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Order in the Holy Land -- 3. A New Frontier: The Teutonic Order in Transylvania -- 4. Holy War and Conquest: The Teutonic Order's Crusades in Prussia and Livonia -- 5. Territorial Lords: The Teutonic Order's Rule in the Baltic -- 6. Power and Faith: The Teutonic Order's Fortified Convents -- 7. Crusading in the Wilderness: The Teutonic Order's Wars against Lithuania -- 8. Defeat and Decline in the Fifteenth Century -- 9. The Reformation and the End of the Teutonic Order's Rule in the Baltic -- 10. The Rise and Fall of a Medieval Religious Corporation -- References -- Bibliography -- Acknowledgements -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

The book 'The Teutonic Knights: Rise and Fall of a Religious Corporation' by Aleksander Pluskowski explores the history of the Teutonic Order, a prominent military and religious institution founded during the Third Crusade. It traces the Order's origins as a field hospital in Acre to its transformation into a significant territorial power in northeastern Europe. The Teutonic Knights played a crucial role in the Christianization of the Baltic region, establishing fortified convents and engaging in crusades. The book also examines the Order's decline in the 15th century due to military defeats and the impact of the Reformation, which secularized its branches. This comprehensive history highlights the Order's enduring legacy in European history.
