The Impacts of the Dark Crusade

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Almost a year ago, the Dark Crusades began following the capture of the Avenger II. The Grand Master, Muz Ashen, ordered the clans and houses of the Dark Jedi Brotherhood to send their best teams to the hangers aboard the Avenger II, the former flagship of Grand Master Zoraan now controlled by the One Sith, before it could escape the Antei System. After the Brotherhood forces captured the Avenger II, Muz ordered the clans and houses of the Brotherhood to capture and occupy the Sith Worlds controlled by the One Sith in attempt to weaken and prevent further uprisings from them. The Brotherhood’s forces systematically stormed the planets and drove the One Sith out. As the last of the fighting comes to an end, questions need to be answered. What is the impact of the Crusade, and was the Crusade justified?

The biggest impact of the Dark Crusade can be seen on the individual members of the clans and houses. They were asked to sacrifice their time to help bring glory to their units, and received very little in returned. They made up the bulk of the forces and gave more then they even thought they could give. They fought hard and long past the point of exhaustion and yet they continue to fight. At the beginning of the Crusade, individuals were eager to jump in and do what their leaders asked of them. As the last battles are being fought, many of those individuals have disappeared from the Brotherhood, leaving the remaining forces to finish the fight. Even though the Crusade was exhausting, the members had multiple opportunities to work with each other and to form new connections with their fellow comrades. Many individuals gained medals and promotions for their exceptional service during the Crusade.

The clans and houses that make up the Brotherhood, also, saw a deep impact from the Crusade. Almost all the clans and houses got a change of leadership during this time. A few leaders resigned due to the stress, and others resigned for personal reasons. Through the turmoil of a leadership change, the units continued to push forward and fight. They showed courage and strength throughout the Crusade even while they were coming under attack from within. Not only did the clans and houses saw a change of leadership, a couple of them were thrown directly into controversy. On more than one occasion, leaders from one unit accused a leader from another unit of breaking the laws. The controversy did not end there, some unit leaders engaged in friendly and open competition with the other units. They sought out their opponents in an effort to be in direct competition with who they thought would be the biggest threat to their unit.

The controversy and leadership changes were not the only impacts of the Crusades. Many units put special projects on hold during this time. Some of these projects needed to be addressed in a timely manner and finished. Some were not needed and were forgotten. With the stress of the Crusades and leadership changes, the people, who were assigned to finish the projects, forgot to return to them in between the fights, or they simply dropped out. Along with the special projects, day to day maintenance of the clans and houses also suffered or were delayed. Communication from the leaders to the members was filled with talk of the Crusade that overshadowed the accomplishments of the individuals, thus making huge achievements seem small or not worth doing.

The Dark Council was not immune to the impacts of the Crusade. More than one Dark Council member had to be replaced during the Crusade for a variety of reasons. They were constantly busy planning the next move in the Crusade, which left them little time to communicate with the majority of the members. Fortunately, the leaders of the clans and houses stepped up and bridged the gap in between the members and the Dark Council.

Even though the Crusade seems to be a bad idea when the individual impacts of it on the Brotherhood are examined, the impact on the One Sith outweighs the turmoil felt by the Brotherhood. Every world the Brotherhood sought to conquer from the One Sith, they did. The Brotherhood succeeded in pushing the One Sith off of the worlds and sat up occupancy on them. The Brotherhood as a group recovered priceless artifacts that were thought to be lost forever. Not only did the Brotherhood take worlds from the One Sith, the Brotherhood made the One Sith desperate enough to resort to hiring outsiders to set traps for the Brotherhood. In the end, the Brotherhood left the One Sith broken and weak.

So, was the Dark Crusade justified? Based on the impacts felt by both sides, the Brotherhood accomplished what they set out to do. They weakened the One Sith to the point that they know not to attack or mess with the Brotherhood again. Both sides fought long and hard to gain a foothold, but in the end, the Brotherhood proved that even with internal strife, they can come together to accomplish a goal.