

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910824361403321
Autore	Echenberg Myron J
Titolo	Plague ports [[electronic resource]] : the global urban impact of bubonic plague, 1894-1901 // Myron Echenberg
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : New York University Press, c2007
ISBN	0-8147-2282-2
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (367 p.)
Disciplina	614.5/732
Soggetti	Plague - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Preface -- Illustrations -- 1. An Unexampled Calamity -- 2. City of the Plague -- 3. The Plague Has at Last Arrived -- 4. They Have a Love of Clean Underlinen and of Fresh Air -- 5. A Bubonic Plague Epidemic Does Not Exist in This Country Buenos Aires, 1900 -- 6. The Victory of Hygiene, Good Taste, and Art -- 7. Plague in Paradise -- 8. Black Plague Creeps into America -- 9. The Inhabitants of Sydney No More Go Barefoot Than Do the Inhabitants of London -- 10. It Is a Miracle We Are Not Visited by a Black Plague -- Appendix -- Notes -- Index -- About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	A century ago, the third bubonic plague swept the globe, taking more than 15 million lives. Plague Ports tells the story of ten cities on five continents that were ravaged by the epidemic in its initial years: Hong Kong and Bombay, the Asian emporiums of the British Empire where the epidemic first surfaced; Sydney, Honolulu and San Francisco, three "pearls" of the Pacific; Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro in South America; Alexandria and Cape Town in Africa; and Oporto in Europe. Myron Echenberg examines plague's impact in each of these cities, on the politicians, the medical and public health authorities, and especially on the citizenry, many of whom were recent migrants crammed into grim living spaces. He looks at how different cultures sought to cope with the challenge of deadly epidemic disease, and explains the political, racial, and medical ineptitudes and ignorance that allowed the plague to flourish. The forces of globalization and industrialization, Echenberg argues, had so increased the transmission of

microorganisms that infectious disease pandemics were likely, if not inevitable. This fascinating, expansive history, enlivened by harrowing photographs and maps of each city, sheds light on urbanism and modernity at the turn of the century, as well as on glaring public health inequalities. With the recent outbreaks of SARS and avian flu, and ongoing fears of bioterrorism, Plague Ports offers a necessary and timely historical lesson.
