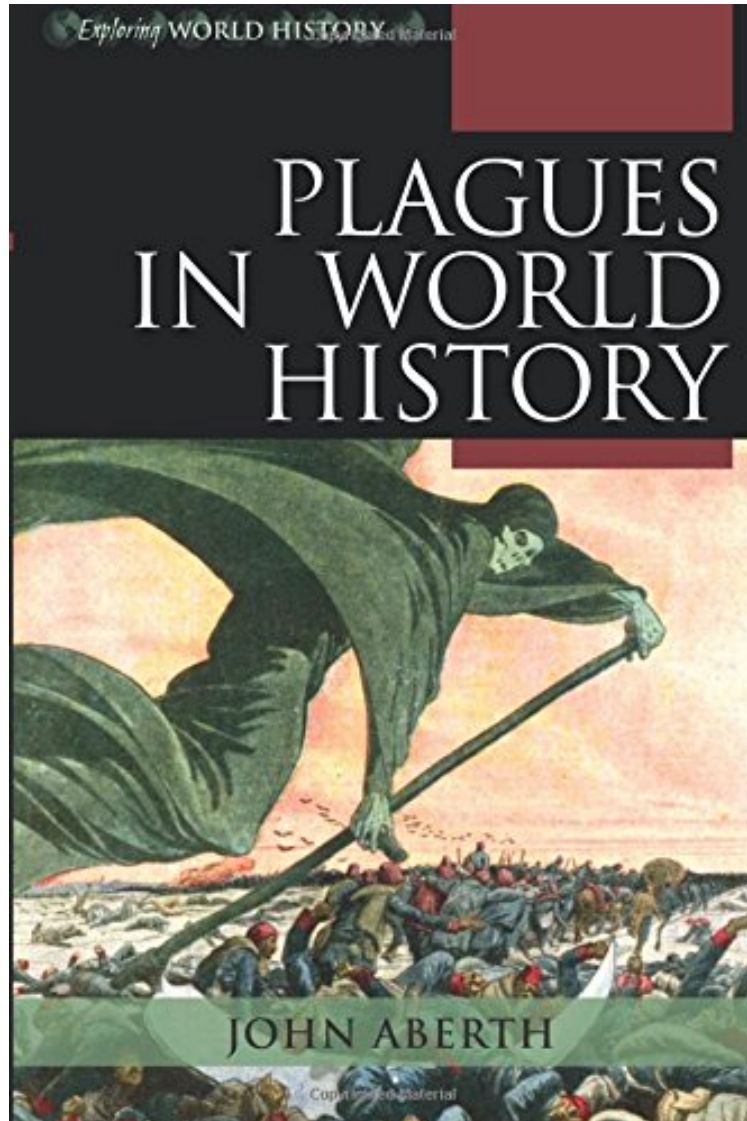


(Free) Plagues in World History (Exploring World History)

Plagues in World History (Exploring World History)

John Aberth

*ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#1189457 in Books John Aberth 2015-12-14 2015-12-14 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.18 x .76 x 6.171, .0 #File Name: 0742557065256 pages Plagues in World History | File size: 32.Mb

John Aberth : Plagues in World History (Exploring World History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Plagues in World History (Exploring World History):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Poorly Edited without Table of Contents or Index By C SilverFirst, I read the Kindle edition so the actual book may be different. This book needs a very good editor with a several red pencils. My major gripe is there is no Table of Contents nor is there an Index. How do I know that is is the book without telling me what the contents are? The foot notes and bibliography are extensive and perhaps Mr. Aberth also listed the relevant book he read in 5th grade social studies. It reminds me of a students trying to impress me by listing

