

History knowledge organiser: What can artefacts reveal about the Crusades?

The Crusades 1095-1291

638 Jerusalem conquered by expanding Islamic Empire.	1079 Seljuk Turks seized control of Jerusalem.	27 Nov 1095 Urban II's speech in Clermont. France	15 July 1099 Crusaders capture Jerusalem	24 December 1144 Muslim forces capture Edessa	24-28 July 1148 The Siege of Damascus	4 July 1187 Battle of Hattin	12 July 1191 Salah al-Din surrenders Acer	2 September 1192 Treaty of Jaffa between Salah al-Din & Richard I	8 February 1204 Alexios Angelos overthrown	12 April 1204 Crusaders attack Constantinople	18 March 1291 Mamluk Turks conquered Acer
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Glossary

Who's who?

Pope Urban II

Godfrey of Bouillon

Salah al-Din

Richard I

Byzantine Empire
Capital – **Constantinople** (Istanbul).
Christian – Eastern Orthodox Church.
Did not recognize authority of the Pope.



Islamic World
By 750 the Islamic empire spread from Spain to India.



Acre Important crusader port city, and their last stronghold in the Holy Land

Byzantium An offshoot of the Roman Empire.

Constantinople The capital of the Byzantine Empire, modern day Istanbul

Crusade A religiously inspired war.

Crusader State New feudal states that were created in the Holy Land by European knights

Mamluks An Islamic dynasty formed by slave-soldiers which conquered Acre in 1291

Saracen Term used by the crusaders to describe Muslim soldiers

Seljuk Turks A Sunni Muslim tribe who conquered Jerusalem in 1079

Motives for going on Crusade

- Protect religious pilgrims.
- All sins forgiven & guaranteed entry to heaven.
- Gain wealth.
- Adventure.
- Become famous.
- For peasants – freedom from their feudal overlord.
- Conquer new lands.

Fighting a Crusade

- To go on Crusade was expensive. A knight had to pay for weapons, armour, equipment & food.
- Crusaders often died through battle, starvation or disease.
- The weather was a problem – summer was too hot in their armour, and the rain and snow of winter made their armour rust.

Artefacts & written sources:



Chertsey Abbey tiles (created around 1250): These tiles depict Richard I and Saladin battling each other in the Third Crusade. The tiles suggest that Richard has won the battle, even though he did not win the Third Crusade.

Urban II's words, written down by Robert the Monk (who claimed to be at the Council of Clermont)

...Let the Holy Sepulchre of the Lord our Saviour especially inspire you, and the holy places which are polluted with their filthiness.

Therefore let hatred among you end. Enter upon the road to Jerusalem; take that land from the wicked race. That land which as the Scripture says "flows with milk and honey," was given by God; the land is fruitful above others, like another paradise of delights.

Undertake this journey for the forgiveness of your sins, with the assurance of the everlasting glory of the kingdom of heaven.

First Crusade 1096 – 1099	1079 Seljuk Turks (Sunni) seized control of Jerusalem. Less tolerant towards Christians. Seljuk Turks threatened Byzantine Empire. Alexios Komnenos asked the Pope for help. 27 Nov 1095 - Pope Urban II's speech: sins forgiven & guaranteed place in heaven. Army of peasants led by Peter the Hermit was massacred by the Seljuk Turks. An army of knights followed. Godfrey of Bouillon captured Jerusalem and became first ruler of Jerusalem. Established Crusader States.	Success
Second Crusade 1145 – 1149	1144 Muslim forces captured Crusader State - Edessa. In response Pope Eugenius III called for a second crusade. Crusade led by Louis VII of France & Conrad III of Germany. Invaded the Holy Land but ignored Edessa and attacked larger city of Damascus (Siege of Damascus 1148 – 3 days). Defeated and returned home.	Failure
Third Crusade 1189 – 1192	1187 Battle of Hattin. Salah al-Din captured Jerusalem. News of Jerusalem's fall shocked Europe. Third Crusade led by Phillip II of France & Richard I. Richard conquered Cyprus on his way to the Holy Land. 1191 Richard I captured Acre. Failed to capture Jerusalem. 1192 Truce signed with Salah al-Din.	Failure

a. Quiz Questions:

1. What method did Richard I use to take the city of Acre in the Third Crusade?
2. Urban II did what in 1095?
3. Why did people go on Crusade?
4. Constantinople was the capital city of which empire?
5. Who did Richard fight against during the Third Crusade?
6. Eleanor of Aquitaine went on which crusade?
7. What was announced at the Council of Clermont?
8. What 3 religions held Jerusalem as an important and holy city?
9. Who was the leader of the empire in question 4?
10. What does the phrase 'land of milk and honey' suggest about Jerusalem?

b. Topic Focus: Artefacts in the Crusades

What do the Chertsey Abbey tiles suggest about how Europeans viewed the events of the Crusades? Use your knowledge of the Third Crusade and the tiles to explain your answer.



What does this painting suggest about the Second Crusade? Why is it important that we know it was painted in the 15th century, 300 years after the end of the Crusades?

c. Chronology practice:

Put the following events in the correct order, earliest first. Some are from your previous homework assignment (the Peter Frankopan reading)

- The Sacking of Constantinople
- Urban II's call to Crusade
- The siege of Acre by Richard I
- Eleanor of Aquitaine's journey to the Crusades
- The capture of Jerusalem by Crusaders
- The battle of Hattin ('Horns of Hattin')

d. Individual practice:

Who are these individuals:

1. Emperor Alexios
2. Pope Urban II
3. King Richard I
4. Saladin
5. Eleanor of Aquitaine

Challenge:

How far do you agree with Peter Frankopan when he says that the Crusading knights used religion as an excuse to steal riches and land? Use your knowledge of the Crusades to explain and justify your opinion.