

History Of The Byzantine Empire B C 146 A D 1453 Jewels Of The Western Civilization Book 7

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Sense of History. Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-566531-4. Sreedharan, E. (2004). A Text-book of Historiography, 500 B.C. to A.D. 2000. Warder, A.K... 252 KB (28,240 words) - 16:48, 10 March 2024

Bury, J. B. (1923). History of the Later Roman Empire. Vol. II. Macmillan & Co. pp. 325–326. Uhlig, Siegbert. Encyclopaedia Aethiopica: A-C. p. 178. Uhlig... 71 KB (8,451 words) - 04:50, 17 March 2024
Constantinople". World History Encyclopedia. BRYER, A., & WINFIELD, D. (1985). The Byzantine monuments and topography of the Pontos. Washington, D.C., Dumbarton... 115 KB (11,788 words) - 15:49, 3 March 2024

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to strike against the Byzantine (or Eastern Roman Empire) forces because of the previous defeat, although he first had to put down a rebellion by Arab... 171 KB (20,225 words) - 08:04, 12 March 2024
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to the peak it had reached three centuries before." The Justinian Code remained in force in the East until the fall of the Byzantine Empire. Western Europe... 156 KB (17,365 words) - 16:23, 27 February 2024

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permanent exhibition in the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art at the Brooklyn Museum, New York. Contents A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P R... 263 KB (5,758 words) - 11:25, 19 February 2024

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Justinian
The Secret History
Riots
Nika Riots
The Church of St Sofia
Long Walls
The Arabian Peninsula
Greek Fire
Varangian Guards

About the Effect this City Had on Arriving Travelers after a Long and Wearisome Journey the Traveler Seized from a Distance Towers Rising High into the Air and like Strong Giants in Stride Columns That Rise Up to the Highest Point and Tall Houses and Temples Whose Vast Roofs Reached to the Heights Who Would Not Become Instantly Filled with Joy and When He Reaches the Wall and Draws near to the Gates Who Does Not Greet the City Lower His Neck Kneel to the Ground and Grasp the Famous Earth but over the Preceding Centuries the World around Constantinople Had Changed in Western Europe the Post Roman Era Had Given Way to the Middle Ages the Latin Speaking Western Empire Had Fractured and Made Way for a Patchwork of Kingdoms

The Moment a New Emperor Was Crowned and Were Usually Given some Inconsequential Position Where They Could Cause Little Trouble It Was Also Imperial Policy That no General Was Allowed To Command Troops in His Home Province a Rule Designed To Prevent any General from Building Up Too Large a Base of Support and Challenging the Authority of the Empire as We Saw in the Last Episode this Was a Policy That the Han Dynasty of China Would Have Done Well To Adopt as a Further Insurance Policy Many Emperor's Gave Positions of Power to those Who Could Not Take the Throne

The Final Insurance Policy of any Emperor Was Ensuring that He Had a Solid Base of Support among the Actual People of the Empire and Its Political Elites if People Supported Their Emperor Then It Was Less Likely that a Coup Could Succeed and So Emperor's Spent Much of Their Time Trying To Increase this Support Especially in the Great City of Constantinople despite the Reputation It Has Earned in the West's Despotism Emperor's Didn't Last Long in Byzantium in the Centuries Following the Rise of Islam the Byzantine Empire Became Exceptional at Projecting What We Might Call Soft Power In the Year 946 One Delegation from Silesia Were Greeted in the Reception Hall of the Imperial Palace Decked Out with Silk Hangings Laurel Wreaths and Flowers and Slung with Silver Chains the Floors all Decorated with Persian Carpets and the Whole Vast Rooms Sprinkled with Rose Water the Entire Court Stood There in Ceremonial Regalia of Red Gold and Purple Thousands of People Chanting along with the Music of Organs Meanwhile the Emperor Sat on a Throne Modeled after the Biblical Throne of Solomon Surrounded by Mechanical Moving Animals Powered by Water and Clockwork Birds and Lions Castes in Silver That Roared and Warbled through Intricately Designed Instruments in Their Throats this Throne Could Even Be Mechanically Lifted into the Air while the Ambassador's Kneled before It all of this Theater Served To Impress and Terrify those Who Visited the Empire

