Al-Franj: the Crusaders in the Levant | Culture in the Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem

‘The Crusader rulers offered their patronage to both Islamic and Christian holy sites.’

When the Crusaders captured the city of Jerusalem and the surrounding area in 492 / 1099 they established the Kingdom of Jerusalem, the third and largest Frankish state of the eastern Mediterranean region. Its first king was Godfrey of Bouillon who called himself ‘Defender of the Holy Sepulchre’. The Crusader rulers offered their patronage to both Islamic and Christian holy sites, supporting generously the Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, just as they did Christian monuments in Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Several architectural features and objects from this period are extant.



Name:
Sword

Dynasty:
About hegira 6th century / AD 12th century Crusader

Details:
Burrell Collection, Glasgow Museums
Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom

Justification:
A typical example of a sword used by Crusader cavalrymen.



Name:
Sword

Dynasty:
About hegira 6th century / AD 12th century Crusader

Details:
Burrell Collection, Glasgow Museums
Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom

Justification:
Detail of a Crusader-period sword handle showing the pommel.



Name:
Prick spur

Dynasty:
About hegira 6th century / AD 12th century Crusader

Details:
Burrell Collection, Glasgow Museums
Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom

Justification:
A typical example of a prick spur used by Crusader cavalrymen.



Name:
Marble frieze

Dynasty:
Hegira 6th century / AD 12th century Crusader

Details:
Islamic Museum, al-Aqsa Mosque / al-Haram al-Sharif

Jerusalem

Justification:
An example of a carved marble frieze that was produced in a Crusader workshop.



Name:
Column capital

Dynasty:
Hegira 6th century / AD 12th century Crusader

Details:
Islamic Museum, al-Aqsa Mosque / al-Haram al-Sharif
Jerusalem

Justification:
An example of a carved marble column capital that was produced in a Crusader workshop.



Name:
Marble balustrade

Dynasty:
Hegira 6th century / AD 12th century Crusader

Details:
Islamic Museum, al-Aqsa Mosque / al-Haram al-Sharif
Jerusalem

Justification:
An example of a carved marble balustrade that was produced in a Crusader workshop.
