

## Hollywood vs. History

# The History Channel's "The Plague" (2005)

### Introduction: Before the Documentary

The Bubonic Plague hit Europe in the fourteenth century. This pandemic is also known as the Black Death. It is estimated that between 30 and 60 percent of the European population died from the disease, which originated in Asia.

### Directions

Read through this packet thoroughly before viewing the documentary. Complete the packet as you watch. Feel free to pause the footage periodically to work on the packet.

Describe life in Europe before the plague, noting both the positive and the negative.

Good/Positive	Bad/Negative



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Pope Clement VI

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Princess Joan

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain how the plague reached Europe from Asia.

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What does a bubo look like?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

### What treatments were used to treat the Black Death?

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People reacted in many ways to the disease. Select one of these reactions and describe it.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

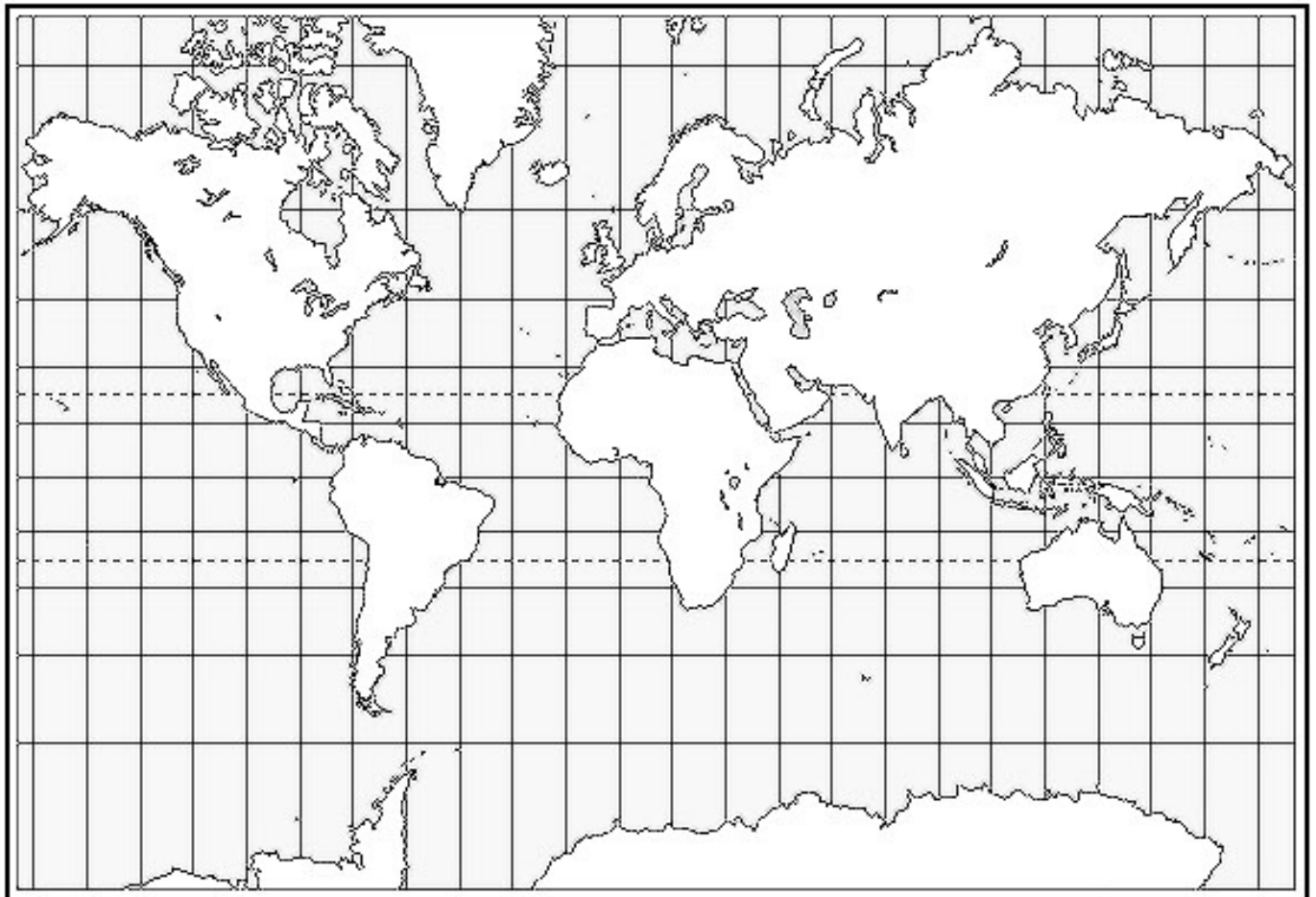
Explain how and why the plague reached Europe from Asia.

