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the definitive history of the greatest catastrophe in human history which wiped out fifty per cent of europe s population the black death first hit europe in 1347 this horrific disease ripped through towns villages and families the story of the great pestilence of 1348 9 has never been fully told in fact until comparatively recent times little attention was paid to an event which nevertheless whether viewed in the magnitude of the catastrophe or in regard to its far reaching results is certainly one of the most important in the history of our country judged by the ordinary manuals the middle of the fourteenth century appears as the time of england s greatest glory edward iii was at the very height of his renown the crushing defeat of france at crecy in 1346 followed the next year by the taking of calais had raised him to the height of his fame when wearing the laurels of the most brilliant victory of the age he landed at sandwich the story of the great pestilence of 1348 9 has never been fully told in fact until comparatively recent times little attention was paid to an event which nevertheless whether viewed in the magnitude of the catastrophe or in regard to its far reaching results is certainly one of the most important in the history of our country judged by the ordinary manuals the middle of the fourteenth century appears as the time of england s greatest glory edward iii was at the very height of his renown the crushing defeat of france at crecy in 1346 followed the next year by the taking of calais had raised him to the height of his fame when wearing the laurels of the most brilliant victory of the age he landed at sandwich encyclopedia of plague and pestilence third edition is a comprehensive a to z reference offering international coverage of this timely and fascinating subject this updated volume provides concise descriptions of more than 700 disease has had a marked effect on history in various ways only in recent years have historians begun to study the subject and this book offers both a contribution to this area of research and an evaluation of other literature on the impact of pandemics on human history praise for the previous edition the entries provide vivid historical detail no other work approaches this topic in such a brief encyclopedic manner a useful addition to any academic reference collection choice a useful resource for high school and public libraries booklist does an excellent job a conscious effort to put a human perspective on pestilence given the climate of the times and the concerns about bioterrorism this title would be useful for a variety of subject areas recommended the book report tracing the history of infectious diseases from the philistine plague of 11th century bce to the covid 19 pandemic encyclopedia of plague and pestilence fourth edition is a comprehensive a to z reference offering international coverage of this timely and fascinating subject this updated volume provides concise descriptions of more than 740 epidemics listed alphabetically by location of the outbreak each detailed entry includes when and where a particular epidemic began how and why it happened who it affected how it spread and ran its course and its outcome and significance full color and black and white photographs maps appendixes a bibliography and a chronology are also included new and updated coverage includes cholera cocoliztli covid 19 ebola h1n1 hepatitis a hiv aids legionnaires disease malaria mers rift valley fever typhoid yellow fever zika reproduction of

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the original the great pestilence by francis aidan gasquet editor joseph p byrne together with an advisory board of specialists and over 100 scholars research scientists and medical practitioners from 13 countries has produced a uniquely interdisciplinary treatment of the ways in which diseases pestilence and plagues have affected human life from the athenian flu pandemic to the black death to aids this extensive two volume set offers a sociocultural historical and medical look at infectious diseases and their place in human history from neolithic times to the present nearly 300 entries cover individual diseases such as hiv aids malaria ebola and sars major epidemics such as the black death 16th century syphilis cholera in the nineteenth century and the spanish flu of 1918 19 environmental factors such as ecology travel poverty wealth slavery and war and historical and cultural effects of disease such as the relationship of romanticism to tuberculosis the closing of london theaters during plague epidemics and the effect of venereal disease on social reform primary source sidebars over 70 illustrations a glossary and an extensive print and nonprint bibliography round out the work the global outbreak of covid 19 appears to be unprecedented in a world which has not suffered a serious pandemic for a century while society had almost forgotten the enormous impact of highly infectious diseases throughout history pestilence however has played a major role in ending the golden age of athens wrecking justinian s plans to restore the roman empire to its former glory and killing untold millions in latin america after the spanish invasion despite its importance historians have tended to minimise the role of infectious disease partly because of a lack of scientific knowledge this has resulted in a distorted view both of the past and of the danger of disease to modern society in armies of pestilence r s bray a distinguished biologist and an able historian corrects this view with an exploration of the influence of disease on history the book surveys the principal epidemics around the world and across the centuries including scholarly discussion around those which cannot be certainly identified in each case bray examines the origins of the outbreaks as well as the symptoms the mortality rate and the social and economic turmoil left in their wake bray pays special attention to the infamous organism that caused the black death yersina pestis as well as other grimly familiar bogey men of pestilential history including malaria smallpox typhus cholera and influenza and aids government responses to outbreaks are assessed and the inability of governments to deal effectively with disease is a recurring theme the relationship between disease and war with the former often responsible for more deaths than the latter is also considered in detail as was the case during the last great influenza pandemic of 1918 19 at the end of the first world war this global affairs veteran has carved out a solid mature path including for flawed democracies like the u s we d all be wise to follow vancouver sun from the author of the globe and mail bestseller claws of the panda comes a book quite literally for our times restoring democracy in an age of populists and pestilence is a thoughtful account of how we can save democracies from the despots and populists who provide easy answers to complicated situations dumbing political discourse down to sandbox antics manthorpe argues that democracy is more resilient than it appears and is capable of overcoming the attacks from within and without that have sapped its vigour since the end of the cold war he begins with a description of the events of 1989 one of the seminal years in modern history this saw the end of the cold war and the apparent conclusive victory of democracy and its civic values but the view of these changes as a triumph of democracy as summed up in francis fukuyama s essay the end of history was short lived russia shorn of its soviet empire and the chinese communist

