



Mapping Plagues

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“The plague...fell upon the whole world...”

Procop. Hist. Arc. 6.22



The Setting:

Constantinople

541 AD - 750 AD

Alexandria

540 AD - 750 AD

Rome

542 AD - 700 AD

Northern Europe

660 AD - 750 AD

Tools

Explore the tools used to create the maps and graphs on this site, and use the linked tutorials to create your own

Explore

Use the interactive maps to examine the spread of the plague over time. Read the text sources to track plague language.



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Procopius Anekdota, 6.22

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Resource: Maps

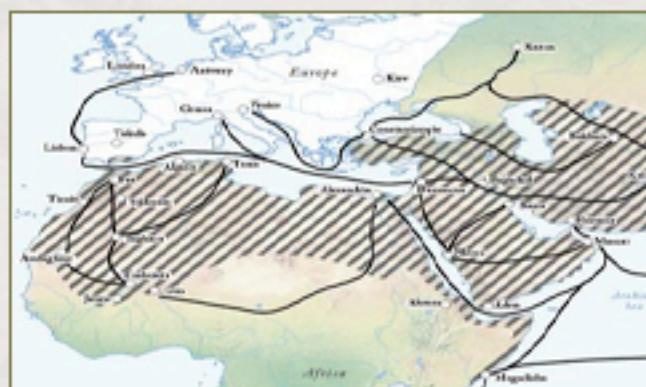


Maps of the Mediterranean:

Using these early modern maps of the Mediterranean, explore the geographic area before moving on to the next section. Note the later boundary markers.

Trade and Movement

These maps of trade, missionary work, and migration from before and after the initial outbreak provide essential information for interactive mapping of the plague.



Google map showing the first and second waves of the epidemic

Logo:



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Design:

The color palette, logo, and organization of this site are designed to interact with the colors, fonts, and general feel of the early modern map that serves as a background for each project page. Additionally, the classicizing elements of the organization are intended to set the stage for an investigation into the sources - both written and geographic - for the spread of the Justinianic Plague at the end of Late Antiquity. The reds, greens, and yellows included in the color palette below are pulled from the boundary markers on this map and are typical of color markings on medieval and early modern mapping and printing projects, some of which will be included on this project's resource pages.

This site is directed toward a general audience, but advanced users of GIS and tools for representing geographic and literary data will also find it useful. Additionally, ancient historians and those who work in the late antique/early medieval periods will be interested in how the site combines modern digital tools with the look and feel of a classical resource.

The headers are written in Old Standard TT, while navigational elements are in Junge. The content and body text use a combination of Junge and Belleza. Old Standard TT recalls the standtard map-making type used in early modern maps like the one that serves as a background for each project page. Junge, when used as a navigational font, is clear and easy to read, with the added benefit of complementing both Old Standard and Belleza. Belleza continues the archaizing theme, without losing the readability required of a heavily used content font. Each font was chosen for its ability to combine the modern requirements of reading on the web with the design elements contained in the beautiful mapping and printing projects showcased in the resource sections of the site.

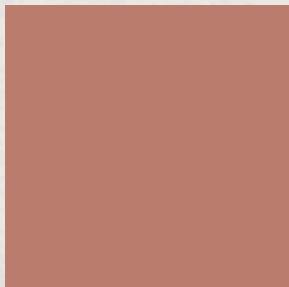


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Color Palette:



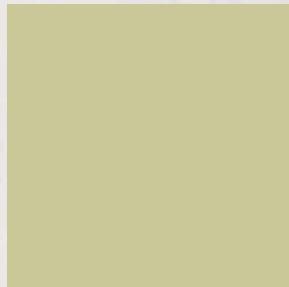
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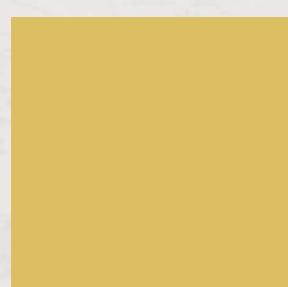
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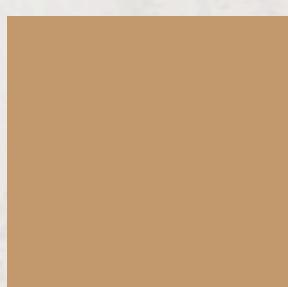
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R 212
G 186
B 93

R 213
G 184
B 82

R 184
G 139
B 91