Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Tuesday 21 May 2019

Afternoon | Paper Reference **9HI0/1A**

History

Advanced

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations

Option 1A: The crusades, c1095–1204

Extracts Booklet

Do not return this booklet with the question paper.

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Extracts for use with Section C.

Extract 1: From Jonathan Riley-Smith, *The Crusades: A Short History*, published 1987.

Seeking to blame someone for the sacking of Constantinople is rather pointless. No individual was to blame. Enrico Dandolo, Philip of Swabia, Boniface of Montferrat, and even Innocent III have all been wrongly accused. The capture of Constantinople was simply the result of a series of accidents. The intention of the crusader leaders in 1203 was simply to change the government in Constantinople. This would pay off the crusaders' debts and leave a crusader-friendly government to rule the Byzantine empire.

Nor can the capture of Constantinople be explained by the long history of bad relations between crusaders and the Greeks. It was simply a response to a request from the Byzantine prince Alexius which was made when the crusaders were heavily in debt. The error of judgement was made when the Treaty of Venice was drawn up. Historians' inclusion of Innocent's name among those responsible for the capture of Constantinople is particularly unkind. The Fourth Crusade ended in a way that was bound to make the unification of the Catholic and Orthodox churches, so dear to his heart, much harder.

Extract 2: From Norman Housley, *The Crusaders*, published 2002.

In April 1204 Constantinople faced a disastrous set of circumstances. Constantinople was a city incomparably rich in both material and religious terms, and now it was exposed to the attentions of an army with a deeply-ingrained and brutal lust for wealth. The plundering of Constantinople was predictable. Greed and the desire to plunder were commonplace features of the society from which crusading sprang. It had after all been a feature of every crusade since 1095. The habit of plundering was deeply embedded in the crusading mentality, and Innocent knew this when he called the crusade. For the crusaders themselves there was nothing inherently different between their behaviour in 1204 and previous examples of plunder by crusaders. The agreement made between the crusader barons and Dandolo to divide the spoils of Constantinople between them was the standard practice of crusader leaders. The decisions that led to the sacking of Constantinople were not accidental.

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