

Chapter 11, Part 1

The Little Ice Age and The Black Death
Spielvogel, Chapter 11, Part 1

1

Europe's Population During the Late Middle Ages

Year	Population
1000	38 million
1100	48 million
1200	59 million
1300	70 million
1347	75 million
1352	50 million

Statistics found at
www.byu.edu/lip/projects/middleages/LifeTimes/Plague.html

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The Four Horsemen Revelation 1



<http://www.davidmiles.net>



3

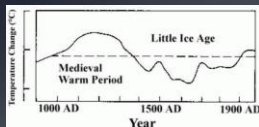
The Fourteenth Century

All of the following were occurring during the fourteenth century:

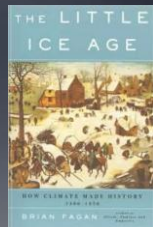
- Famine
- Black Death
- Hundred Years' War
- Peasant Revolts

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"The Little Ice Age"



What was the Little Ice Age and what changes did it bring to Europe?



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"Little Ice Age"

• **Began**=End of 13th century

• **Small drop in overall temp**=shortened growing seasons and disastrous weather conditions

• **1315-1317**=Heavy rains in northern Europe destroyed harvests and caused serious food shortages=extreme hunger and starvation

Famine expands=kills 10% of European population in first half of 14th century



View: "Little Ice Age Clip"

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The Famine of 1315-1317

- ✖ By 1300 Europeans were farming almost all the land they could cultivate.
- ✖ A population crisis developed.
- ✖ Climate changes in Europe produced three years of crop failures between 1315-17 because of excessive rain.
- ✖ As many as 15% of the peasants in some English villages died.
- ✖ One consequence of starvation & poverty was susceptibility to disease.



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Great Famine (1315-1322)

- "Little Ice Age"
- Food Shortage
 - Speculators
 - Excommunication
 - Price Controls
 - Unsuccessful




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The Black Death

Black Death
European Tour
1347 - 1351



Darrell Duncan Merrol Hyde Magnet	Ms. Susan M. Pojer Horace Greeley HS
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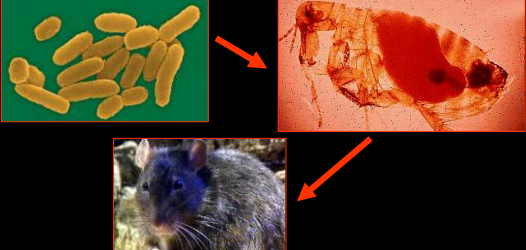
The Black Death: 1347-50



What were the causes of the Black Death?/What was it?

11

The Culprits



12

[illegible]

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Symptoms of Bubonic plague

Systemic:

- Fever
- Central:**
- Headache
- Malaise

Lymph nodes:

- Swelling (buboes)
- Pus exudation
- Bleeding

Gastric:

- Nausea
- Vomiting

Joints:

- Pain
- Ache

Transmission Cycle:

The diagram illustrates the transmission of *Yersinia pestis* (bubonic plague) from an infected rat to a human via a flea. The bacterium is shown as a green sphere. A flea is shown on the rat, and another flea is shown on the human arm, indicating the transmission route.

Bubonic plague=spread by black rats infested with fleas who were host to the deadly bacterium *Yersinia pestis*.

Symptoms=high fever, aching joints, swelling lymph nodes, and dark blotches caused by bleeding beneath the skin.

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Causes continued

- Originated in Asia
- Arrived in Europe in October, 1347 (Sicily)
- It spread quickly, reaching southern Italy , Southern France , and Spain by the end of 1347.
- Usually followed commercial trade routes

- **1348**=Through France and the low countries and into Germany
- **1349**=England and Scandinavia
- **1351**=Eastern Europe and Russia

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The Symptoms

The diagram illustrates three symptoms of rabies, each with a corresponding photograph and a red arrow pointing to the word "Bulbous".

