EAST–WEST TRADE. Much of the trade from the Arab world to the west was in luxury goods. This crystal ewer of Muslim provenance was traded to Constantinople. It was looted by western troops at the time of the Fourth Crusade and is now in the cathedral treasury at Halberstadt in Germany.
What are the Crusades?
- military expeditions initiated by the Church to recover the Holy Lands from the Moslems
The Crusades

• What are the Crusades?
  – they occurred across several centuries called the High Middle Ages (1050-1300 CE)
What are the Crusades?
– seen another way, they are a series of “Christian jihads”
The Crusades

• What are the Crusades?
  – in reality, they are a complex networking of religious, economic and sociopolitical goals
The Crusades

• What did the Crusades achieve?
  – the Pope temporarily gained prestige and military authority, but not actual military power
The Crusades

• What did the **Crusades** achieve?
  – Europeans took advantage of the rich East for the first time since the days of ancient Rome
The Crusades

- What did the **Crusades** achieve?
  - provided an outlet for youthful aggression and energy for a burgeoning European population
The Crusades

- The NEGATIVE results of the Crusades
  - there was in the end no territorial expansion for the Christian West
The Crusades

• The NEGATIVE results of the Crusades – their failure and the growth of commercialism undercut the authority of the Catholic Church.
The Crusades

• The NEGATIVE results of the **Crusades**
  – they increased the antagonism between the West and the East, especially the **Byzantines**
The Crusades

- The NEGATIVE results of the Crusades – they drained energy and manpower for very little gain in the long run
The Crusades

• The NEGATIVE results of the Crusades
  – thousands on both sides died amidst much bloodshed and carnage
The Crusades

• The POSITIVE results of the Crusades – for the East, none worth mentioning!
The Crusades

- The POSITIVE results of the Crusades – the West, however, regained a sense of self-confidence by attacking former invaders.
The Crusades

- The POSITIVE results of the Crusades
  - they inspired optimism and contributed to the twelfth-century renaissance in the West
The Crusades

• The POSITIVE results of the Crusades
  – they ended Western provincialism, as Europeans expanded their horizons
The Crusades

- The POSITIVE results of the Crusades
  - although no territory was gained, intellectual boundaries fell and learning was re-ignited
The Crusades

- The POSITIVE results of the Crusades
  - they were the real beginning of European colonialism, but headed in the wrong direction
The Crusades

- The POSITIVE results of the **Crusades**
  - all in all, they were not just “medieval Europe’s lost weekend” (but not far from it!)
The First Crusade

The Crusades

MAP 9.1 The Routes of the Crusades

The Crusades led to a major cultural encounter between Muslim and Christian values. What significant intellectual and economic effects resulted?
The First Crusade

• Background to the First Crusade
  – expansion of Seljuk Turks, originally from Mongolia (cf. Huns)
    • invaded Persia and captured Baghdad
    • controlled the last Abbasid caliphs
    • defeated the Byzantine army at the Battle of Manzikert (1071 CE)
    • took most of Asia Minor from the Byzantines
The Crusades

The First Crusade

- Background to the First Crusade
  - the Turkish presence interfered with Christians on pilgrimages to Jerusalem
The Crusades

The First Crusade

• Background to the First Crusade
  – **Alexius Comnenus** (Byzantine emperor) appealed to the church in Rome for help
  – reported many Turkish abuses
  – proposed reuniting the Western Catholic church with the **Eastern Orthodox Church**
The First Crusade

• Background to the **First Crusade**
  – reunification with the Eastern church was irresistible bait to **Pope Urban II**
    • one of the new “reform” Popes
    • trained in law and rhetoric
  – he decided to take the idea of “crusading” on the road to convince Europeans to attack and “liberate” the Holy Lands
The First Crusade

- the concept of a Christian "holy war" was based on the Truce of God
  - originally, it was an attempt to limit warfare by prohibiting fighting on Sundays and holidays
  - Urban II said this encompassed all types of Christian-upon-Christian combat
  - thus, ironically, the Crusades were the culmination of a movement for peace promoted by the Church
The Crusades

The First Crusade

- Background to the First Crusade
  - knights were now seen as “vassals of Christ”
  - fighting was a “holy vocation”
  - instead of paying penance for murder, killing was now a form of penance
The Crusades

The First Crusade

- Background to the First Crusade
  - Urban delivered a spell-binding speech in France, speaking directly to the knights there
    - he told them to “win back the land of milk and honey”
    - then he listed the atrocities cited by Alexius Comnenus
The Crusades

