The Crusades News Article

**Name:**

**Date:**

Your assignment is to write a news article analyzing if the Crusaders succeeded in any of the goals they set out to achieve. As a journalist, your goal is to write a clear concise summary for your readers and to support your writing with evidence. Analyze the leaders, battles, and consequences of this competition for the Holy Land.

Your article should include **three complete paragraphs**:

* One paragraph describing the successes of the Crusades
* One paragraph describing the failures of the Crusades
* One paragraph stating your overall position and supporting it with evidence (Did the Crusaders achieve their goals?)

In your article, **be sure to:**

* include these key individuals and groups: Urban II, Pilgrims, Seljuk Turks, Richard, and Saladin
* acknowledge each of the Crusades listed in the chart

*Note: Make sure to add transition sentences in paragraphs 2 and 3 so that your news story reads as one coherent analysis rather than three unrelated paragraphs.*

Paragraph 1: Successes of the Crusades

There were several religious wars known as the Crusades that occurred from around the late 11th up to the start of the 13th century. They were aimed at taking back Jerusalem and other holy territories among the Muslims. Urban II was first to launch the First Crusade back in 1095, which focused on regaining the Holy land from the hands of the Seljuk tuurks. That first passionate campaign to regain possession of the city which was in the year 1099, was a success. As a result there emerged a number of states, called Crusader, that were ruling the area at that time setting the way for Christian pilgrimage. Even kings and other military leaders made serious progress going so far as to come to terms with Salah al-Din on freeing the sacred city from Muslim arms for the time being. And thus, with the result that the Crusaders imposed a Christian regime in that region albeit for a while and accomplished pilgrimage freeing the sense of guilt some degree of the original ideology was met.

Paragraph 2: Failures of the Crusades

Nevertheless, numerous Crusades did not meet and test the endurance of the Crusader forces. When the Second Crusade was initiated in 1147, there was a hope that the land that was lost in the process of the Turks' take over of Edessa would be recovered but this hope became useless as the crusade was abandoned. The Fourth Crusade also encountered a series of counterproductive events that led to the looting of Christian Constantinople and hence weaken of the Byzantine empire, among other things, in the place of the revered city of Jerusalem. These events caused the great division between the Catholic and Orthodox Churches. Crusades that span into the fifth-nine centuries such as the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth, encountered firm Muslim opposition and waning enthusiasm from the people in Europe which ultimately resulted in these crusades’ failure to create a Christian-ruled Holy Land for a long time. Despite great leaders like Richard and coalitions, there is little war any war was waged in or around Jerusalem successfully by the Crusaders the logistical and tactical challenges of these wars came to the fore.

Paragraph 3: Did the Crusaders achieve their goals?

Further examining, both the positive and negative points, of the Crusades it is likely that the Crusaders were far from realizing their aims in the campaigns. The first battles allowed the Christians to enter the Jerusalem and set up a few territories, had been taken only in desperation and they could not be held. The Crusades had the brutality of reckless leaders and pious followers too; in a word, the Muslims were left in control of the Holy Land. Additionally, the Crusades further contributed to the lines that separated the Christian beliefs from the Islamic beliefs, and the infighting in Christian society took another form defined by the fall of Constantinople. Even though the Crusades appeared to succeed in achieving certain immediate ends, looking at their effects in the long run emphasizes the futility of the initial objectives. Looking back at the Crusades demonstrates that the attention should be made more on the drawbacks of prolonged hostilities than on the rewards of success.