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Introduction

Impartial discourse on fake news is hard to come by because it becomes so emotional. The distant past can provide the emotional distance in a way that even fiction and recent history cannot offer. What will be examined is a crude crusader epic called

, an English poem that tells the story of Richard the Lionheart's battles against his counterpart Sultan Saladin during the Third Crusade (1189-1192). A careful look at the details reveals that the poem follows the older mold of Alexander the Great's conquests of the Persian Empire--showcasing that the creation of false narratives is not random but follows certain narrative patterns. This study can guide us in understanding the motivations behind the fake news of today.

Background Information

The key text for this research is a primary medieval source called (hereto called that is a long poem translated into modern English. This is an anonymous text that has been found in seven different manuscripts, leading researchers to believe the text was popular. The