The First Crusade

- Background to the First Crusade
  - Urban delivered a spell-binding speech in France, speaking directly to the knights there
    - “for the remission of your sins, with the assurance of imperishable glory”
      - i.e. indulgence
    - crowd chanted “Deus le vult” (“God wants it”)
The First Crusade

• Background to the First Crusade

  – three reasons for the popularity of crusading
    • overpopulation: note that the Crusades tended to come once every generation in the Middle Ages
      – bled off children who would not inherit or were illegitimate
    • papal ambition: Urban sought retribution for Henry IV’s behavior during the Investiture Controversy
      – Popes now controlled, even if they didn’t lead, armies
    • religious hysteria: distrust of non-Christian “infidels,” including Moslems and Jews
The Persecution of Jews prior to the First Crusade
MAP 9.1 The Routes of the Crusades. The Crusades led to a major cultural encounter between Muslim and Christian values. What significant intellectual and economic effects resulted?
The Crusades

The First Crusade

• 1096 CE: Knights from all over Europe began to assemble near Constantinople
  – Byzantines were horrified to see such a large and ragtag horde of “invaders”
    • ca. 25,000 - 100,000
  – the Byzantines had expected a few hundred skilled warriors, like their army
The First Crusade

- Crusaders and Byzantines had different goals:
  - Byzantines wanted to recover Asia Minor
  - Crusaders wanted to liberate the Holy Lands

- Alexius Comnenus allowed the crusaders to pass through his territory
  - promised to send support and supplies
The First Crusade

- once they were gone, Alexius Comnenus shut the gates and reneged on his deal
  - this fueled distrust and hatred between the Crusaders and the Byzantines
- but the Crusaders forged on, with great difficulty but success
The Crusades

The First Crusade

• 1098 CE: the capture of Antioch
1099 CE: Capture of Jerusalem

Capture of Jerusalem. “Mad with joy, we reached the city of Jerusalem on the Tuesday, eight days before the Ides of June, and laid siege to it,” wrote one Crusader. Two months later, the Crusaders broke into the city and massacred its inhabitants. (Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris)
The Crusades

The First Crusade

- according to witnesses, the Crusaders’ brutality was horrifying
The First Crusade

• e.g., after taking Antioch, they killed all the Turks in the city

• in Jerusalem, they boasted:

  We rode in the blood of the infidels up to the knees of our horses.

• according to a Christian eyewitness:

  If you had been there, you would have seen our feet colored to our ankles with the blood of the slain. But what more shall I relate? None of our people were left alive: neither women nor children were spared . . . And after they were done with the slaughter, they went to the Sepulcher of the Lord to pray.
Jerusalem
The Church of the Holy Sepulcher
The First Crusade

• one of the main reasons for such unexpected success was that the Moslems were disorganized after the Turkish takeover
  – ironically, this is the converse of the situation which had allowed the Moslems to conquer the Middle East four and a half centuries earlier
The First Crusade

• after the capture of Jerusalem, most of the Crusaders returned home to be hailed as conquering heroes

• those who stayed established four Crusader states
  – and built castles called kraks in a western (Norman) style
THE CRUSADER STATES

- Sultanate of Roum
- Kingdom of Armenia
- County of Edessa
- Principality of Antioch
- County of Tripolis
- Mediterranean Sea
- Arabian Desert
- Kingdom of Jerusalem
- Cairo
- Red Sea
- Nile River
- Scale of Miles 0-200 miles

Locations:
- Antioch
- Tripolis
- Damascus
- Sea of Galilee
- Jordan
- Jaffa
- Jericho
Krak
(Arabic karak: “fortress”)
The Crusades

The Second Crusade

- Background to the Second Crusade (1147-1148 CE)
  - n.b. more or less one generation later
  - Crusaders who stayed in the East were generally reviled and hated
  - though some were kind and temperate, most were cruel and abusive
The Crusades

The Second Crusade

• Background to the Second Crusade (1147-1148 CE)

– according to a Christian witness:

...they devoted themselves to all kinds of debauchery and allowed their womenfolk to spend whole nights at wild parties; they mixed with trashy people and drank the most delicious wines.
The Second Crusade

- Background to the Second Crusade (1147-1148 CE)
  - in 1144 CE, one of the Crusader states fell to Moslem reconquest
  - this reinvigorated crusading fever and led to a second Crusade
The Second Crusade

(1147-1148 CE)

- the approval of Saint Bernard of Clairvaux for the notion of another crusade drew in leaders from all across Europe
- but Bernard protected the Jews this time!
MAP 9.1 The Routes of the Crusades  The Crusades led to a major cultural encounter between Muslim and Christian values. What significant intellectual and economic effects resulted?
The Second Crusade