party re examining its survival after the tiananmen square massacre began devising ways to counter attack the west s triumphalism and these met with considerable success internal pressures and contradictions wealth disparity being chief among them threaten the survival of many democratic systems abandoned industrial workers turn to the repeated platitudes designed to appeal to those left behind without actually offering them the ways and means to catch up immigrants refugees and the reformist fixations of isolated liberal elites have provided ammunition for would be despots adding to the pressures building on the political norms of our democracies the covid 19 pandemic has brought economic and social stand still for which no country is prepared the epicentre of the muslim universe mecca attracts hundreds of thousands of believers every year pilgrimage politics and pestilence studies the organization and meanings of the haj from india during colonial times and analyses it from political commercial and medical perspectives between 1860 the year of the first outbreak of cholera epidemic in mecca and 1920 when the subject of holy places of islam became a very powerful political symbol in the indian subcontinent contrary to the general belief about colonial policy of non intervention into religious subjects the book argues that the state in fact kept a close watch on the pilgrimage saurabh mishra examines the medicalization of mecca through cholera outbreaks and the intrusion of european medical regulations he underscores how the haj played an important role in shaping medical policies and practices debates and disease definitions the book explores how the indian hajis perceived negotiated and resisted colonial pilgrimage and medical policies in their quest of an intense spiritual experience the author recovers the hitherto unexplored perspective of pilgrims voices in travelogues memoirs newspaper reports and journals to present a nuanced analysis of the interaction between religious faith and colonial public health policies during the age of steamships and empire offers an original and holistic approach to understanding the impact of the plague in late sixteenth century spain in the spring of 1576 the health office of venice fearful of a growing outbreak of plague imposed a quarantine upon the city the move was controversial with some in power questioning the precise nature of the disease and concerned about the economic and political impact of the closure a tribunal of physicians was summoned by the doge among them girolamo mercuriale professor of medicine in nearby padua and perhaps the most famous physician in all of europe whatever the disease was that was affecting venice mercuriale opined it was not and could not be plague for it was neither fast moving nor widespread enough for that diagnosis following mercuriale s advice and against the objections of the health office of the republic the quarantine was lifted the rejoicing of the venetian populace was short lived by july 1577 when the outbreak had run its course the plague had killed an estimated 50 000 venetians or approximately a third of the city s population in january 1577 in the midst of a plaque he now recognized he had misdiagnosed mercuriale offered a series of lectures from his seat in padua published under the title on pestilence the work surveyed past epidemics including the justinianic plague of the sixth century and the black death of the fourteenth and accounts of plague in hippocrates galen avicenna and other sources plague mercuriale pronounced was characterized by its lethal nature and the rapidity with which it spread he contended it was primarily airborne and was not caught through microbial transmission but because the air itself became pestiferous and promoted putrefaction using his observations he evaluated recently developed theories of contagion and concluded that pestiferous vapors could also emanate from the diseased bodies of its victims and that one might also contract the handbook of environmental degradation of materials by myer

disease from the contaminated clothing or bedding of the ill in craig martin s translation on pestilence appears for the first time in english accompanied by an introduction that places the work within the context of sixteenth century italy the history of medicine and our own responses to epidemic disease pestilence in medieval and early modern english literature examines three diseases leprosy bubonic plague and syphilis to show how doctors priests and literary authors from the middle ages through the renaissance interpreted certain illnesses through a moral filter lacking knowledge about the transmission of contagious diseases doctors and priests saw epidemic diseases as a punishment sent by god for human transgression accordingly their job was to properly read sickness in relation to the sin by examining different readings of specific illnesses this book shows how the social construction of epidemic diseases formed a kind of narrative wherein man attempts to take the control of the disease out of god s hands by connecting epidemic diseases to the sins of carnality first published in 2004 routledge is an imprint of taylor francis an informa company

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The Danger of Pestilence in Europe and the Need of an International Health Commission 1919

reproduction of the original the great pestilence by francis aidan gasquet

Armies of Pestilence 1996

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