AWESOME

Kingdom of Heaven

0. Kingdom of Heaven - Story Preface

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Photograph of the walls of old Jerusalem taken by Eitan Vitkon, November, 2005. Image online courtesy of Wikimedia Commons. License: CC BY-SA 3.0

Frequently he burned with anxiety because the warfare he engaged in as a knight seemed to be contrary to the Lord's commands.

Gesta Tancredi ("Deeds of Tancred")

A Leader of the First Crusade and Conqueror of Jerusalem,
1099

The eleventh century is nearing its end. <u>Jerusalem</u>, a place where people of different faiths had once lived peacefully <u>together</u>, is a city holy to Jews, Christians and Muslims. Since <u>638</u>, when Caliph Omar (Muhammad's successor) captured the city for the Muslims, it has been under <u>Islamic rule</u>.

Pope <u>Gregory VII</u> is concerned about continued Muslim <u>control</u> (the link depicts <u>Omar's code/covenant</u>) over Christianity's most sacred sites and relics. In a 1074 letter, the pope issues the <u>first call</u> for what would later be known as a crusade:

He [a visitor to the pontiff] repeated what we had heard from many others, that a pagan race had overcome the Christians and with horrible cruelty had devastated everything almost to the walls of Constantinople ... we should lay down our lives to liberate them.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Kingdom-of-Heaven

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Kingdom-of-Heaven



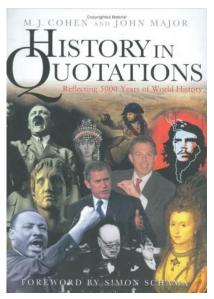
Media Stream



Gesta Tancredi

Image online, courtesy findagrave website.

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History in Quotations - by M.J. Cohen

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Early Arab Period 638 - 1099 - Map

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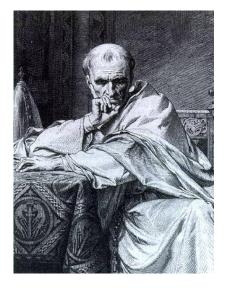


Muslim Expansion - Map

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Pope Gregory VII

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Omar's Code

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Kingdom of Heaven

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