusades were fundamental in shaping world history and provide background for the conflict that exists between the west and the muslim world today this two volume set presents fundamental information about the medieval crusades as a movement and its ideological impact on both the crusaders and the peoples of the east it takes a broad look at numerous topics related to crusading with the goal of helping readers to better understand what inspired the crusaders the hardships associated with crusading and how crusading has influenced the development of cultures both in the east and the west the first of the two thematically arranged volumes considers topics such as the arts economics and work food and drink family and gender and fashion and appearance the second volume considers topics such as housing and community politics and warfare recreation and social customs religion and beliefs and science and technology within each topical section are alphabetically arranged reference entries complete with cross references and suggestions for further reading selections from primary source documents each accompanied by an introductory headnote give readers first hand accounts of the crusades

in the late fall of 1095 pope urban ii gave a speech in clermont france and set all of europe into motion as many as a hundred and fifty thousand people eventually responded to the call leaving everything they knew behind to undertake what appeared to be a fool s mission marching several thousand miles into enemy territory to reconquer jerusalem for christendom against all odds they succeeded creating a christian outpost in the heart of the islamic world that lasted for the better part of two centuries perhaps no other period in history is as misunderstood as the crusades and in

this fast paced account bestselling author lars brownworth presents the entire story from the first clash of christendom and islam in the dusty sands of yarmouk to the fall of the last crusader state along the way he introduces the reader to an exotic world peopled by mighty emperors doomed templars grasping generals and ambitious peasants some of the most famous names of the middle ages richard the lionheart saladin eleanor of aquitaine and the legendary prester john illuminate this era of splendor adventure and faith

what were the crusades were they a series of battles that pitted european christians against muslims for control of the holy land or was there something deeper something more significant beneath the violence this a to z encyclopedia explores the phenomenon of the crusades in all of its complexity ranging from the classic numbered crusades in the middle east to the reconquista in spain and from the baltic crusades to the crusades against albigensian heretics in france the crusades marked a violent interaction between cultures this book includes not only european leaders and themes but also biographical portraits of islamic leaders and topics related to islamic culture and although men dominated the crusades women also played important roles their contributions are examined this is the most up to date reference source available reflecting the most recent scholarship in the field more than 200 entries are extensively cross referenced and many provide additional readings including accessible primary sources nearly 100 photos and six maps accompany the text a bibliographic essay leads readers to the most useful and important works in the field while an appendix of major crusades events and figures helps readers put the era into perspective this invaluable tool gives students researchers and general readers all they need to begin their own exploration of this fascinating time of intercultural conflict one which continues to reverberate in today s world

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