

The Crusades Islamic Perspectives

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this comprehensive work of cultural history gives us something we have never had a view of the crusades as seen through muslim eyes with breathtaking command of medieval

muslim sources as well as the vast literature on medieval european and muslim culture carole hillenbrand has produced a book that shows not only how the crusades were perceived by the muslims but how the crusades affected the muslim world militarily culturally and psychologically as the author demonstrates that influence continues now centuries after the events in the crusades the reader discovers how the muslims reacted to the franks and how muslim populations were displaced the ensuing period of jihad the careers of nur al din and saladin and the interpenetration of muslim and christian cultures stereotypes of the franks in muslim documents offer a fascinating counter to western views of the infidel of legend for readers interested in the middle ages military history the history of religion and postcolonial studies the crusades opens a window onto a conflict we have only viewed from one side the crusades is richly illustrated with eighteen color plates and over five hundred line drawings and black and white photographs

coinciding with the 900th anniversary of the crusades this book is the first general introduction to some of the wider aspects of the history of the crusades prepared by carole hillenbrand a leading authority with a world wide reputation the the crusade is unique in covering the crusades from the muslim perspective it is also a timely reflection on how the phenomenon of the crusades influenced the muslim world then and now militarily culturally and psychologically the crusades discusses a group of themes designed to highlight how muslims reacted to the alien presence of the crusaders in the heart of traditional muslim territory ideological concerns are examined and the importance of the concept of jihad is assessed in the context of the gradual recovery of the holy land and the expulsion of the crusaders there are also chapters devoted to an analysis of the warfare arms battles sieges fortifications on the basis of written sources and extant works of art also extensively discussed is the complex issue of the interaction between muslims and crusaders in a social economic and cultural setting the epilogue traces the profound impact of the crusades on muslim consciousness up to the present day the crusades is also lavishly illustrated with 500 black and white pictures and two full color plate sections

at the 900th anniversary of the crusader capture of jerusalem it is timely to reflect on how the phenomenon of the crusades influenced the muslim world then and now militarily culturally and psychologically this book discusses a group of themes designed to highlight how muslims reacted to the alien presence of the crusaders in the heart of traditional muslim territory ideological concerns are examined and the importance of the jihad is assessed in the context of the gradual recovery of the holy land and the expulsion of the

crusaders two chapters are devoted to an analysis of warfare arms battles sieges fortifications on the basis of written sources and extant works of art and the neglected aspect of the navy is brought into prominence one chapter deals with the complex issue of the interaction between muslims and crusaders in a social economic and cultural setting the epilogue traces in outline the profound impact of the crusades on muslim consciousness until the present day this is not a chronological survey of the events of the period 1099 to 1291 and even beyond for that has already been done several times instead this is a general book intended to introduce some of the wider aspects of the history of the crusades from the muslim side accordingly as a deliberate policy an attempt is made here to view the phenomenon of the crusades entirely through the prism of medieval muslim sources this naturally involves bias but such a bias is salutary given the cumulative impact of centuries of eurocentric scholarship in this field and it should help to create a more balanced picture of this fascinating and momentous period of christian muslim confrontation and interaction

for many centuries the history of the crusades as written by western historians was based solidly on western sources evidence from the islamic societies that the crusaders attacked was used only sparingly in part because it was hard for most westerners to read and in part because much of it was inaccessible even for historians who did speak arabic carole hillenbrand set out to re evaluate the sources for the crusading period not only looking with fresh eyes at known accounts but also locating and utilizing new sources that had previously been overlooked her work involved her in conducting extensive evaluations of the new sources assessing their arguments their evidence and their reasoning in order to assess their value and using the critical thinking skill of analysis a powerful method for understanding how arguments are built to place them correctly in the context of crusade studies as a whole the result is not only a history that is more balanced better argued and more adequate than most that have gone before it but also a work with relevance for today at a time when crusading imagery and mentions of the current war on terror as a crusade help to fuel political narrative hillenbrand s evaluative work acts as an important corrective to oversimplification and misrepresentation

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the crusades continue to exert a fascination in the west as a story of perceived gallantry and battles against impossible odds yet what is less often considered is their effect on the holy land and in particular the response of the muslim world to the invasions of european crusaders in this book w b bartlett author of four books on the crusades looks at these great events from the muslim point of view one of the effects was to unite a previously divided islamic world against a common enemy in the process they gave an unstoppable impetus towards the declaring of jihad against the west a holy war against christendom they also helped to shape the careers of some important figures most notably saladin but also other great men like sultan baibars and nur al din the rise of these great leaders is traced in this book as are the many great battles that were fought by men just as devoted to their cause as the crusaders were

contesting the middle ages is a thorough exploration of recent arguments surrounding nine hotly debated topics the decline and fall of rome the viking invasions the crusades the persecution of minorities sexuality in the middle ages women within medieval society intellectual and environmental history the black death and lastly the waning of the middle ages the historiography of the middle ages a term in itself controversial amongst medieval historians has been continuously debated and rewritten for centuries in each chapter john aberth sets out key historiographical debates in an engaging and informative way encouraging students to consider the process of writing about history and prompting them to ask questions even of already thoroughly debated subjects such as why the roman empire fell or what significance the black death had both in the late middle ages and beyond