• but in the end, the Second Crusade was a terrible failure
  – the Byzantines were ready this time and betrayed the Crusaders, leading them into a deathtrap at the hands of Moslem forces
  – few even made it to the Holy Lands
• and those who did make it ended up fighting with the heirs of the crusaders from the First Crusade
The Crusades

The Second Crusade

• the surviving crusaders returned home empty-handed
  – Bernard of Clairvaux recanted his support: “I must call him blessed who is not tainted by this.”
The Crusades

The Third Crusade (1189-1193 CE): the rise of Saladin

- captured Jerusalem
- Saladin became a respected figure in Medieval literature and lore
  - was seen as humane and chivalrous
  - Dante puts him in Limbo!!
The Third Crusade

Background to the Third Crusade (1189-1193 CE): the rise of Saladin – still Jerusalem had to be recaptured in the name of Christianity – three of Europe’s most formidable kings formed a military alliance:
  - Frederick Barbarossa (Germany)
  - Philip Augustus (France)
  - Richard (I) the Lion-hearted (England)
MAP 9.1 The Routes of the Crusades  The Crusades led to a major cultural encounter between Muslim and Christian values. What significant intellectual and economic effects resulted?
The Crusades

The Third Crusade

• this Crusade was an immediate failure
  – Frederick Barbarossa drowned while crossing a river
The Crusades

The Third Crusade

- Frederick’s troops turned back to Germany
- Philip Augustus and Richard quarreled
  - Philip and his troops returned to France
- Richard continued on to the Holy Lands
  - but could not take them with only his limited forces
The Crusades

The Third Crusade

- in the end, Richard confronted Saladin
  - Medieval legend says they jousted
The Crusades

The Third Crusade

- Richard and Saladin signed a pact
  - Christian pilgrims could visit Jerusalem freely
- Richard then left for England, having won a diplomatic success
The Crusades

The Third Crusade

• Richard’s real enemies were in Europe
• German forces captured and imprisoned him
  – and charged England a “king’s ransom” for his return
A Medieval Text Illustrating the Capture and Ransom of Richard
The Fourth Crusade

- Background to the Fourth Crusade (1201-1204 CE)
  - a very different sort of crusade from those preceding
  - followed closely upon the Third Crusade
    - in large part because the Third Crusade had not bled off many young fighters from Europe
    - and its diplomatic resolution was seen by many as a humiliation
The Crusades

The Fourth Crusade

• Background to the Fourth Crusade (1201-1204 CE)
  – there was a clear need for a more professional approach
  – initiated by Pope Innocent III
    • the most successful Medieval pope
    • highly intelligent and trained in law
The Fourth Crusade

- Background to the **Fourth Crusade** (1201-1204 CE)
  - Innocent’s plan was ingenious
    - to avoid Byzantium by sea travel
    - and to contract ships from **Venice**
  - crusaders began to collect in Venice from all over Europe
The Crusades

The Fourth Crusade

- Background to the **Fourth Crusade** (1201-1204 CE)
  - but not enough crusaders appeared to pay for the ships
The Crusades

The Fourth Crusade

- Background to the **Fourth Crusade** (1201-1204 CE)
  - the crusaders made a deal with the Venetians
    - they agreed to recapture **Zara** for them
The Fourth Crusade (1201-1204 CE)

- in order to escape the control of Venice, Zara had recently turned itself over to the Pope
- when the crusaders forced Zara back under Venice’s thumb, Innocent was enraged

• Background to the Fourth Crusade

• and ordered that a writ of excommunication be laid on the crusaders
The Fourth Crusade

- Background to the **Fourth Crusade** (1201-1204 CE)
  - while in Zara, the crusaders encountered a rival for the Byzantine throne
    - he encouraged them to attack Constantinople
    - he bribed them to install him on the throne
    - the Venetians were thrilled with this idea, since Byzantium was their maritime trading rival
  - thus, the crusaders went to Constantinople
MAP 9.1 The Routes of the Crusades The Crusades led to a major cultural encounter between Muslim and Christian values. What significant intellectual and economic effects resulted?
The Crusades

The Fourth Crusade

• as the crusaders approached, the Byzantine emperor fled
  – the crusaders walked into the city unopposed
  – they installed the emperor’s rival on the throne
  – then sailed off for Jerusalem
The Crusades

The Fourth Crusade

• almost as soon as the crusaders were gone, the rival was murdered
  – but the crusaders were still nearby
  – they turned around and headed back to Constantinople
  – this time the city was closed to them
  – so they besieged and took it
The Crusades

The Fourth Crusade

• **the Sack of Constantinople** (1204 CE)
  – the sack lasted for three days
  • the library was destroyed
  • this involved the loss of an unknown number of classical works of science and literature
The Crusades

