



A-level HISTORY

Component 1A The Age of the Crusades, c1071–1204

Friday 23 May 2025 Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/1A.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Extract A

Urban's crusading propaganda did not place Jerusalem in the foreground. He did not regard the goal of the crusade to be the liberation of the Holy Sepulchre. The Pope's concern was not for any place in particular, but for the welfare of Christian men and women. Jerusalem, to the Pope, was simply a recruiting device. He had named the city as the objective of the campaign simply in order to gather an army, but the war's aim was the liberation of the Eastern Church from the domination that heathen Muslims had inflicted since the 1070s. Jerusalem as the objective flew in the face of all military logic and cannot be thought to have originated with the Pope. Only after the Council of Clermont did the balance shift against the Pope's intentions. It is important, therefore, to remember that Jerusalem was not the main objective of the First Crusade, and cease to portray the beginnings of the crusading movement exclusively in the light of later developments.

Adapted from C Erdmann, *The Origin of the Idea of Crusade*, 1935

Extract B

There were many descriptions of the message that Urban was trying to get across in 1095. He was calling for a war of liberation. Urban proposed two liberating goals. Firstly, the liberation of the people, the baptised members of the Eastern churches, especially the church of Jerusalem, from long-term Muslim domination and tyranny. Secondly, the liberation of a place, the city of Jerusalem itself, consecrated by Christ's blood. It is clear from the charters and chronicles connected with the Pope's preaching tour in France that, although aid to Byzantine Christians and the union of the Churches were also aims, Jerusalem was uppermost in his mind from the start. The name of Jerusalem was far too important to be used lightly, especially by a reformer like Urban. The justification for the crusade, therefore, was the reconquest of Christian territory which had been seized by the Muslims in the previous decades, and the Pope's appeal was presented in such a way that it conformed to the principle of a just cause.

Adapted from J Riley-Smith, *What Were the Crusades?* 1977

Extract C

Pope Urban II inherited many long-term problems. He faced war with Germany, conflict in France, a rival pope, and Christians in the East under siege. An armed expedition could solve all of these problems as, if the initial rallying cry were successful, it would unite behind Urban a significant portion of Christian Europe. If the crusade succeeded and Jerusalem fell, then even the most sceptical observer would have to admit that God was on Urban's side. The advantages of the crusade seem obvious. There was only one problem, and Urban was educated enough to recognise it: the plan was insane. A military expedition from Europe would have to attract sufficient manpower, travel all the way to Jerusalem, consistently defeating armies along the way. The most Urban could hope for was a limited success. Western Christians might fight alongside the Byzantines and create some sort of alliance which might eventually lead to accomplishing some of Rome's larger goals: closer ties with Constantinople and perhaps an eventual attack on Jerusalem.

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Adapted from J Rubenstein, *Armies of Heaven: The First Crusade and the Quest for Apocalypse*, 2011

0 1

Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to the Papacy's reasons for the calling of the First Crusade.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2

'The rise of ideas of jihad was the main threat to Outremer's stability in the years 1119 to 1144.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3

To what extent was Outremer reliant upon the Latin West for its survival in the years 1149 to 1174?

[25 marks]

0 4

'Poor Latin Christian leadership was the main reason why attempts to strengthen Outremer failed in the years 1177 to 1204.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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