



The Black Death is still a terrifying topic, because it has brought countless deaths and is the most deadly epidemic in human history, with an estimated death toll of more than 200 million, even more than the global epidemic 1918 flu pandemic and the COVID-19.

Although it is generally believed that the Black Death was caused by plague and a virus in mice, this is only partly true. In fact, the real source of the Black Death was not the mice themselves, but the fleas on the mice.

The fleas, which are parasitized by *Yersinia pestis*, spread the bacteria through animals such as black mice. Many bacteria live in these fleas' bodies, blocking the flea's stomach and making it hungry. Fleas will continue to bite their hosts because they are hungry. During the bite the bacteria in the flea's stomach travels through the blood into the wound, allowing the bacteria to spread to new hosts. In addition, infected fleas will eventually die of starvation. However, the true strains and causes of the Black Death are no longer available.

Those infected with the Black Death, the skin will turn black, so it is called the Black Death.

Additionally, on the left side of the picture is the plague doctor. They will wear a beak-like mask to heal patients, but they often have no medical training and only use whipping to treat diseases, so for people who are sick, the plague doctor was the existence of death.

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2022 Historical Event Drawing and Describing Contest