Timeline of Events

Seventh Century A great victory is celebrated in an excerpt from the Koran, the holy book of the Muslims.

c. 1000 In “The Prior Who Became a Moslem,” a tale from The Arabian Nights, readers can see the power of faith and religion in the Middle East at the time of the Crusades.

November 28, 1095 Pope Urban II calls for a holy war, or Crusade, against the Muslims in the Holy Land and Constantinople in a “Speech at the Council of Clermont.”

May 27, 1096 The twelfth-century Jewish chronicler Solomon bar Samson describes the persecution of the Jews at the time of the First Crusade in “The Crusaders in Mainz.”

1097 Anna Comnena, princess of the Byzantine Empire, writes of the arrival of the Crusaders in Constantinople and their early victories in excerpts from The Alexiad.

March 29, 1098 Stephen of Blois, one of the leaders of the First Crusade, writes “To His Wife Adele” at the time of the siege of Antioch.