Al-Franj: the Crusaders in the Levant | Two Mamluk Sultans against the Franks

‘It was the Mamluks from Egypt who succeeded, finally, in driving the Franks from the Holy Land’.

Despite the increasingly successful efforts of the Ayyubid dynasty (564–658 / 1169–1260) to expel the Frankish Crusaders from the Levant, they did not fully achieve this aim. After another 50 years of struggle, it was the Mamluks from Egypt who succeeded, finally, in driving the Franks from the Holy Land and the Syrian coast.

**Citadel of Aleppo**

**Dynasty:**
Hegira 6th–7th century / AD 12th–13th century Zangid, Ayyubid and Mamluk

**Details:**
Aleppo, Syria

**Justification:**
View of Aleppo Citadel showing the Throne Room which was constructed during the reign of the Ayyubid Sultan al-Zahir Ghazi (d. 613 / 1216)

**Crac des Chevaliers**

**Dynasty:**
Hegira 5th - 10th century / AD 11th - 16th century Kilabite-Seljuq (AH 422–504 / AD 1031–1110); Counts of Tripoli (AH 504–37 / AD 1110–42); Knights Hospitallers (AH 537–669 / AD 1142–1271); Mamluk (AH 669 / AD1271–16th century)

**Details:**
Homs region, Syria

**Justification:**
Having captured Crac des Chevaliers in 669 / 1271, Sultan Baybars added a square tower and restored part of the wall on the southwest corner.

**Name:**
Crac des Chevaliers

**Dynasty:**
Hegira 5th - 10th century / AD 11th - 16th century Kilabite-Seljuq (AH 422–504 / AD 1031–1110); Counts of Tripoli (AH 504–37 / AD 1110–42); Knights Hospitallers (AH 537–669 / AD 1142–1271); Mamluk (AH 669 / AD1271–16th century)

**Details:**
Homs region, Syria

**Justification:**
Crac des Chevaliers, the tower.