

Haileybury MUN

HMUN19 Joint-Cabinet Crisis Committee

The Third Crusade

Character Guide



Crusaders:

Frederick I Barbarossa, Holy Roman Emperor – Age 67, you are a well-respected Emperor and having fought in the disastrous Second Crusade and leading five expeditions into Italy against the Normans, you are considered among the Holy Roman Empire's greatest medieval emperors. Your combined qualities that made you appear almost superhuman to your contemporaries: your longevity, your ambition, your extraordinary skills at organization, your battlefield acumen and your political perspicuity. The Third Crusade will be your last fight, but you hope that you will succeed in recapturing Jerusalem and gain even greater fame.

Leopold V, Duke of Austria – known as 'the virtuous', you have held the title of Duke of Austria for seven years. As son of a Byzantine Emperor, you have strong ties with Constantinople and although Austria has had territorial disputes both within and outside of the HRE, you are held in high regard by the Holy Roman Emperor.

Philip II of France – you are described as "generous to his friends, stingy towards those who displeased him, well-versed in the art of stratagem, orthodox in belief, prudent and stubborn in his resolves". Having often fought with vassals and currently at war with Henry II of England, you have also been described as "very tough with powerful men who resisted him". After defeating Henry, you hope to march with Richard to the Holy Land and justify your nickname "God-given".

Hugh III, Duke of Burgundy – When Philip II assumed the throne in 1180, you took the opportunity to gather support of other vassals and attacked French holdings. You were defeated and in return had to give back much of your land and pay a large ransom for your son. You are now a puppet for Philip, but this can have its advantages.

Richard I of England – In order to secure your claim to the throne of England before you go crusading, you joined forces with Philip II to fight your father Henry II. Your brother John, also a risk, must also be taken care of, in order to prevent him from claiming the throne in your absence. You gained the epithet "Oceano", Yes and No, due to your curt nature and in the future "Cœur de Lion" or "Lionheart" for your military prowess. Will you live up to your titles or will home affairs keep you away from the action?

Leo the Magnificent, King of Armenian Cilicia – Bastion of Christianity in the east, you are a key ally of the Crusaders. With a stronghold in Cilicia, you are surrounded by enemies; Byzantium to the west, Saladin to the east and the Turkomans to the north. Although not a Crusader Kingdom, you can help your fellow Christians re-establish Jerusalem as a kingdom and gain respect across Europe.

Muslims:

An-Nasir Salah ad-Din Yusuf ibn Ayyub (Saladin) – After the death of the Caliph Al-Adid in 1171, you, Vizier of Egypt, caused the surprisingly peaceful succession from the Shia Fatimid Caliphate to the Sunni Ayyubid Sultanate, power shifted from Cairo to Baghdad. After the death of Nur al-Din, Zengid ruler of Syria, eleven-year-old as-Salih was put in power. Many of Nur al-Din's generals took this opportunity to gain influence, including you, eager to unite Egypt and Syria under your own personal rule. After many years of destroying any remnants of the Zengid dynasty, you married Nur ad-Din's widow Ismat ad-Din Khatun, and you were recognized as ruler of Syria. In the following years, you expanded your Ayyubid

Dynasty into Mesopotamia and further into Syria, causing other Muslim rulers to accuse you of empire building. After King Raynald of Jerusalem broke a peace treaty, you called jihad and assaulted the Crusader Kingdoms. After your decisive victory at Hattin, you took Jerusalem. However, with the calling of Crusade by the Pope, you will need to secure your new lands not only from the Christians, but also from Muslims who have been angered by your sudden rise to power.

Muzaffar ad-Din Gökböri – son of Zain ad-Din Ali Kutcek, the governor of Erbil. You are leading emir and general of Saladin. Having succeeded your father's lordship, you have also been granted the fiefdom of Harran. You commanded the right wing of the Zengid army against Saladin but defected to his side resulting in his victory in Syria. He now holds you in high regard you will surely be highly sought after in any upcoming conflict.

