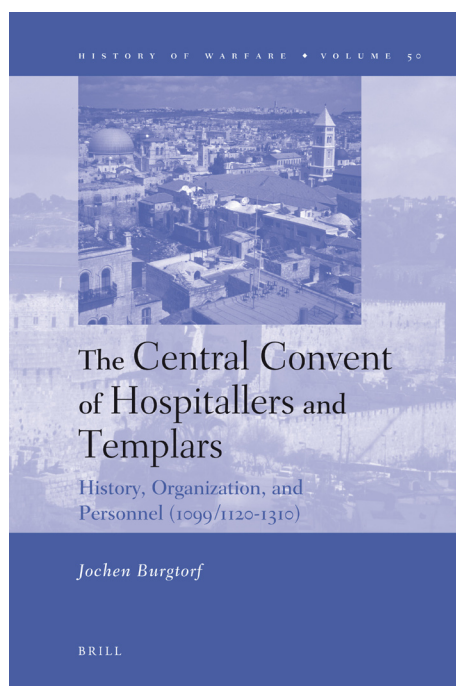


# The Central Convent of Hospitallers and Templars

## *History, Organization, and Personnel (1099/1120-1310)*

Jochen Burgtorf, *California State University, Fullerton*



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From their humble beginnings in Jerusalem as a late eleventh-century hospital and an early twelfth-century pilgrim escort, Hospitallers and Templars evolved into international military religious orders, engaged in numerous charitable, economic, and military pursuits. At the heart of each of these communities, and in many ways a mirror of their growth and adaptability, was a central convent led by several high officials and headquartered first in Jerusalem (to 1187), then in Acre (1191-1291), and then on Cyprus (since 1291), from where the Hospitallers conquered Rhodes (1306-1310), and where fate in the form of a heresy trial caught up

with the Templars. The history, organization, and personnel of these two central convents to 1310 are the subject of this comparative study.

*Readership:* All those interested in medieval religious and military history, the history of the crusades and the Latin East, institutional history, the history of social and spatial mobility, and medieval prosopography.

Jochen Burgtorf, Ph.D. (2001) in Medieval History, Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, is Associate Professor of Medieval History at California State University, Fullerton. He has published several articles on the Hospitallers and Templars, and co-edited *International Mobility in the Military Orders* (Cardiff, 2006).



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