sparkling discussion and inspiring examination of the past and its ongoing significance in modern life contesting the middle ages is essential reading for students of medieval history and historiography

in the race for paradise paul m cobb offers an accurate and accessible representation of the islamic experience of the crusades during the middle ages cobb overturns previous claims and presents new arguments such as the idea that the frankish invasions of the near east were something of a side show to the broader internal conflict between sunnis and shi ites in the region the race for paradise moves along two fronts as cobb stresses that for medieval muslims the contemporaneous latin christian expansion throughout the mediterranean was seen as closely linked to events in the levant as a consequence of this expanded geographical range the book takes a broader chronological range to encompass the campaigns of spanish kings north of the ebro and the norman conquest of sicily beginning in 1060 well before pope urban ii s famous call to the first crusade in 1095 finally the race for paradise brilliantly combats the trend to portray the history of the crusades particularly the islamic experience in simplistic or binary terms muslims did not solely experience the crusades as fanatical warriors or as helpless victims cobb writes as with any other human experience of similar magnitude the crusades were experienced in a great variety of ways ranging from heroic martyrdom to collaboration to utter indifference publisher information

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essay from the year 2010 in the subject history miscellaneous grade 79 0 durham university language english abstract this essay focuses on how ideas of jihad developed at the time of the first crusade focusing on the kitab al jihab of al sulami and the changes in the theory of jihad since the time of the prophet muhammad and the ummayad caliphate

seminar paper from the year 2010 in the subject politics topic peace and conflict security grade 1 0 east tennessee state university history department course origins of problems in the middle east language english abstract in september 2001 shortly after the terrorist attacks on america president george w bush announced his crusade against terrorism a crusade that was aimed mainly at islamic fundamentalists one millennium after the first crusades that conflict seemed still going on and the connection to that fateful day in september 2001 was drawn easily the fight had been going on since the first expansion of islam into the former christian world an everlasting conflict between christians in the west and muslims in the east seems so obvious that we take it for self evident when we perceive our political world authors have written and modified it repeatedly not long ago bernard lewis wrote his islam and the west telling us about the history of these cultures as a history of military conflict one more famous book takes that approach to take a look at the recent development in world politics and predict its clash of civilizations huntington shows the post cold war world by explaining global politics along cultural lines one of the most important of these lines is not surprisingly the one between the islamic and the western civilizations but what if we take a closer look on what appears to be behind the ambiguous history of crusades and holy wars are there perhaps more sophisticated explanations we have to differentiate the motives for the main campaigns in an assumed continuous conflict therefore we will see over the crusades the fierce war at the front between christendom and islam under ottoman rule and finally the modern antagonisms to verify or falsify that theory of a causally determined cultural conflict

the first multivolume encyclopedia to document the history of one of the most influential religious movements of the middle ages the crusades the crusades an encyclopedia surveys all aspects of the crusading movement from its origins in the 11th century to its decline in the 16th century unlike other works which focus on the eastern mediterranean region this expansive four volume encyclopedia also includes the struggle of christendom against its enemies in iberia eastern europe and the baltic region and also covers the military orders crusades against fellow christians heretics and more this work includes comprehensive entries on personalities such as godfrey of bouillon who refused the title king of jerusalem and st bernard of clairvaux who tore up his own clothing to make symbols of the cross for crusaders as well as key events countries places and themes that shed light on everything from the propaganda that inspired crusading warriors to the ways in which they fought special coverage of topics such as taxation pilgrimage warfare chivalry and religious orders give readers an appreciation of the multifaceted nature of these holy wars

a revised edition of billings attractive history of the crusades an offshoot of the bbc radio 4 series the cross and the crescent which is updated with new archaeological and historical evidence

focuses on women and the civilizations and societies in which islam has played a historic role surveys all facets of life society economy politics religion the arts popular culture sports health science medicine environment and so forth of women in these societies

presents a collection of essays that debate issues associated to world history including male dominated societies in the ancient world the crusades and africa s role in human history

the crusades as seen through the eyes of muslims a significant contribution to the understanding of the medieval holy wars between christians and muslims this volume brings together the best and most complete eyewitness account of the crusades from the perspective of a medieval muslim writer focusing on twelfth century arab aristocrat usama ibn munqidh s book of contemplation but also including extracts from the book of the staff and kernels of refinement this volume offers a strikingly human portrayal of islamic

perspectives on day to day existence warfare and the curious european invaders for more than seventy years penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the english speaking world with more than 1 700 titles penguin classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors as well as up to date translations by award winning translators

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

the cross and the crescent is a brilliant account of the relations between islam and christianity from the time of muhammad to the reformation by englands leading mediaeval historian

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