# Examples of Crusader violations of human rights in the Levant through the book of ALkamil by Ibn al-Atheer (491- 587 AH /1097- 1192 AD)



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### ABSTRACT

European Christian sent a number of military campaigns to the Levant since (491 AH / 1097 AD); its goal is to occupy Palestine and the Levant, In order to achieve this goal, the Crusaders used excessive force, violating human rights in all its forms and at all levels. They committed massacres against thousands of Palestinian civilians, destroyed farms and markets, killed innocent civilians, attacked scientific and religious institutions, by targeting the roads and their siege of cities, They violated the rights of merchants, passers-by and pilgrims and their siege of cities. The Islamic historian Ibn al-Atir has chronicled these events in time and place and wrote them down in his full book in history; his story is the truth as an eyewitness.

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# Introduction

Ibn al-Ather in the book "Alkamil" on the violations of the crusaders of human rights in the Levant of the year (491-584 AH / 1097 - 1192), is the most accurate novel, especially Ibn al-Atheer time and place of events, In all its forms and at all levels, The Crusaders violated the political, civil, economic, religious and cultural rights of the original inhabitants of the land. The Crusaders besieged the cities. They were then overrun by the destroyers of farms, fields, markets, institutions and massacres. They also violated economic rights by threatening the roads of commerce, closing markets, destroying agricultural lands and controlling a large part of them. The destruction of institutions, the killing of scholars, the prohibition of adhaan and rituals, and the destruction of mosques.

### The importance of studying:

1. Defining human rights in terms of origin and development.

2. Highlighting violations by the Crusaders of human rights in the political, security, civil, social, economic, religious, and cultural spheres; through Ibn al-Atheer's accounts in Al-Kamil.

3. Acquaintance with the approach of the historian Ibn al-Atheer in presenting his book.

### 1-The meaning of human rights

The right to language means certainty<sup>1</sup> in Arabic some times, and the linguistic material of the word "right" is based on several meanings, such as "confirmation", "necessity" <sup>2</sup> The use of the word "right" in the Qur'an is expressed in several meanings, And the word "Haq" in the Holy Quran is one hundred and forty-nine times.<sup>3</sup>

In the Prophetic Sunnah it was used in several places,

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "Allaah has given everyone who has his right"<sup>4</sup>, It seems that scholars of Islamic jurisprudence did not care about the definition of "The linguistic meaning especially that it is clear and unambiguous, but the son of Najim knew: "the right is what the man deserves, and also is the thing in every face and no doubt in it.<sup>5</sup>

-As for the term human rights, it is a composite address of two additional synthetic words, "rights" and "human beings", although the term is well known; this does not absolve its definition; , And that is supposed to be a human being, and needs in his life, to preserve his life and dignity, security and privacy, so as not to conflict with the public good, and the decisions of Islamic law<sup>6</sup>, This is not contrary to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris in 1948<sup>7</sup>

### 2-The siege

The Crusaders adopted the siege as an essential means of overthrowing the cities, forts and Islamic castles for their occupation; examples are numerous. 2/1-The siege of Tripoli (503 AH / 1110 AD)

Ibn al-Atheer narrated that: "And Faraj extended the fighting against them from the towers and the creeping, and attacked the country and they monopolized it and forced it on Monday for eleven nights of Dhu al-Hijjah, They looted what they had. They captured the men. They robbed the women and the children, looted the money and plundered their people. Of money, luggage, wrote the role of science suspended, what is not limitless, , And its people were among the most people of the country funds and trade, and the governor who was in it, and a group of its soldiers were seeking safety before opening, and arrived in Damascus, and punished the people of the people of the types of sanctions, and took their ammunition in their vaults<sup>8</sup>.

# 2/2-The siege of the stronghold of the Aatharab and the fortress of Zardana

The Crusaders besieged these fortresses in the year (504 AH / 1111 AD). Ibn al-Atheer described the situation of distress that passed on from inside to Salmoh where he said: "The collection of the Antioch Asakrah of the Franks, and the crowd of the knight and the leg, and marched towards the fortress of the Ethiopians, So it became difficult for Muslims, and they came out of the castle and stood up, and they came out of it to the tent of Antioch and killed him,

and when they did so and approached his tent, And the families of the rest, and then marched to the fortress of Zerdna, examined it, and opened it, and did with his family like the relatives, when the people heard Mnbj so Faroukha fear of the Franks, as well as the people of some countries, and the intention of the two countries<sup>9</sup>.