We Knew Not whether We Were in Heaven or Earth for on Earth There Is no Such Splendor or Such Beauty We Only Knew that God Dwells There among Men and Their Service Is Fair in the Ceremonies of Other Nations but Soft Power Didn't Always Suffice and When It Failed There Was Always the Byzantine Army You the Army of Byzantium Was a Large and Powerful Force in the Mid 10th Century It Was Made Up of Roughly a Hundred and Forty Thousand Soldiers this Was Around 1 % of the Empire's Population

In the Mid 10th Century It Was Made Up of Roughly a Hundred and Forty Thousand Soldiers this Was Around 1 % of the Empire's Population and 5 % of all Adult Males the Army Was Divided into Local Defense Forces Known as Tamata and the Professional Standing Armies Known as Tag Mata Who Were Mostly Stationed in the Capital these Different Types of Army Allowed for some Flexibility in Warfare but They Were Also Used To Keep Checks on One another They Were Often Given Joint Command of a Province Meaning

These Different Types of Army Allowed for some Flexibility in Warfare but They Were Also Used To Keep Checks on One another They Were Often Given Joint Command of a Province Meaning that no One General Could Get any Ideas about Turning the Strength of His Men against the Empire and Making a Bid for the Throne a Lesson That Seems Clearly Drawn from the Constant Civil Wars That at Once Played the Western Empire the Byzantines Also Employed Foreign Mercenaries Usually Small Units of Specialized Soldiers Drawn from Neighboring Lands but Easily Their Most Powerful Military Asset Was the Formidable Might of Their Capital

We Were Pressed on all Sides by the Bonds of Death for Centuries Now Western Europe Had Relied on the Byzantines To Hold Back the Armies of the Various Muslim Empires That Had Risen and Fallen in Asia but It Was Becoming Increasingly Clear that They Couldn't Hold Out on Their Own Forever if Byzantium Was To Continue What the West Saw as Guarding the Gates of Europe It Would Need a Greater Level of Military Support in Fact It Would Need a Radical Solution That Would Reshape the Balance of Power in Europe into

But He Would Get Much Much More than He Bargained for on the 27th of November 1095 Pope Urban II Called Together the Council of Clermont and Urged All those Present To Take Up Arms under the Sign of the Cross for Centuries Now European Pilgrims Had Travelled to Jerusalem to the Site Where that Jewish Rebel Had Been Executed by the Occupying Roman Forces and Where the World's Largest Religion Had Been Born as We've Seen this Pilgrimage Route Usually Took Them through Byzantium Crossing the Bosphorus at Constantinople and Passing through the Silesian Gates into Syria and down the Coast of the Mediterranean

One Might Have Likened Them to the Stars of Heaven or the Sand Poured Out along the Edge of the Sea for these Men That Hurried On To Approach Constantinople or As Many as There Are Leaves and Flowers in the Springtime this Unruly Horde Is Thought To Have Contained More than a Hundred Thousand People a Vast Migration of Westerners into the East It Was Made Up Largely of Mobs of Poor Peasants Gathered from All the Towns and Villages of Western Europe and Had Marched across the Continent Looting and Stealing Everywhere They Passed through They Had Only Got As Far as the Rhineland in Germany

And if this Unruly Army Was What It Would Take To Protect His Empire Then He Was Have To Accept It so He Allowed this Vast Crusader Army To Cross the Bosphorus and Helped Them with Organization and Supplies while They Passed into Anatolia through the Gates of Silesia and into the Holy Land and the Crusaders despite Their General Lack of Experience and Equipment Did Very Well Their Vast Army Took the City of Nicaea in 1097 and Antioch a Year after that Jerusalem Was Reached in June of 1099 and Taken by an Assault One Month Later with the Crusaders Massacring

The Power of the Crusades Demonstrated to the Byzantines that Western Europe Was No Longer a Distant Backwater the Scattered Remnants of the Western Empire It Had Become a World of Its Own with Its Own Tensions Its Own Conflicts and Its Own Interests the Deal That Alexios Had Made Had Unleashed Dark Forces That Would Ultimately Spiral out of Control and Bring the Whole Empire of Byzantium to the Brink of Destruction this Would all Finally Come to a Head during Perhaps the Most Disgraceful Campaign Conducted by a Crusading Army in the East

