

FIRST CRUSADE – 900TH ANNIVERSARY

Christians apologise for Crusades

July 15, 1099: In an act which has shaped all subsequent relations between the Western and Islamic worlds, the Crusader siege of the Muslim-held Holy City of Jerusalem ended with the massacre of 40,000 non-Christians. Ironically, the Jewish population – now embodied by the State of Israel and aligned with the West – were among the victims

The siege of Jerusalem



Crusader advances

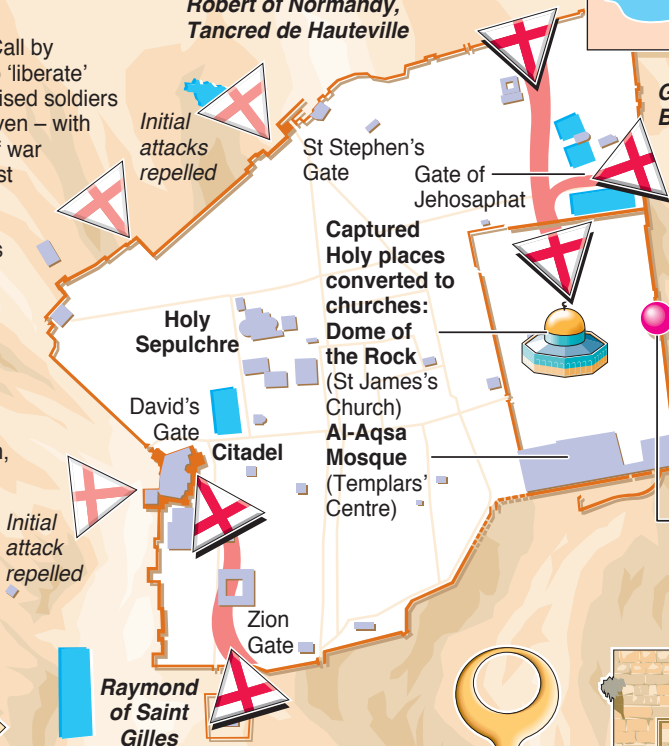
Nov 27, 1095: Call by Pope Urban II to 'liberate' Jerusalem promised soldiers entrance to heaven – with hope of spoils of war from wealthy east

Aug 1096: Crusader armies begin journey planning to assemble in Constantinople

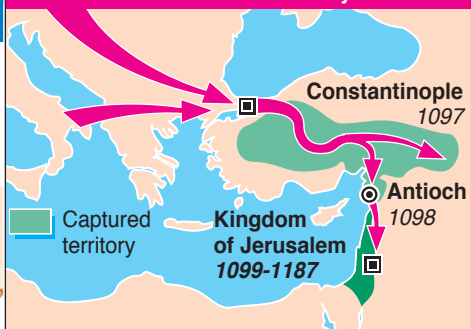
Jun 7, 1099: Christian armies reach Jerusalem, siege begins

Crusader armies:
Robert of Flanders, Robert of Normandy, Tancred de Hauteville

First breach of city walls



First Crusade – route to the Holy Land



Godfrey of Bouillon



Seal of Baldwin, first King of the short-lived Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem

Mount of Olives

The Golden Gate

One of many sacred sites opened up by Crusaders so pilgrims could follow in footsteps of Jesus. Permanently blocked in 1530

Consequences of crusades

Christians: Crusades marked ascendancy of Western Catholicism over Eastern Orthodox church and eventual downfall of Byzantine Empire

Muslims: Entire population killed. Massacre marked low point in relationship with Christian world

Jews: Entire population killed. Previously enjoyed freedom of worship and growing prosperity. Crusades marked beginning of anti-Semitic pogroms in Europe

Turbulent times in the Holy City

1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700	1800	1900
		MAMELUKE ARABS			OTTOMAN TURKS			
1187: Pan-Arab leader Saladin recaptures city for Egypt and Syria	1244: After brief period of German rule, Ayyubid Egyptians and Khorezmian Turks capture Jerusalem	1250: Mameluke dynasty seizes control of Egypt and Palestine – repels Mongol invasion		1516: Ottoman Turks conquer Islamic holy cities of Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem	1918: British troops seize Palestine and administer UN Mandate from Jerusalem	1948: British withdraw. City divided between Jordan and newly-declared State of Israel		1967: City reunited under Israeli control after Six Day war