LEARNING IN A CRUSADER CITY

Did the Crusades trigger significant intellectual activity? To what extent and in what ways did the Latin residents of the Crusader states acquire knowledge from Muslims and Eastern Christians? And how were the Crusader states influenced by the intellectual developments which characterized the West in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries? This book is the first to examine these questions systematically using the complete body of evidence from one major urban centre: Acre. It reveals that Acre contained a significant number of people who engaged in learned activities, as well as the existence of study centres housed within the city. This volume also seeks to reconstruct the discourse that flowed across four major fields of learning: language and translation, jurisprudence, the study of Islam and theological exchanges with Eastern Christians. The result is an unprecedentedly rich portrait of a hitherto neglected intellectual centre on the eastern shores of the medieval Mediterranean.

JONATHAN RUBIN teaches in the Department of Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology at Bar-Ilan University. His research focuses on the cultural and intellectual history of the Latin East.
LEARNING IN A CRUSADER CITY

Intellectual Activity and Intercultural Exchanges
in Acre, 1191–1291

JONATHAN RUBIN

Bar-Ilan University
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## INTRODUCTION

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The present book started out as a PhD dissertation submitted to the senate of the Hebrew University in the summer of 2012. As such, it represents my work and thoughts about Frankish Acre from a period of more than ten years, during which numerous teachers, friends and colleagues were kind enough to share with me their knowledge and ideas, or simply to support and encourage me along the winding road that led to the composition of the present book. It is likely that I will not remember them all, and I offer sincere apologies to those whom I might be forgetting.

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ABBREVIATIONS

Cartulaire: Cartulaire général de l’ordre des Hospitaliers de S. Jean de Jérusalem, ed. Joseph Delaville le Roulx, 4 vols., Paris, 1894–1906 [the references are to document numbers].

CCCM: Corpus Christianorum Continuatio Mediaevalis.


CSEL: Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum.


MGH: Monumenta Germaniae Historica.


PL: Patrologia Latina.

List of Abbreviations

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<tr>
<td>RHGF</td>
<td>Recueil des historiens des Gaules et de la France.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RRH</td>
<td>Reinhold Röhricht, <em>Regesta Regni Hierosolymitani</em>, and <em>Additamentum</em>, Innsbruck, 1893–1904 [the references are to document numbers].</td>
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<td>ZDPV</td>
<td>Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins.</td>
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