### 2/3-The siege of the Eilon fortress

It was in the year 578 AH (1183 AD) where "the prince of Karak worked a fleet and emptied it with rubbish. All that was left was to gather his pieces together, and to carry them to the sea of his father, and to collect them as soon as possible. Two groups: a band established on the fortress of Ayla, which is for Muslims to harvest it, and prevents his family from receiving water, so his family received great intensity and great distress.<sup>10</sup>

# 3-Expulsion of the population from their homes

Many of the inhabitants of the Levant during the period of Crusader control were abandoned from their cities, fortifications and towns. In the year 494 AH (1101 AD), when they "ruled Arsuf safely, they took their people out of it" (499 AH / 1106 CE) "When the fall of the city of Tire 518 AH, when the governor of Tgtkit decided to" deliver the city to them and enable them from the army and the parish to get out of them by what they can of their money and their travel and others , And settled the base on it, and opened the doors of the country, and the king of the Franks, and his family, and dispersed in the country, and carried m And they left what they were unable to do, and did not offer the Franks to any one of them, and left only the weak inability to move.<sup>11</sup>

# **4-Genocide**

This was manifested in the worst forms when the Al-Aqsa Mosque fell into the hands of the Crusaders in the year (492 AH / 1099 AD) expressed by Ibn al-Atheer when the sword resembled the animal that forced the people to ride to die, he said: "People took the sword, A group of Muslims took refuge in the sanctuary of David, so they held on to him and fought for him for three days, and the Franks gave them safety, and he gave them to them, and the Franks answered them, and went out at night to Ashkelon, where they dwelt, and killed the Franks at the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The imams of the Muslims, their scholars, their worshipers, and their scholars, who differ from the otaites And surrounded the place of the Sharif, and they took from the rock forty-four silver cane, the weight of each Kandil three thousand and six hundred dirhams, and took a silver lantern weighing forty pounds in Shami, and took from the small jellyfish one hundred and fifty-foot-click, and the gold and twenty-twenty monkeys, a lot.<sup>12</sup>

And when they came to the castle called Ankhuriyya, they took it and killed it from the Muslims " when he arrived in the city of Antrussus , Which is of Tripoli, Vskrha, and opened, and the killing of the Muslims, "was in the year (495 AH /  $1102 \text{ AD})^{13}$ 

As the army of the Crusaders did when it defeated one of the Muslim armies led by the son of Persia, "followed by the Franks slightly, and then returned and completed the booty and murder, and burned a lot of people" in the year (509 AH / 1119 AD), and in the year (511 AH / 1118) Hama from the Levant, and killed more than a hundred men and returned <sup>14</sup>

In the year (532 AH / 1138 AD), when the fortress fell Bza'a<sup>15</sup> after the Romans lived ten days require to disappear, it was said to them: that many of the people of this area have gone down to the caves, Vknoa them, and perished in the caves<sup>16</sup>

### 5-looting and theft

This is the main characteristic that accompanied the Crusaders in all their wars in the Levant, because the basis of their arrival was ostensibly religious, but the facts on the ground proved that they came to steal the land and all its capabilities. When the Crusaders entered Antioch in 491 AH (1098 CE), they looted and killed From which the Muslims, and that the first Jumada"<sup>17</sup>

In the year (494 AH / 1101 AD) the Crusaders marched to Suruj, Vskroha and handed over, and killed many of its people and take their women, and looted their money, and did not deliver only those who went defeated and Rajab, and ruled the city of Caesarea sword, and killed the people, and looted what is in  $t^{18}$ 

And when the looting of Tripoli in the year (503 AH / 1110 AD), where the crusaders increased fighting from the towers and crawling, attacked the country and stole it on Monday, the 11th of the month of Dhu al-Hijjah of the year, and looted what, and arrested men, and took women and children, and looted money and purposes and books, Countless, its people were among the most people of the country funds and trade.<sup>19</sup>