The Fourth Crusade

- the Sack of Constantinople (1204 CE)
  - it was the first time this city had fallen to an outside force since its founding in 324 CE
    - not to Moslems, Vikings, Goths, Mongols . . .
    - but to Christians from the West!
    - ironically, this fatal blow to the last remnant of “Rome” was delivered at the hands of “Romans”
The Four Crusade

• worse yet, it weakened Constantinople against future attack
  – because of both the physical and psychological devastation of the assault
  – the sack of 1204 paved the way for the fall of Constantinople to Moslems in 1453
    • now the city is Istanbul
    • and there is a strong Moslem presence in Greece
The Crusades

The Fourth Crusade

• the crusaders installed a “Latin rival”
  – as if Byzantium were a Crusader state
The Fourth Crusade

- they also forced the Eastern church to reunite with its western counterpart
  - they imposed a Latin patriarch
  - thus handed back his eastern bishoprics — on paper, at least — Innocent III decided to *re*-communicate the crusaders
The Crusades

The Fourth Crusade

• the crusaders returned home in triumph
  – bringing much loot with them
  – e.g. the horses of St. Mark’s cathedral in Venice
  – but few books or teachers
    • thus, Dante knows no Greek!
The Albigensian Crusade (1208 CE)

- occurred within the same generation as the Third and Fourth Crusades
  - relatively few had died in either the Third or Fourth
- called by Innocent III
  - no doubt, inspired by the success of the Fourth Crusade
  - though that Crusade succeeded largely in spite of Innocent
The Crusades

The Albigensian Crusade (1208 CE)

- it is the first crusade directed against a people inside Europe and against non-Moslems
  - the Pope was now calling for war inside Europe!
- without having to travel east, a far safer type of crusade
  - but offering the same promise of eternal salvation
The Fifth Crusade

- The Fifth Crusade (1217-1221 CE)
  - still in the same generation as Third and Fourth and Albigensian Crusades
    - none of them had caused a high number of European casualties
    - the Fifth Crusade would finally succeed at that!
  - its failure was so complete and clear that it would end crusading fever for many years
The Crusades

The Fifth Crusade

- The Fifth Crusade (1217-1221 CE)
  - directed against Egypt, the new home of Moslem power
    - modeled on the Fourth Crusade’s success
    - sent to the East by sea
    - but they arrived in Egypt just as the Nile was flooding
The Crusades

The Fifth Crusade

- The Fifth Crusade (1217-1221 CE)
  - many drowned and the rest were captured
  - if they had studied Herodotus, they would have known this

- but few in the West could read ancient Greek, so too bad for them!
Frederick’s Crusade

**Frederick’s Crusade (1228-1229 CE)**
- though Holy Roman Emperor, Frederick grew up in Sicily
  - sensitive to Moslem culture
- Frederick went to the East and negotiated a takeover of Jerusalem (1229 CE)
  - but it was soon retaken by the Moslem (1244 CE)
The Crusades

Frederick’s Crusade

- Frederick’s Crusade (1228-1229 CE)
  - not called by the Pope
    - thus not numbered, cf. the Albigensian Crusade
  - n.b. shift of focus
    - secular authorities sought to capitalize on crusading
    - the goal was now looting and terrorizing the East
The Crusades

The Sixth and Seventh Crusades

• **The Sixth Crusade** (1248 CE)
  – led by **Louis IX, the King of France**
The Crusades

The Sixth and Seventh Crusades

- **The Seventh Crusade** (1270 CE)
  - Louis IX, aka St. Louis, died on the way
The Crusades

• The End of the Crusades
  – 1291 CE: **Acre**, the last crusader stronghold, fell back into Moslem hands
  – 1300 CE: Pope Boniface VIII offered indulgences to pilgrims coming to Rome
    • not to Jerusalem!
    • a virtual admission of the failure of crusading
The Crusades

• The Results of the Crusades: Failures
  – **Papacy**: serious damage to the credibility of the papacy as a religious institution
    • 1300’s: the Avignon papacy and the Great Schism
  – **Byzantine Empire**: the Fourth Crusade sounded its death knell
    • no longer could it serve as a buffer state between East and West
  – n.b. these were the two institutions which had initiated the First Crusade
The Results of the Crusades: Successes

- **Military**: the First Crusade was the only real success
- **Commercial**: in the end, the Crusades amounted to looting more than building long-term economic bridges to the East
  - few new mercantile connections between Europe and the Near East after the Crusades
- all in all, the Crusades were more than “a romantic, bloody fiasco”
  - but not much more!