Al-Adil I (Saphadin) – you are a son of Najm ad-Din Ayyub, younger brother of Saladin. You first achieved distinction as an officer in Nur ad-Din's Zengid army during his uncle Shahrukh's third and final campaign in Egypt. With your brother having taken power, you are made Governor of Egypt, a land of seemingly limitless resources; it is up to you to supply the Caliphate or seek higher individual power.

Al-Muzaffar Taqi al-Din Umar – you are the Ayyubid Prince of Hama and nephew of Saladin. Once fief of Fayyum, where you built many educational institutions, you are upset at Saladin who replaced you with one of his many sons. In retaliation, you were going to invade the Almohad Caliphate land of Maghreb however your aides advised against this. Saladin has now welcomed you as a general in his army and commended your efforts in the Battle of Hattin. Will you continue to fight for your uncle or will you leave to continue your conquests in North Africa?

'Izz ad-Dīn Qilij Arslān bin Mas'ūd (Kilij Arslan II) – As the Seljuk Sultan of Rūm you are left at a crossroads between east and west. You can't trust Saladin, your neighbour to the south, who has already shown form for conquering other Arab states and your northern neighbour, the Danishmends whom you are at an uneasy peace with, is no more steadfast. You will need to fight tooth and nail to maintain your land.

Rashid al-Din Sinan, Old Man of the Mountain – Leader of the Syrian wing of the Assassins, your reputation as a man of 'subtle and brilliant intelligence' gains you wide currency among Muslims and Christians alike. By this time, you have failed to assassinate Saladin many times, but you got close enough for him to understand your power and that you should be respected.

Byzantines:

Isaac II Angelos, Byzantine Emperor – Having lost a lot of land in Anatolia to the Seljuk Empire and the treat of the Crusaders at your doorstep, you currently have a weak alliance with Saladin. However, with a revolt in Cyprus and the Crusaders gathering huge armies to march towards the Holy Land, will you risk losing more land in Anatolia by allowing fellow Christians free passage through your lands.

Other Characters:

Although not playable characters to begin with, these people play key roles in the Third Crusade, and are people you could end up representing in the event of the untimely death of your initial character.

Guy of Lusignan – Guy competed with Raynald to be King of Jerusalem. He fought with Raynald at the disastrous Battle of Hattin and was captured. Raynald was killed by Saladin for raiding carriages on Hajj and breaking their truce but Guy was spared with Saladin saying 'kings do not kill kings' showing that he believed Guy was the rightful King of Jerusalem. Guy is currently a prisoner of Saladin in Damascus.

Isaac Kominos – Former governor of Isauria and Tarsus, he was imprisoned by the Armenians after he declared war on them. When they released him, he gathered a mercenary army and became the tyrant who currently rules Cyprus. Having gathered other Romans around him, he was crowned Emperor of Cyprus. After an uprising in Constantinople, a new Emperor was crowned, who ordered for the recapture of Cyprus. When the fleet had landed and disembarked, a Sicilian pirate, Margaritus, stole the ships. Both Margaritus

and Isaac destroyed the Byzantine army and captured the captains. Isaac started to plunder Cyprus, raping women, defiling virgins, imposing overly cruel punishments for crimes, and stealing the possessions of the citizens. In an alliance with King William II of Sicily, he defends Cyprus from the Byzantine Empire. Isaac remains neutral towards Saladin and the Crusaders but is hated by the Byzantine Empire, the Holy Roman Empire on account of his alliance with Sicily and Armenia on account of his past war.

Humphrey IV of Toron – Humphrey was a former baron in the Kingdom of Jerusalem. He was captured along with many other Christian commanders including Guy of Lusignan and King Raynald. He was released after his mother exchanged him for the surrender of one of his strongholds. Humphrey joined Richard I in the Third Crusade and his fluency in Arabic allows Richard to conduct negotiations with the Muslims.

Prince Géza of Hungary – After previous conflicts with dukes of the HRE over border disputes, Géza was captured and again became a prisoner of his brother Béla. With the calling of the Third Crusade, Frederick I asked for the release of Géza to raise an army of 2,000 Hungarians and march to the Holy Land as an escort of Frederick.