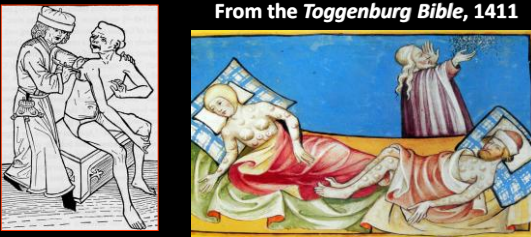
- Hydrophobia:** A photograph of a person's neck and head, showing a red, inflamed area on the neck. A red arrow points from this area to the word "Bulbous".
- Paralysis:** A photograph of a person's arm, showing a red, inflamed area on the forearm. A red arrow points from this area to the word "Bulbous".
- Septicemic Form:** A photograph of a person's hand, showing a red, inflamed area on the palm. A red arrow points from this area to the word "Bulbous".

Septicemic Form: almost 100% mortality rate.

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Lancing a Bubo

From the *Toggenburg Bible*, 1411



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The Disease Cycle

```
graph TD; A[Flea drinks rat blood that carries the bacteria.] --> B[Bacteria multiply in flea's gut.]; B --> C[Flea's gut clogged with bacteria.]; C --> D[Flea bites human and regurgitates blood into human wound.]; D --> E[Human is infected!]; E --> A;
```

The diagram illustrates the disease cycle of rat flea typhus. It begins with a flea drinking rat blood that carries the bacteria. The bacteria then multiply in the flea's gut, eventually clogging it. The flea then bites a human and regurgitates blood into a human wound. This leads to human infection, which then completes the cycle by returning to the flea drinking rat blood.

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Medieval Art & the Plague



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Medieval Art & the Plague



Bring out your dead!

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Medieval Art & the Plague



An obsession with death.



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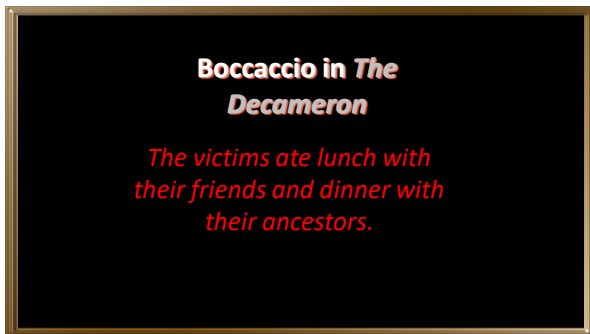
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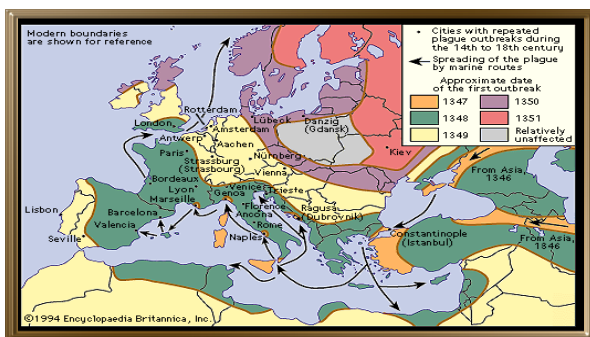
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Attempts to Stop the Plague



A Doctor's Robe



"Leeching"

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Medical "treatment"

A beak doctor

Beak held flowers and herbs

Hat indicated profession

Cain or sword allowed them to touch patients and keep people away



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Effects

- Psychological reactions
- Giovanni Boccaccio
- Wealthy and powerful fled to their country estates
- Extreme behavior
- Flagellants=popular in 1348 in Germany
- Anti-Semitism: Worst pogroms in Germany



A medieval depiction of Jewish moneylenders

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Attempts to Stop the Plague



Flagellanti:

Self-inflicted "penance" for our sins!

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Attempts to Stop the Plague



Flagellanti:

Self-inflicted "penance" for our sins!

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Attempts to Stop the Plague

Pogroms against the Jews



"Jew" hat



"Golden Circle" obligatory badge

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Death Triumphant !: A Major Artistic Theme



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A Little Macabre Ditty

"A sickly season," the merchant said,
"The town I left was filled with dead,
and everywhere these queer red flies
crawled upon the corpses' eyes,
eating them away."

"Fair make you sick," the merchant said,
"They crawled upon the wine and bread.
Pale priests with oil and books,
bulging eyes and crazy looks,
dropping like the flies."

