



HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE Location

HRE Population: 20.3 million (1600 A.D.)
HRE Land: 1,000,000 sq km HRE Capital: Rome
The Holy Roman Empire was one of the largest and longest European empires in history. It lasted from its inception with the coronation of Charlemagne in 800 AD until HRE Francis II's abdication in 1806.

With Charlemagne in your Civilization—ONCE: Increase your Morale by 300. CONSTANT: Increase your Strength by 500. You may attack from Europe to Asia and vice versa.

The First Crusades Charlemagne



COUNCIL OF CLERMONT 1095 Event

The Council of Clermont was an assembly called by Pope Urban II in 1095. Envoys from Emperor Alexios I Komnenos requested aid to the Greeks against the Umayyad Caliphate's forces. Urban II appealed to the French knights at Clermont, ending his speech with "God wills it." These words became a battle cry of the crusaders.

Pope Urban II's inspirational words bring one of your Armies to the aid of another Land for the next two turns.

The First Crusades Pope Urban II



CONSTANTINOPLE Location

After Emperor Constantine united the Roman Empire under his control, he sought to build a new capital city and chose the ancient city of Byzantium. It was dedicated in 330 AD and renamed Constantinople. Constantinople was one of the significant in the world from antiquity until the end of the Middle Ages.

Because Constantinople lies on both sides of the Strait of Bosphorus, any European Land can also attack in Asia and vice versa.

The First Crusades Emperor Constantine



ALEXIOS I KOMNENOS 1056 - 1118 Leader

Alexios I Komnenos was the Emperor of the Byzantine Empire during the early 12th Century. Kilij Arslan I and his Army besieging the city of Nicaea in 1097 prompted Alexios to appeal to Pope Urban II to send military help in order to defend the city of Constantinople. The answer to this appeal was the beginning of the First Crusade.

When Alexios is in the same Land as a Pope, he gains an additional 500 Strength.

The First Crusades 500 / 400



MUSLIM CONQUEST OF THE LEVANT 634-698 Event

Upon the death of the Islamic Prophet Mohammed in 632, Abu Bakr was appointed as the leader of Mohammed's Rashidun Empire. Abu Bakr and his general Khalid ibn al-Walid sought to gain control of much of the middle east and the Levant. The Levant is a name for the region containing modern day Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt.

This card gives any Islamic Leader or Conqueror an additional 500 Attack for two turns.

The First Crusades The Levant



KILIJ ARSLAN I 1079 - 1107 Conqueror

Kilij Arslan I was the sultan, or leader, of the Islamic region of Rûm, which is in modern-day Turkey. Kilij Arslan I was a great conqueror and leader of the Islamic military forces belonging to the Umayyad Caliphate. His besieging of the city of Nicaea, 110 miles southeast of Constantinople, was a critical trigger in starting the First Crusade.

Kilij Arslan I gains an additional 500 Strength when fighting in Turkey.

The First Crusades 1000 / 600



JERUSALEM Location

The city of Jerusalem gets its name from the Hebrew word Yerushalayim, meaning "foundation of peace." Jerusalem is a unique city as it is considered the religious center of three of the world's biggest religions: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Wars have been fought for control of this city for centuries.

This card doubles the effect of any Christian, Jewish, or Islamic Spiritual Leader.

The First Crusades Christians, Jews, and Muslim



HUGH I, COUNT OF VERMANDOIS 1057 - 1102 Conqueror

In 1096, Hugh and his brother Philip discussed the First Crusade after news of the Council of Clermont. Hugh took up the fight. Many of his ships were destroyed in a storm off the Byzantine coast. After the Crusaders captured Antioch, Hugh was sent back to Constantinople to appeal for reinforcements, but he chose to return to France instead.

Increase your Strength by 400. After his second Attack, Hugh must be discarded.

The First Crusades 600 / 400



PRINCIPALITY OF ANTIOCH Location

The Principality of Antioch is a small region in modern-day Syria around the city of Antioch which was part of the Kingdom of Jerusalem after the First Crusade. Despite the conflicts during the Crusades, Antioch was a successful trade center. After the death of Bohemond III, leadership was disputed and control went to the Muslims in 1268.

The Principality of Antioch was an epicenter of trade in antiquity. Double the effects of any Businessman you currently have in play.

The First Crusades Bohemond III



POPE URBAN II 1042 - 1099 Spiritual Leader

Pope Urban II was an 11th century head of the Catholic Church who further developed the reforms begun by Pope Gregory VII. At the Council of Clermont, Urban pleaded on behalf of Byzantine emperor Alexios I Komnenos for help defending against Kilij Arslan I and the Islamic military forces of the Umayyad Caliphate.

CHOOSE: Pope Urban II can either gain the help of another one of your Armies for two turns or negotiate a truce for two turns.

