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# Crusades Through Arab Eyes

*Amin Maalouf*

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**Amin Maalouf : Crusades Through Arab Eyes** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crusades Through Arab Eyes:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating point of view on the CrusadesBy Mark McCandlessA fascinating point of view on the Crusades, and one that's needed for balance. This could also be a person's first book on the Crusades-- it is that clear and well written. Amongst many things I learned that both sides used carrier pigeons. Fast, but with enough depth to understand many of the complexities of diplomacy and war at that time.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Interesting readBy JACReading this book was quite interesting to say the least. It gave a view of the crusades through eyes other than the Europeans for once and it was refreshing to hear about it from their point of view. However, I did give it four stars because the overall way the book was written was a little confusing and hard to follow. It jumped from place to place and sometimes, time to time, so it made it a little hard to follow. But, otherwise, this book was an amazing one and was quite the interesting read.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Thought provokingBy Kilji SeljukWell written. Ties events from the Crusades to present-day Middle East. Very relevant to this date.

From Library JournalThis welcome addition to the numerous volumes on the Crusades is a well-written and absorbing

history by a Lebanese journalist for the general reader. It makes extensive use of contemporary Arab sources to examine the Crusade era from the Arab viewpoint. The Arabs found the Franks duplicitous, brutal, and unrefined. However, in contrast to the Franks, few Arabs learned their adversary's language or showed interest in their culture, an observation Bernard Lewis treats more fully in his *Muslim Discovery of Europe* (LJ 9/1/82). Maalouf interprets the Crusades as a turning point in Arab-Muslim history. Parochialism in the Muslim Middle East and the current division between the West and the Middle East are dated to this prolonged period of hostile contact. Recommended for public and academic libraries. J. Anthony Gardner, California State Univ. Lib., Northridge Copyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc. Language Notes Text: English, French (translation)