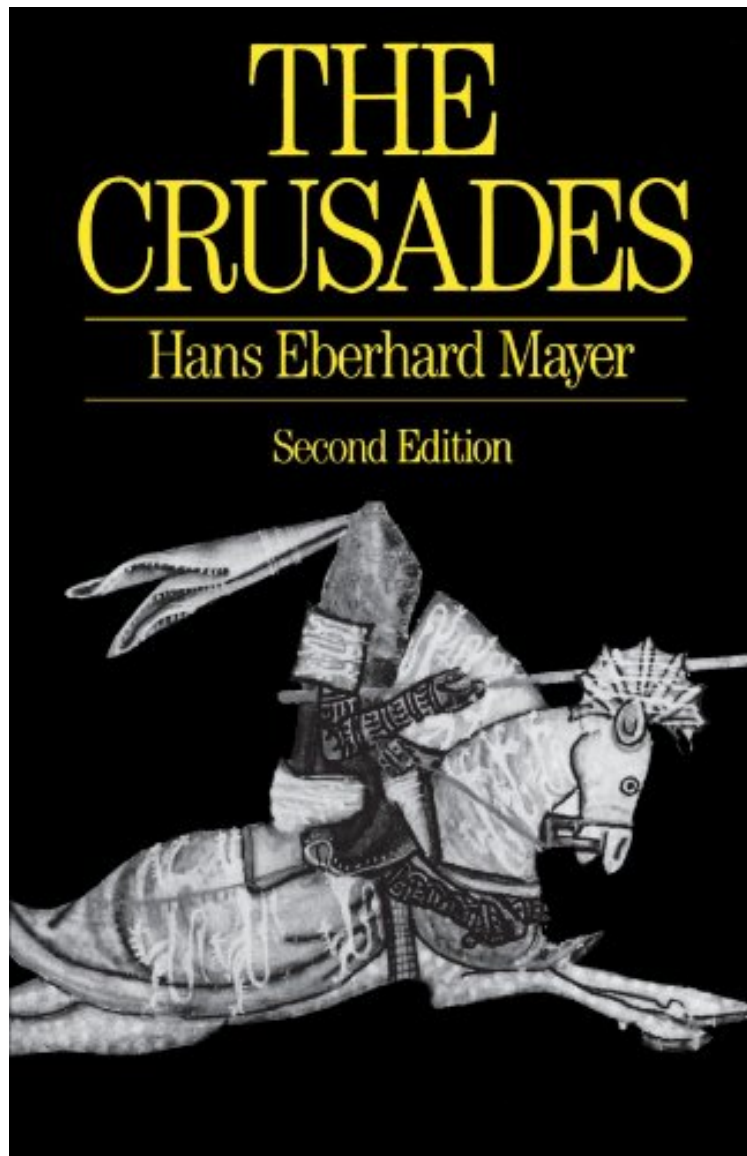


(Mobile book) The Crusades

The Crusades

Hans Eberhard Mayer
*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1465244 in Books 1988-06-02 Original language: English PDF # 1 5.31 x .83 x 8.38l, .90 #File Name: 0198730977366 pages | File size: 60.Mb

Hans Eberhard Mayer : The Crusades before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Crusades:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. the Crusades in a socio-political context By doc peterson Mayer's treatment of the Crusades is outstanding. His examination of Europe's forays into the Levant between 1095 - 1291 shows the complex inter-relationship and on-again, off-again cooperation between various secular authorities, and the political competition between state and church. To my surprise, he also draws attention to the political turmoil within

the Muslim states between 1095 - 1192 that was an accidental boon to the Crusading Europeans. The majority of the book is concerned with the first three crusades (1096 - 1192) - the climate in which they were called, the goals and aims of the Church, the internal strife between various kings, princes and other aristocrats, the emergence of Crusading orders (the Templars, Hospitaliers and Teutons) and the "crusading states" that were established in the interim between waves of arriving religious warriors. The attention to detail is exquisite - the real strength of the book is the way in which Mayer puts the crusades in context with the myriad of forces at play, especially between the Pope and various secular authorities, and how this competition was exacerbated with the presence of crusader states in the eastern Mediterranean. The last quarter of the book "skims" over the fourth and following crusades (although his discussion of competing theories of the fourth crusade: was it an accident or underhanded realpolitik that led to the sacking of Constantinople in 1204 and his treatment of the "children's crusade" made for fascinating reading), concluding with the arrival of the Mongols. The concluding chapters really read as if they were "phoned in" compared to his writing of the earlier crusades. Having not read the original German, I can't comment on the quality of the translation, other than to say it reads clearly, albeit the scholarship may be a bit dated (the first German edition was published in 1965, the second edition which I read was published in 1990. Compared to Runciman A History of The Crusades, 3 Volume Set: The First Crusade, The Kingdom of Jerusalem, The Kingdom of Acre (Deluxe Folio Society Issue), I liked this better if only because Runciman is painfully detailed, making it difficult for all but the specialist to get lost in the forest for the trees. For those seeking a solid, well-written and thorough history of the early (first three) crusades, this would be my recommendation. 58 of 59 people found the following review helpful. The Crusades: A Masterful Synthesis By A Customer The second edition of Mayer's work on the crusades should be a basic text in any course dealing with the subject. It is lucidly written with a particularly good translation by John Gillingham. Mayer has succeeded in explaining the crusade phenomenon within in the context of its own period by focusing on the societies which produced the crusaders. Mayer eschews the mono-causal explanations that too frequently pass for informed judgments in text books of medieval history. He turns instead to the numerous contemporary circumstances that led Christian men and women to make the long and difficult journey to the East. In particular, Mayer's effort to explain the problem of remission of sins and indulgences granted to crusaders is a model of clarity attained by few other historians dealing with the problem. Although Mayer is at his best in dealing with the First Crusade, his treatment of the later crusades is also valuable. This is the only work of its kind that deals with the first century of crusading warfare as a unified whole.

The second edition of this standard introduction to the Crusades has been extensively rewritten to take account of the latest research and interpretations. Mayer covers all the expeditions which took place between the First Crusade in 1096 and the final retreat from Palestine in 1291, touching on a wide range of issues, from the impact of the Crusades on the history of participating states to the political entanglements it instigated between the Pope and emperors.

"The Crusades first appeared in English translation in 1972 and was widely acclaimed both as a work of scholarship and as a teaching instrument that brilliantly encompassed within a single comprehensive volume the history of the crusades....[The new edition] will continue to provide the basic foundation for beginners and advanced students alike of the subject in an authoritative, orderly, and judicious manner."--History: s of New Books "Many have considered Mayer's work to be the best short introduction to the crusades. They will certainly applaud this updated edition."--Church History "[Mayer] is the leading historian of the Crusades writing in German today."--The Catholic Historical Language Notes Text: English, German (translation) About the Author Hans Eberhard Mayer is at University of Kiel. John Gillingham taught history at the London School of Economics, University of London, from 1965 to 1998.