

# The Atabegs and Ayyubids | Religious Life

'The Salihyya quarter in Damascus was a nucleus of anti-Crusader propaganda.'

Numerous Muslim immigrants seeking religious knowledge and piety, not to mention jihad (holy war), were attracted to Syria, particularly Aleppo and Damascus. The Salihyya quarter in Damascus, for example, was a nucleus of anti-Crusader propaganda and the residence of the Banu Qudama, religious scholars of Palestinian origin who played a crucial role in Saladin's victory over the Crusaders in the decisive Battle of Hattin (583 / 1187).



**Name:**

Pieces from the Nur al-Din Zangi minbar

**Dynasty:**

Construction of the minbar began in hegira 564 / AD 1169, and was completed in AH 570 / AD 1174 Ayyubid

**Details:**

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

**Justification:**

The attacks by the Crusaders put a new emphasis on jihad, a sentiment expressed in the phrases carved on Nur al-Din's minbar.

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**Name:**

Minbar

**Dynasty:**

Hegira 558 / AD 1163 Atabeg/Zangid

**Details:**

Hama Museum  
Hama, Syria

**Justification:**

The attacks by the Crusaders put a new emphasis on jihad, a sentiment expressed in the phrases carved on Nur al-Din's minbar

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**Name:**

The Minaret of the Umayyad Mosque of Aleppo

**Dynasty:**

Hegira 483–7 / AD 1091–4 Atabeg / Seljuq

**Details:**

Aleppo, Syria

**Justification:**

Minaret built by the Arab judge of Aleppo under Atabeg patronage. Its presence helped consolidate and revive Islamic unity.



**Name:**

The Minaret of the Umayyad Mosque of Aleppo

**Dynasty:**

Hegira 483–7 / AD 1091–4 Atabeg / Seljuq

**Details:**  
Aleppo, Syria

**Justification:**  
Diagram of the 5th /11th century minaret of the Umayyad Mosque.

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