The Leaders of the Crusader Army Perhaps Wisely Chose Not To Pass News of Their Excommunication Down to Their Men but while Many Viewed the Presence of this Vast Unruly Army as a Danger Others Saw in It an Opportunity One of these Men Was Named alexius the Fourth and Jell-O's Alexius Had Been the Son of a Byzantine Emperor but His Father Had Been Deposed in a Coup and Now He Lived in Exile with His Brother-in-Law the King of Germany Angelus Lived Much of His Early Life in a State of Great Bitterness about His Family's Loss and He Must Have Spent Long Hours Fantasizing about Returning Himself to the Throne of Byzantium

We Made Our Way towards a Certain Heavily Fortified Tower Known as Galata a Very Great Excessively Thick Iron Chain Was Fastened to It It Ran across the Sea Stretching from the Tower All the Way to the City Walls after a Number of Unsuccessful Assaults with the Crusaders Taking Heavy Losses on the 12th of April They Were Finally Successful They Landed Their Ships below the Sea Walls of Constantinople Much Lower than the Land Walls in the West They Anchored Their Ships below the Walls and Swarmed Up Their Masts Scrambling across Catwalks To Reach the Ramparts Other Ships Landed on the Shore Line and Used Picks and Shovels To Hack Away at a Gateway That the Defenders Had Hurriedly Bricked Up the City's Defenders Were Beaten Back and the Crusaders Managed To Break the Chain That Hung over the Golden Horn

They Anchored Their Ships below the Walls and Swarmed Up Their Masts Scrambling across Catwalks To Reach the Ramparts Other Ships Landed on the Shore Line and Used Picks and Shovels To Hack Away at a Gateway That the Defenders Had Hurriedly Bricked Up the City's Defenders Were Beaten Back and the Crusaders Managed To Break the Chain That Hung over the Golden Horn They

Sailed into the Port of Constantinople

Soon Found that He Had Vastly Overestimated the Wealth He Would Find in the Imperial Treasury a Century of Civil Wars At All but Emptied It and When the Previous Emperor Fled the City He Had Taken with Him More than a Thousand Pounds of Gold along with Priceless Jewels with the Large and Unruly Crusader Army Still Camped Restless and Impatient in the City Awaiting Their Payment the New Emperor Angelus Ordered that the Funds Should Be Raised by any Means Necessary He Ordered Soldiers To March through the Streets Bursting into Churches and Taking any Priceless Works of Byzantine Art That They Could Find these Were To Be Destroyed and Melted Down To Strip Them of Their Gold the Site of this New Emperor Sending Troops into the Churches To Destroy Their Treasures

And They Did Not Know that They Served Up Bile like Wine nor that They Would Treat the Byzantines with Utter Contempt Declaring a Great Victory for Christendom the Crusaders Selected an Emperor from among Their Ranks and Divided the Territory of the Empire into Various New Crusader States the Byzantine Empire Fractured Constantinople Was Ruled by a Western Emperor for the Next 60 Years and Its Citizens Referred to this Regime as Frankoc Rottier or the Rule of the Franks but the Latins Soon Found that Governing this Large and Fractious Empire Was no Easy Matter over the Course of Their Rule

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Intro

Constantinople

Orban

The Siege

The Counterattack

The Fall

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Intro

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The Fourth Crusade

What if Contest

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15th Century

1432 the Eastern Romans Captured the Whole of the Peloponnese

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Richard I in Sicily
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Battle of Jaffa
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Pope Innocent III
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The Attack on Zara
Angeloi Dynasty
Prince Alexios' Offer
Fourth Crusade Arrives at Constantinople
Alexios III fails
Alexios IV in trouble
Reprisal for the Latin Massacre and the Great Fire of Constantinople
The Death of Alexios IV
The Fourth Crusade attacks and Alexios V defends the City
The Fourth Crusade attacks again
The Fall of the city
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