The First Crusades 100 / 40



PETER THE HERMIT ? - 1115 Spiritual Leader

After the Council of Clermont, the hermit Peter of Amiens raised an army for the Crusade. Peter and his army reached Nicomedia. Needing provisions, he returned to Constantinople for help. While gone, the men, led by Walter Sans Avoir, were massacred by the Turks. Peter and the survivors joined Godfrey of Bouillon's men.

Peter the Hermit inspires your people. Increase your Morale by 300.

The First Crusades 400 / 300



PEASANTS ARMY 1096 - 1099AD Army

After Pope Urban II's speech at the Council of Clermont calling for Christian warriors to go to Jerusalem and free it from the rule of Muslim Turks, many devout common citizens took it upon themselves to set out upon the mission immediately. Tragically, they were lacking in proper military equipment and leadership.

Increase your Strength by 300 if in the same Land as a Pope.

The First Crusades 2000 / 1000



SIEGE OF JERUSALEM May - June 1097 Event

After fighting across modern-day Turkey, the Crusaders approached Jerusalem. With many Crusaders staying in Antioch and the harsh desert terrain, a long siege was not possible. The Crusaders, led by Duke Godfrey from the north and Count Raymond from the west, took the city. This was the culmination of the First Crusade.

If Israel is attacking or under attack in your Civilization increase their Strength by 1,000.

The First Crusades Jerusalem, Israel



SIEGE OF ANTIOCH 1095 Event

The Siege of Antioch is considered one of the most critical moments of the First Crusade. Despite multiple attacks by relief Caliphate forces, the Crusaders were able to capture the city of Antioch after a seven-and-a-half-month siege. Bohemond of Taranto was able to convince a tower guard, Finuz, to let them into the walls of the city.

INTERUPPT: If you are attacking a Land with only one Character left, you win and take the Land.

The First Crusades Bohemond of Taranto



SELJUK MOUNTED ARCHERS 600 BC - 1300 AD Army

The Seljuk Mounted Archers were very well known in the 12th century for their quick attacks. Their ability to ride at full speed and still use their archery skills could prove to be a devastating factor. They also fought with very light armor which made them very vulnerable to heavily armed close quarter attacks.

When an opponent attacks their Land, all the cards in the Seljuk's Land count their Attack points as if they were Defense (two turns).

The First Crusades 2000 / 3000



RAYMOND IV, COUNT OF TOULOUSE 1052 - 1105 Conqueror

Count Raymond was seen as both a great military leader and a fervently religious person. He and his men were vital in the Crusaders' victory during the 1099 Siege of Jerusalem. Tragically, Count Raymond and his men then proceeded to slaughter Eastern Orthodox Christians, Muslims, and Jews throughout Jerusalem.

Increase your Strength by 500. For every battle you win with Raymond, you lose 100 Morale.

The First Crusades 800 / 800



UMAYYAD CALIPHATE Location

The Umayyad Caliphate was the second of the four Islamic empires established after the Prophet Mohammad's death. It spanned parts of modern-day Europe, Asia, and North Africa. Much of the government and daily life was based on Islamic teachings. Its 5.17 million square miles makes it the fifth largest empire ever to exist.

One of your Lands in Europe, Asia, or Africa gains the reach of the Umayyad Caliphate. You can attack on those continents for two turns.

The First Crusades Emperor Constantine



THE THREE WAVES OF CRUSADERS 1096-1099 Event

The First Crusades were made up of three waves of Crusaders. The first is often called the Peasants' Crusade, reported to be an undisciplined and ill-equipped army. The second wave was made up of a number of armies with their own commanders. The third was under the command of Byzantine Emperor Alexios I Komnenos.

This card allows you to attack one opponent three times in one turn.

The First Crusades Alexios I Komnenos



THE HOLY LANCE OF LONGINUS Relic

The Holy Lance of Longinus is believed to be the lance that pierced Jesus Christ during his crucifixion. The Longinus portion of its name comes from a 4th century manuscript identifying the soldier responsible. On June 15, 1098, the starving army of the First Crusade found what it believed to be the Holy Lance in the city of Antioch, inspiring victory at the Siege of Antioch.

ONCE: Increase your Morale by 400. CONSTANT: Due to their zeal in battle, the defender wins the second battle against the attacker.

Crusades Jesus Christ



SIEGE OF NICAEA 1097-1098 Event

After Kilij Arslan I had made Nicaea his capital, the Crusaders saw it as an immediate threat to Constantinople. Early siege efforts proved to be a problem. The Crusaders tried to dig tunnels under the city walls, but the tunnels collapsed early. When the Byzantines attacked from the lake facing Nicaea, the defenders surrendered.

INTERRUPT: If you lose the first battle of a turn, the Byzantines come to your assistance and you win the second battle.

The First Crusades Kilij Arslan I