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What conditions in Europe helped the plague to spread rapidly?

## Mapping the Spread of the Plague

1. Illustrate the route of the Black Death from Asia to Europe.
2. Pinpoint the locations mentioned in the narrative:
  - a. Avignon, France
  - b. Geneva, Switzerland
  - c. Lower Mongolia
  - d. Messina, Sicily
  - e. Surrey, England
  - f. Tuscany, Italy



The term *epidemic* describes much larger than expected occurrences of a disease in a given population. For example, a school may have ten students sick with the flu on any given day in an average January. If the school has thirty students sick every day in January, this might be described as an epidemic. How was the Black Death an epidemic?

The term *pandemic* describes an epidemic disease that spreads over a large area. Using the example above, imagine that every school in the county suddenly has thirty, instead of ten, students sick with the flu in January. This outbreak of flu may be termed a pandemic. How was the Black Death a pandemic?

We live in an increasingly interconnected world. Do you believe that epidemic or pandemic diseases are more or less likely to occur in modern times? Explain your answer. Try to use current examples if possible.



## Word Search Puzzle

Find each term or name in the puzzle.

G	M	E	F	W	Y	R	D	U	C	V	P	I	X	T	S	Z	S	H	N
O	P	T	D	E	J	I	F	O	Y	X	V	J	A	E	W	N	M	T	D
P	E	R	R	A	S	I	R	G	L	T	K	P	S	M	I	P	S	A	V
A	O	R	I	E	R	P	U	E	N	Y	R	Y	T	A	T	M	I	E	X
D	U	X	A	N	S	T	P	E	B	H	Y	Z	O	G	Z	E	C	D	P
S	Q	S	V	E	C	I	M	E	D	N	A	P	L	A	E	S	I	S	O
P	E	G	U	Y	D	E	C	H	A	U	L	I	A	C	R	S	L	X	B
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M	V	H	M	C	O	L	S	S	E	G	L	N	Z	E	A	N	D	B	C
S	L	I	E	W	O	U	L	D	J	U	E	O	H	Z	N	A	U	R	N
Q	C	P	G	A	T	R	A	T	S	O	G	N	G	P	D	B	V	T	R
Q	O	W	E	N	F	R	A	N	C	E	A	A	E	N	G	L	A	N	D
P	C	P	L	E	O	Y	L	A	T	I	Y	N	L	V	O	X	I	K	R
I	E	T	L	Y	W	N	S	L	E	S	S	E	V	P	A	M	E	V	E
H	A	G	E	W	S	F	P	X	E	G	G	T	G	R	P	K	P	V	S
F	L	A	G	E	L	L	A	N	T	S	I	R	E	U	R	O	P	E	X

AGAMET  
AVIGNON

BUBO  
CORPSE

DEATH  
DISEASE  
ENGLAND

EPIDEMIC  
EUROPE  
FLAGELLANTS

FRANCE  
GENEVA  
GUY DE CHAULIAC  
ITALY

MESSINA  
MONGOLIA  
PANDEMIC  
PLAGUE  
POPE CLEMENT VI  
PRINCESS JOAN  
RATS  
SICILY  
SURREY  
SWITZERLAND  
TRADE  
TUSCANY  
VESSELS  
ZEALOTS

List and describe two long-term effects of the Plague.

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The term *anti-Semitism* describes negative treatment of Jews based solely on religious and ethnic grounds. How was European anti-Semitism evidenced during the Plague?

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