In the year 502 AH (1109 AD), when "Jocelyn arrived at Manbaj, he attacked and looted it." In 513 AH (1120 AD), Josselin, the owner of Tel Başer,

gathered in a group of the Franks about 200 Persians from Tiberias, "In the year 573 AH / 1178 AD, a group of Franks gathered and planned the works of Homs, and they plundered and plundered. They were captured and swamped. This year, on the same day, the Franks gathered and marched to the land of Damascus with their king. And in the year 578 AH (1183 AD), a group of the Prince of Karak teams headed towards Ayyab. "They were spoiled on the coasts, looted, and took what they found from the boat. Mieh and the traders, and Bngoa people in their own country by surprise them, they did not entrust this sea Franjia never not a merchant nor a warrior "20(494 AH / 1101 AD), and the captivity of all women and children in Tripoli in the year (503 AH / 1110 AD) when they attacked the country And his kingship was a disgrace in Dhu al-Hijjah of the same year, and looted what was in it, and captured the men, and robbed women and children, looted the money, and plundered their families with money, luggage, and science, which does not limit the number of people. (573 AH / 1178 AD) when "a group of Franks gathered and intended the works of Homs, and they plundered and plundered it. Rua Spoa "(), and in the year (574 AH / 1179 AD) met the Crusaders and marched to Damascus with their own country, Vogarwa on its Venhboha and captured and killed, and they enslave.<sup>21</sup>

# 6-Sabotage of Agriculture

The commander of the Frang Beymont - the owner of Antioch - in Rajab in the year (493 AH / 1100 AD) marched to the fortress of Afamiyya<sup>22</sup>, surrounded it, and fought its people for days, and spoiled its crops and then departed from them ", and zero year (517 AH / 1123), Of the work of Aleppo, and the reason for that: that they had increased the intent of Aleppo and its actions by raiding, vandalism, and burning ".

# 7-Cutting the Road

The events of this crime were as follows:

In the year (502 AH / 1109 AD) a great lock went from Damascus to Egypt, and the news came to the king of the Franks, and went to him and opposed him in the land, and took all of them, and did not deliver them only a little, and the ladder taken by the Arabs " in the year (504 e) (1111), and a year (507 AH / 1114 AD) a great lock went from Damascus to Egypt, and the news came to Baghdoyn king of the Franks (Peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) And in the year zero (527 AH / 1133 AD), the king of Shams the kings, the owner of Damascus, the fortress of Banias of the Franks, and the reason: that the Franks weakened him and greed him, and resolved to break the truce between them, and exposed to the funds of a group of Damascus merchants in Beirut to Shams Almuluk Vrsal in the return of what they took, and repeated in it, they did not want anything, and carried by the nose of these

The situation, and anger, that the collection of his army and preparedness, and no one knows where he wants  $^{\rm "23}$ 

In the year 567 AH / 1172 AD, two vessels were brought out of Egypt to the Syrian city of Farsia in the city of Lattakia. They took them to the Frenj and they were filled with luggage and merchants, and between them and Nur al-Din Hidna, they retreated and betrayed. He sent Nur al-Din to them in the sense and returned what they took from the merchants' money. , And protested, inter alia, that the two boats had been broken and the water entered"<sup>24</sup>

### 8-treason and breach of covenants

When the siege of the city of Jubail (497 AH / 1104 AD), and saw the inability of their people to repel the Frenj took safety, and handed the country to them, did not meet Fronj them safe, and took their money, and exhausted by sanctions and types of torture<sup>25</sup>

At the time of the fall of the city of Sidon, where the Franks (504 AH / 1111 AD) built a tower of wood, and made it hard to keep fire and stones, and when they saw the people of Saida, they weakened their souls. The judge and a group of elders to the Franks, and asked their owner safety and security of themselves, and their money, and the army that they have, and those who wanted to where they have secured him, and those who wanted to walk them did not prevent him, and swore to them, and the governor went out, and many of the people of the people of the country , On the twentieth of Jumada I to Damascus, and established the country created a lot under the security, and the duration of the siege insulted And then returned to Sidon, after a short time, and decided on the Muslims who set up twenty thousand dinars, the poorest, and took their money.<sup>26</sup>

