

# 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 cavalymen.



**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 cavalymen.



**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.

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**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.

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**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.

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