

# Saladin's campaign vs. Kingdom of Heaven

History vs. the contrary  
Hollywood style

# When the film was made

## **Saladin's start of his campaign**

- Saladin's campaign started in 1180
- Years vary on different crusade, but Saladin was part of both the 2nd and 3rd Crusade

## **Kingdom of Heaven start of Saladin's campaign**

- In the movie Saladin's campaign started in 1184
- Saladin was portrayed in this film as having been part of the 2nd and 3rd crusade

# Historical accuracy

## **Saladin's campaign in reality**

- The army size was ranging in the hundreds of thousands
- Portrayal of Christians and Muslims was they stayed as far apart as they could from each other

## **Saladin's campaign in Kingdom of Heaven**

- Shown the army of Saladin in this instance as 300,000 men with siege machinery
- Portrayal of Christians and Muslims is they went from a truce to fighting and back and forth

# Contemporary Politics

## **Muslim portrayal during the campaign**

- Shown as evil when in battle and only being commanded by one leader, Saladin
- Joyous when around the fire after a day fought well on the battlefield

## **Muslim portrayal nowadays**

- Shown as evil from their two makers that made the Muslims act this way, Osama Bin Laden and Saddam Hussein
- Men in Afghanistan fear to step outside their doors

# Studio Politics

## **Production Code use on characters and film**

- Early crusade movies use the Production Code to not over accentuate the violence of battle or disturbing hangings
- Started straying away or bending the rules for film to achieve a more realistic film type in the 90's

## **No Production Code used on characters and film**

- Allowed to show hanging of Muslims for their wrong doings against the Christians
- Allowing very violent battle scenes during the crusades
- Allowed for more intimate sex scenes