

WHI.12b in a Nutshell



The Crusades were a series of wars fought between the **Christians** and the **Muslims** over the city of **Jerusalem**, called the Holy Land.

First Crusade

Began in 1095, when **Pope Urban** makes a speech calling for a crusade to recapture Jerusalem from the **Muslims**. The **Christians** won and established **crusader-states** throughout the Arabian Peninsula.

Second Crusade

Muslim crusaders led by **Saladin** launch a counter attack and capture the crusader state of Edessa.

Third Crusade

Saladin captures **Jerusalem**. **Philip II** of France, **Frederick I** of Germany, and **Richard I** of England send troops to recapture Jerusalem. In 1192 Saladin and Richard reach a truce, under which Jerusalem remained under **Muslim** control, but **Christians** were allowed to visit the city's holy places. The European crusaders also maintained control of the **crusader-states** along the Palestinian coast.

Fourth Crusade

In 1204, the European Crusaders made one last attempt to conquer **Jerusalem**, but failed. Instead they captured and looted the city of **Constantinople**, the Christian capital of the Byzantine Empire.

Effects of the Crusades

- Weakened the **Pope** and **nobles** – strengthened **monarchs**
- Stimulated **trade** throughout the Mediterranean area and the Middle East
- Left a legacy of **bitterness** among Christians, Jews, and Muslims
- Weakened the **Byzantine Empire**

Other European Conflicts

- In 1453 the Ottoman Turks conquer **Constantinople**, ending the Byzantine Empire
- Ottoman Turks establish the Ottoman Empire with **Istanbul** as their capital
- The **Hagia Sophia** is converted from a Christian Church to a Muslim mosque
- **Mongol** armies invade Russia, Southwest Asia, and China, creating an empire and destroying cities and countryside