a large bibliography of 150 works to show just how well read they are. There is no way of knowing what is in the book until you read the whole thing or thumb through to find something interesting. I know there is a chapter on Plague and Small Pox but because there is no Index or Table of Contents it is difficult to know what one should be looking for or what else is in the edition. The book jumps right into the Introduction and Mr. Aberth's writing style is comprehensive, repetitive, and oh so dry. In the Kindle edition the Introduction is almost 250 pages long before Chapter 1. Introductions are to introduce the subject, not to drone on and on when the material should be covered by the respective disease chapters. As I said, sometimes the same information is repeated again within three pages. I am not quite sure the writing style is free association but with the help of a good editor this book could be paired down to an enjoyable read. As it stands now it is a little better read than the first five chapters of Robbins Text Book of Pathology. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Yia yia2880 Read in small doses. Very interesting, accurate. We've come so far, but have we?? 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent popular work By Amazing Customer Well worth reading for anyone interested in history. Highly recommended. Coverage is topical, well related to current trends and issues with relevance to today's decision making considerations. Topics provide useful and thought provoking insight into trends in history that might otherwise seem inexplicable without awareness of the subtle, pervasive and typically unacknowledged reactions to epidemic disease.

Plagues in World History provides a concise, comparative world history of catastrophic infectious diseases, including plague, smallpox, tuberculosis, cholera, influenza, and Aids. John Aberth considers not only their varied impact but also the many ways in which people have been able to influence diseases simply through their cultural attitudes. Our ability to alter disease, even without modern medical treatments, is even more crucial lesson now that Aids, swine flu, multidrug-resistant tuberculosis, and other seemingly incurable illnesses have raged worldwide. The author's comparative analysis of how different societies have responded in the past to disease illuminates what cultural approaches have been and may continue to be most effective in combating the plagues of today.

Medieval historian Aberth presents interactions of humans and epidemics in case studies of six infectious diseases: plague, smallpox, tuberculosis, cholera, influenza, and AIDS. He chose these because they have known pathogens, can be fatal, and have had long histories. Not merely narrative or descriptive, his study is an attempt to demonstrate how human reactions and attitudes to these diseases have in turn shaped how they affect human communities. Going beyond an exercise in the social construction of disease, Aberth's historical focus on the interaction of disease and human response leads him to be optimistic about human abilities to adjust to and even neutralize biomedical effects. The longest chapter, on the plague, reflects the author's professional specialty. The second longest chapter is on AIDS; remaining chapters are 9-24 pages. Aberth's detailed attention to Islamic understandings of and reactions to plague is especially welcome. He opens each chapter by describing the disease and its effects, then for each disease develops unique reactions and attitudes as well as points introduced earlier, weaving an overall pattern of human progress and intransigence, of connections made and opportunities missed. Summing Up: Highly recommended. (CHOICE) The prospect of a slender volume about plagues in world history would certainly be attractive to all those who teach either disease history or world history. Moreover . . . it is an approach that most students would embrace. (Journal of Interdisciplinary History) John Aberth offers a social interpretation of disease throughout history using a comparative global framework. He has a lively writing style, and each chapter is framed by lucid summary descriptions of disease symptoms, progression, transmission, treatments, and the respective debates. Plagues in World History should be a profitable and successful textbook for undergraduate students and general readers. (Journal of World History) The author presents an effective case for the diseases he has chosen and provides the reader with current findings that allow for interpretations of disease origins. (The Historian) John Aberth has written a concise book that is both well-informed and clear about contemporary medical understandings of epidemics, and steadily conscious of their broader historical, political, social, and economic contexts. In an age when such epidemics as malaria, tuberculosis, and AIDS affect millions, Aberth's arguments have continuing importance. (J. N. Hays, Loyola University, Chicago) Seeking understanding of our societies and selves by reading and writing books that omit all mention of the essential fact of wars would strike us as a glaring oversight. Yet our shelves are crammed with books that never mention epidemics, an equally vital force in human history. Plagues in World History is the authoritative and fascinating antidote to that error. (Alfred W. Crosby, University of Texas at Austin) About the Author John Aberth holds a PhD in medieval history from the University of Cambridge and is the author of numerous books on disease and the Middle Ages.