



THE UNCOMFORTABLE OXFORD PODCAST
A VERY BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THE BRITISH EMPIRE

Episode 1 - Thursday, April 9th, 2020

DISEASE AND EMPIRE

Recommended Readings:

Other relevant podcasts:

Empire and Globalisation: A Cultural Economy of the British World, 1850 to 1914 - Oxford Transnational and Global History Seminar

<https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/empire-and-globalisation-cultural-economy-british-world-1850-1914-oxford-transnational-and>

Historic Disease Impacts

- John MacKenzie, 'Empire and the ecological apocalypse: the historiography of the imperial environment' in Tom Griffiths and Libby Robin (eds.), *Ecology and Empire: Environmental History of Settler Societies*, (1997), pp. 215-228.

Diseases as Agents of Empire

- Crosby, Alfred W. (1976), "Virgin Soil Epidemics as a Factor in the Aboriginal Depopulation in America", *The William and Mary Quarterly*, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, 33 (2), pp. 289–299.
- Rice, James D. (2014). "Beyond "The Ecological Indian" and "Virgin Soil Epidemics": New Perspectives on Native Americans and the Environment". *History Compass*. 12: 747–757
- Helen Tilley, "Medicine, Empires, and Ethics in Colonial Africa," *AMA Journal of Ethics* 18, no. 7 (July 2016): 743-753.

North America

- Patterson, Kristine B., and Thomas Runge. "Smallpox and the native American." *The American journal of the medical sciences* 323, no. 4 (2002): 216-222.
- Daschuk, James (2013). *Clearing the Plains: Disease, Politics of Starvation and the Loss of Aboriginal Life*. Regina: University of Regina Press. pp. 11–12.
- Kelton, Paul (2007). *Epidemics and Enslavement: Biological Catastrophe in the Native Southeast, 1492-1715*. Omaha: University of Nebraska Press.

Caribbean

- McNeill, John Robert. *Mosquito Empires : Ecology and War in the Greater Caribbean, 1620-1914. New Approaches to the Americas*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- McNeill, John. "Mosquito Revolutions: Disease, War, and Independence in the U.S. South, Haiti, and Venezuela, 1776-1825." *Juniata Voices* 14 (2014): 107-23.
- Wisecup, Kelly. "'The Progress of the Heat Within': The West Indies, Yellow Fever, and Citizenship in William Wells Brown's *Clotel*." *Southern Literary Journal* 41, no. 1 (2008): 1-19,163.
- Smith, Billy G. *Ship of Death : A Voyage That Changed the Atlantic World*. New Haven, 2013.



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Race theory

- Engineer, Urmi, and Burke, Edmund. *Hurricane and the Human Frame: Yellow Fever, Race, and Public Health in Nineteenth-century New Orleans*, 2010, ProQuest Dissertations and Theses.
- Clark, David P. *Germs, Genes & Civilization : How Epidemics Shaped Who We Are Today*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: FT Press, 2010.
- Lewis, Kay Wright. *A Curse upon the Nation : Race, Freedom, and Extermination in America and the Atlantic World*. Athens, 2017.
- Anderson, W., 1996. "Disease, race and empire." *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 70(1), pp.62-67.
- Seth, Suman. *Difference and Disease : Medicine, Race, and the Eighteenth-century British Empire* (2018).

Africa

- Helen Tilley, "Medicine, Empires, and Ethics in Colonial Africa," *AMA Journal of Ethics* 18, no. 7 (July 2016): 743-753.
- Headrick, D., "Sleeping sickness epidemics and colonial responses in East and Central Africa," 1900-1940. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases* 8, no. 4 (2014): pp. e2772
- Faley, Olukayode A. "Plague and Trade in Lagos, 1924–1931." *International Journal Of Maritime History* 30, no. 2 (2018): 287-301.
- W. Beinart and P. A. Coates, *Environment and History: The Taming of Nature in the USA and South Africa*, (1995), especially chapter 1.
- Ofcansky, Thomas P. "The 1889-97 rinderpest epidemic and the rise of British and German colonialism in eastern and southern Africa." *Journal of African Studies* 8, no. 1 (1981): 31.

India

- Harrison, Mark. *Contagion : How Commerce Has Spread Disease*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012.
- Bhattacharya, Nandini, and Bhattacharya, N. *Contagion and Enclaves: Tropical Medicine in Colonial India*. Vol. 10. Liverpool University Press, 2012.
- Arnold, David. "Cholera and colonialism in British India." *Past & Present* 113 (1986): 118-151.

Power and Control

- Peckham, Robert Shannan, and David M. Pomfret. *Imperial Contagions : Medicine, Hygiene, and Cultures of Planning in Asia*. Hong Kong, 2013.
- Richard H. Grove, *Green Imperialism: Colonial Expansion, Tropical Island Edens and the Origins of Environmentalism, 1600-1800* (1997), Introduction (pp. 1-15) and first part of ch. 6 (pp. 264-291).
- Nancy Stepan, *Picturing Tropical Nature* (London: 2001), ch. 1.
- Bashford, Alison. *Imperial Hygiene : A Critical History of Colonialism, Nationalism and Public Health*. Basingstoke, 2014.
- Peckham, Robert, ed. *Empires of panic: Epidemics and colonial anxieties*. Hong Kong University Press, 2015.

Conclusion:

- Alchon, Suzanne Austin. *A pest in the land: new world epidemics in a global perspective*. UNM Press, 2003.