And in Safar (527 AH), the king of Shams the kings, the owner of Damascus, the fortress of Banias of the Franks, and the reason: that the Franks weakened him and greed him, and resolved to break the truce between them, and exposed to the funds

of a group of Damascus merchants in Beirut, , Vrsl in the return of what they took, and repeated the saying, they did not want anything, Alnafh Alnafh of this situation, and anger, to collect his army and readiness, and no one knows where he wants<sup>27</sup>

In the year (532 AH / 1138 AD), the king of the Romans assassinated Baaza, and set up a catapult, and narrow on the one who took her safe on the twenty-fifth of Rajab, then betrayed her family and killed them and captured and captivated "(), and in the year (567 AH / 1172 m) Then he sent Nur al-Din to them in the sense and returned what they had taken from the merchants' money, and they accused him, among other things, that the two had been broken and they the water entered.<sup>28</sup>

And when the fall of Acre (587 AH / 1191 AD) and the governor decided to hand over due to the severe siege; he went to the Franks, and decided with them to hand over the country and went out of it with their money and themselves, and so for them two hundred thousand dinars and five hundred prisoners of the known, and the mony for the owner of the city, and answered him, and swore to him, and that the length of the collection of money and prisoners to two months, when they swore to him handed the country to them, and entered the ladder, when they owned the Muslims betrayed their money and imprisoned people there.<sup>29</sup>

### 9-Violation of the sanctity of holy places

When the Farkhshah - deputy Salah al-Din Damascus - to the work of Karak year (577 AH / 1182 AD) and stole, and the reason that the owner of the Karak, the most hostile to the Muslims, and prepared, and collected his army and possible combination, and determination on the path to righteousness to Taima, The city of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him), to take over those honorable areas. So Izz al-Din Farkhshah heard that. He gathered the Damascene armies and went to his country and stole it and destroyed it, and returned to their country Where he lived to prevent the prince from the Islamic countries.<sup>30</sup>

When Salah al-Din al-Karak was besieged in 583 AH (1188 AD), when the news came that Prince Arnat, the owner of Karak, wanted to go to the pilgrims to take them from their way. He showed that if he finished taking the pilgrims back to the Egyptian military road, He was one of his relatives, including Muhammad ibn Lajin, the nephew of Saladin, and others. When Arnat heard that Saladin was close to his country, he did not leave him, and he left what he greed, and brought pilgrims safely.<sup>31</sup>

# Conclusion

The study reached a number of results, the most important of them, which are:

- Crusader occupation followed the siege method adopted in the control and occupation of cities and castles and forts.
- The Crusaders violated the economic rights of the Cham people; when they besieged cities, cut off trade routes, destroyed agricultural land, attacked the markets, and killed the merchants.
- Crusaders violated the religious rights of the people of the Levant; when they destroyed mosques and religious institutions, banned religious rites, and cut off pilgrims' roads.
- Ibn al-Atheer presented his book in history; a clear picture of the violations of human rights crusaders in the Levant, especially that he derived the article of his book from the watch sometimes, and others quoted witnesses.
- The Crusaders committed a number of massacres against the indigenous population.
- Crusaders adopted the method of destroying scientific and religious institutions and attacking clerics and scientists.

# Notes:

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# ملخص المقال:

وجهت أوروبا النصرانية عددًا من الحملات العسكرية إلى بلاد الشام منذ عام (٤٩١ه/ ١٠٩٧م)؛ بهدف احتلال فلسطين وبلاد الشام، ومن أجل تحقيق هذا الهدف استخدم الصليبيون القوة المفرطة، فانتهكوا حقوق الإنسان بجميع أشكالها وعلى كل مستوياتها، فقد ارتكبوا المذابح بحق آلاف المدنيين من أصحاب البلاد، ودمروا المزارع والأسواق، وقتلوا المدنيين من أصحاب واعتدوا على المؤسسات العلمية والدينية، كما انتهكوا الحق في التنقل الآمن، باستهدافهم للطرق وحصارهم للمدن، كما نتهكوا حقوق التجار والمارة والحجاج باعتدائهم على الطرق وحصارهم للمدن، ولقد عاصر المؤرخ الإسلامي ابن الأثير هذه الأحداث زمانًا ومكانًا ودونها في كتابه الكامل في التاريخ؛ فروايته هي الأصدق باعتباره شاهد عيان.