



Plague in the Nineteenth Century
Epidemiological and Epistemological
Connections

6-7 July 2026

Schwarzman Centre for the
Humanities,
University of Oxford



Day 1

9:00 - 9:30

Welcome and Registration

9:30– 11:00

Panel 1

Piero Olliario (University of Oxford)

Plague in the Nineteenth-Century: A Clinical Researcher Perspective

Ali Al Tuma (Utrecht University)

The Great Plague in Morocco 1799-1800

Bryony Harris (Utrecht University)

A Dangerous Utopia? Renegotiating Otto-Egyptian Quarantines in the wake of the Second Plague Pandemic 1844-49

Chair: Nükhet Varlık (Rutgers University)

11:00

Tea and Coffee

11:15- 12:45

Panel 2

Carlo Trombino and Bornali Das (University of Oslo)

A Turkish hat from Kars: Epidemiology at the border during the 1876-1878 plague wave

Utsa Bose (University of Oxford)

Plagues near and far: Remembering Constantinople and Vetlyanka during the plague in Calcutta

Ray Morgan (University of Cambridge)

Plague and the Architecture of State Authority in the Russian Empire

Chair: Erica Charters (University of Oxford)



12:45

Lunch

14:15-15:45

Panel 3

Isacar A. Bolaños (California State University)

Institutionalizing Epidemiological Orientalism: Plague, the Ottoman Empire, and the International Sanitary Conferences

Hande Yalnızoğlu Altınay (University of Oxford)

The Ottoman Origins of "Spontaneous" Plague: Erzurum, Benghazi, and Baghdad in the Nineteenth-Century

Ali Korkmaz (Boğaziçi University)

Plague and the Ottoman Empire in the Nineteenth-Century: The Case of Benghazi (1857)

Chair: TBC

15:45

Tea and Coffee

16:30-18:00

Keynote Lecture

**The Inter-Pandemic as a Global Historical Challenge:
Plague between 1770-1890**

Christos Lynteris (University of St Andrews)

Day 2

9:30-11:00

Panel 4

Emily Webster (Durham University)
The Bombay Plague Experiments

Matheus Alves Duarte de Silva (King's College London)
*Old Plague in the New World: Disease Ecology and History in
the Brazilian Hinterland*

Nükhet Varlık (Rutgers University)
*The End of Ottoman Plague as a Historiographical Artifact:
Epidemiology, Quarantine, and Knowledge*

Chair: TBC

11:00

Tea and Coffee

11:15-12:15

Closing Remarks and Discussion