

The Black Plague

Chapter 14

Essential Questions

- How and why did the Black Plague spread?
- What was the economic, social, and cultural impact of the disease on European society?

Why Did It Hit Urban Centers?

- overcrowding
- poor sanitation
- rats in homes

Diffusion (Spread)



CAUSES (RUMOR V. FACT)

Rumor

- punishment from God
- poison from foreigners
- bad air
- position of the planets

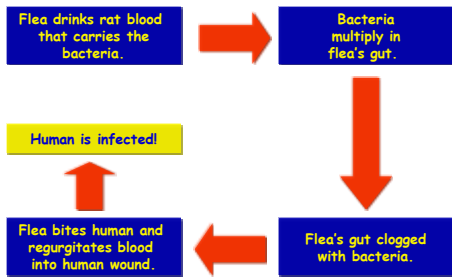
Fact

- oriental rat flea



CHARACTERISTICS

Transmission



Symptoms





Prognosis

- death within 4-7 days of symptoms
- 50-75% mortality rate

MEDIEVAL ART AND THE PLAGUE



Attempts to Stop the Plague



A Doctor's Robe



"Leeching"



Flagellanti:
Self-inflicted "penance" for our sins!

Pogroms against the Jews



"Jew" hat



"Golden Circle"
obligatory badge

EFFECTS OF THE PLAGUE

- Europe – 25 million die
- labor shortages (end of feudalism)