
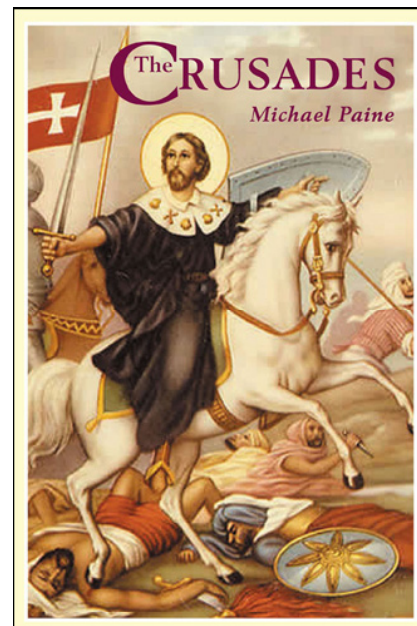


The Crusades

Mike Paine

new edition

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- **Publication to coincide with the release of *Kingdom Of Heaven*, Ridley Scott's new blockbuster about the Crusades**
- **Historical subject proving increasingly popular again, providing a context for the antagonism between differing faiths**
- **One of the bloodiest periods of medieval Christendom proving to be an enduring area of interest – first edition sold out quickly.**

The first crusade was set in motion by Pope Urban II in 1095 and culminated in the capture of Jerusalem from the Muslims four years later. In 1291 the fall of Acre marked the loss of the last Christian enclave in the Holy Land.

This Pocket Essential traces the chronology of the Crusades between these two dates and highlights the most important figures on all sides of the conflict. It covers the creation of the kingdom of Jerusalem and the other crusader states and their struggle to survive. It looks at the successes and failures of the Third Crusade and at the legendary figures of Richard the Lionheart and Saladin, explores the truth and the myths behind the orders of military monks like the Hospitallers and examines such strange historical events as the Children's Crusade and the crusader sacking of Byzantium in 1204. It also looks at the struggles of the Teutonic Knights against paganism in the Baltic.

The book provides the essential information about one of the great unifying, and disunifying, forces of medieval Christendom.

Mike Paine works as a bookseller, writer and musician in North London. He has written on Thomas Bernhard and Blaise Pascal, amongst others, and has played guitar for P.J. Harvey.

For a review copy or further information, please contact

Chris Burrows PR on 0161 445 6635 or email chrisburrows_authorpr@btinternet.com
 Pocket Essentials, PO Box 394, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 1XJ Tel/Fax 01582 761264
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