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A Little Macabre Ditty (2)

"I had to laugh," the merchant said,
"The doctors purged, and dosed, and bled;
"And proved through solemn disputation
"The cause lay in some constellation.
"Then they began to die."

"First they sneezed," the merchant said,
"And then they turned the brightest red,
Begged for water, then fell back.
With bulging eyes and face turned black,
they waited for the flies."

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A Little Macabre Ditty (3)

"I came away," the merchant said,
"You can't do business with the dead.
"So I've come here to ply my trade.
"You'll find this to be a fine brocade..."

And then he sneezed.....!

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The Mortality Rate

35% - 70%

25,000,000 dead
!!!

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Bubonic/Pneumonic Plague (a.k.a. "Black Death")

- c. 1340s
- 40% of population dead?



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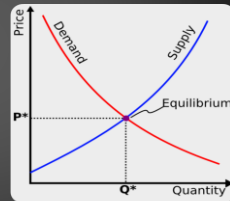
What were the
political,
economic,
and social effects
of the Black Death??

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Bubonic Plague The Aftermath

- A "golden age" for workers?

—Supply and Demand
—Labor Shortage



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Effects continued

- Labor shortages/Aristocratic incomes drop
- Statute of Laborers (1351) passed by English Parliament designed to lower the wage rate.
 - Go back to pre-plague rate (1346 rate)
 - Forbid peasant mobility



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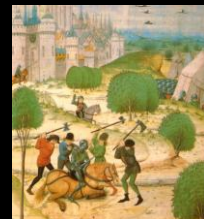
Why were there peasant revolts in the 14th century?



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Peasant revolts

- Destruction of normal order (Black death)
- Economic dislocation
- Higher taxation on peasants
- Wage restrictions
- Laying waste to peasant lands
- Growing class tensions



48

What forms did they take in the various countries?



49

English Peasants' Revolt (1381)



PRIMARY SOURCE: *Peasant's Chronicles* [Excerpt]

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English Peasants Revolt

- Led by peasant Wat Tyler and a preacher named John Ball
- Initially successful
- Marched on London
- King Richard II (15) promised to accept rebels demands if they returned to their homes.
- King reneged/Peasants arrested
- Poll tax was eliminated and most peasants were pardoned.



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English Peasants' Revolt (1381)

- Wat Tyler
 - Leader
 - Murdered by London Mayor
- Unsuccessful, BUT
 - Decline of *serfdom* in England



When does this happen in other places?
REMEMBER: England is always 100 years ahead!

Wat Tyler or
St. Paul?

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Forms

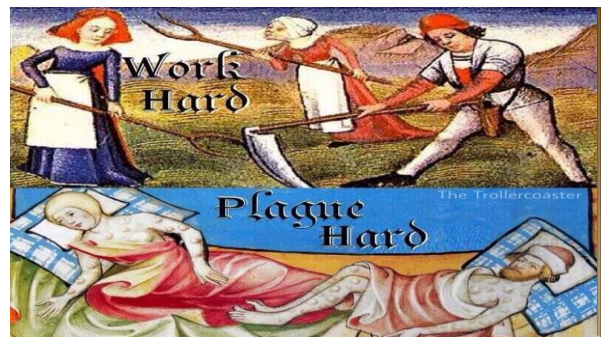
France

- 1358: Jacquerie (northern France)

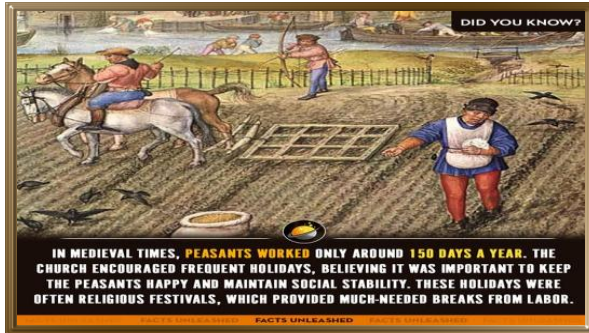
England

- English Peasant's Revolt of 1381
- A product of rising expectations
- Most immediate cause: monarchy's attempt to raise revenues by imposing a poll tax on each adult member.
- Peasants in eastern England refused to pay the tax and expelled collectors from their villages.

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