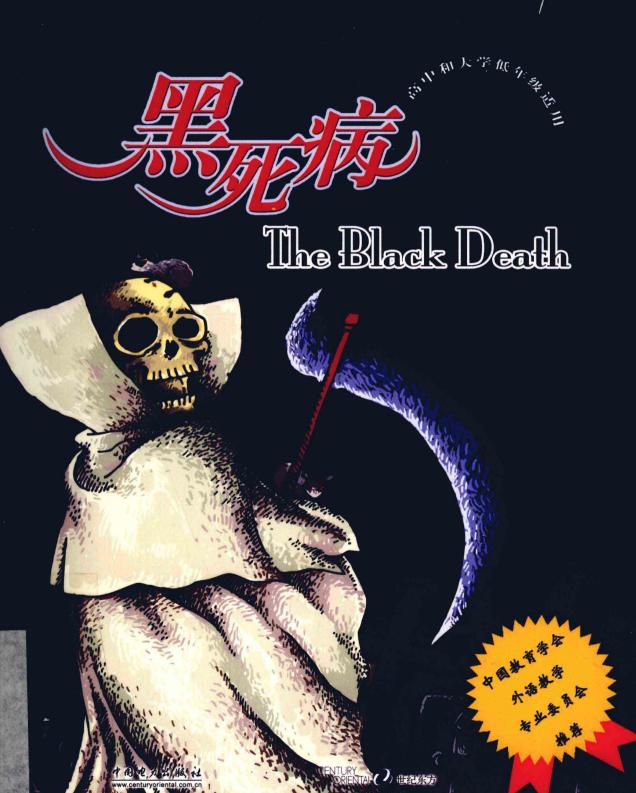


阅读空间 • 英汉双语主题阅读



阅读室间 • 英汉双语主题阅读



祝朝伟 译





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" — 一位患者死于'西尼罗河病毒'",晚间新闻这样报道。 这种病毒在人群中造成了极大的恐怖。由于它完全无法 治疗,任何感染了病毒的人都会立即处于死亡的境地。这种气氛 让人自然联想起700多年前发生在欧洲的大瘟疫。

让我们来看一下发生在中世纪的更令人发指的可怕场景: 14世纪上半叶,欧洲爆发了我们今天称作"黑死病"的流行大瘟疫。 霎时,死亡就像一股黑烟来到了人间。对于那些亲眼目睹过黑死病的人来说,这一"无缘无故兴起、毫无怜悯之心的幽灵"极为可怕,这是因为,他们明明知道这是一种极具传染性的疾病,却没有人能够阻止它的蔓延,也没有人能够解释它的起因,只好眼睁睁地看着它无情地蔓延至整个欧洲。

里死病在全世界蔓延一图以后回到了爆发地卡法,最终在俄罗斯的基辅附近销声匿迹。在它恣意肆虐的漫长岁月里,欧洲、北非和中东地区丧失了近一半的人口。这一自然灾害肆虐的地域此此宽广,给人类的生命造成的损害此此巨大,真是"都无古人,后无来者",堪称人类历史上的灾害之最。

本书从历史回顾的视角,向读者展示在"黑死病"黑烟笼罩下的欧洲社会特写。我们将审视大瘟疫发生的原因,不同社会阶层的人们对疾病和死亡的反应,以及这一致命疾病此何对欧洲的社会和经济发展产生深远的影响。

愿这样的"黑烟"永远成为历史。







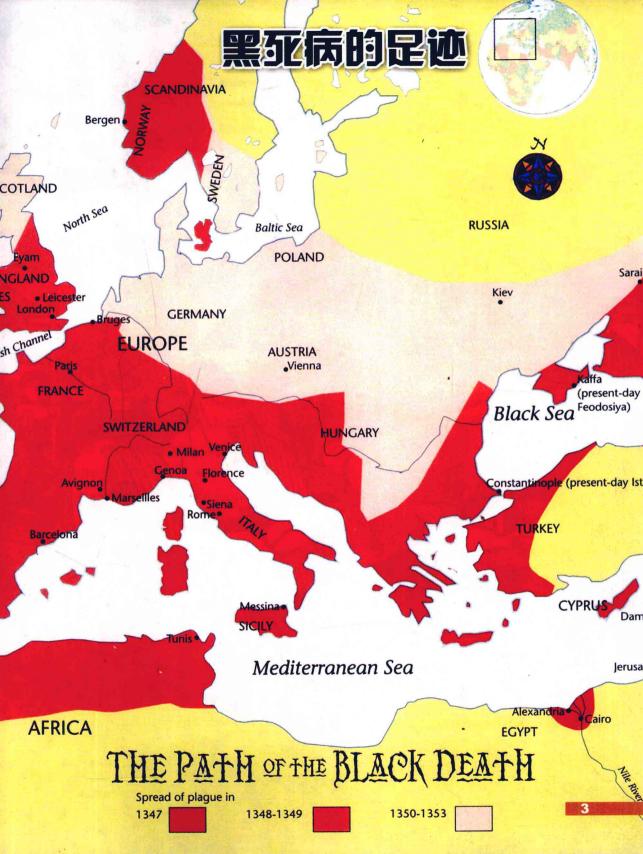






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ACK SMOKE':

THE BLACK DEATH'S JOURNE

by Diana Childress

"We see death coming into our midst like black smoke," wrote the poet Jeuan Gethin, when plague invaded Wales in March 1349. This "rootless phantom which has no mercy" was especially frightening for those who witnessed it because they knew it was somehow contagious, but no one could halt or explain its relentless spread across Europe.

1349年3月,当威尔士爆发黑死病时,诗人杰胡安·格辛这样写道:"我们看见了死亡,它像一股黑烟来到了我们中间。"对于那些亲眼目睹过黑死病的人来说,这一"无缘无故兴起、毫无怜悯之心的幽灵"尤为可怕,这是因为,虽然他们深知这是一种极具传染性的疾病,但没有人能够阻止它的蔓延,也没有人能够解释它的起因,只好眼睁睁地看着它无情地蔓延至整个欧洲。



EASTERN BEGINNINGS

The earliest evidence of the Black Death lies in a cemetery in what was once a prosperous town near Lake Issyk-Kul on the fabled *Silk Road* in Central Asia. An unusually large number of graves there are dated 1338 and 1339. Three headstones mentioning the cause of death provide a clue about why so many people died: the plague.

Did the Black Death originate near Issyk-Kul? No one knows for sure. Most medieval writers say that the plague began in the east. They name places like Cathay (China), India, Turkey, and "the land of the Saracens." Modern historians agree that the epidemic started in Asia – more specifically, somewhere on the central *steppes* or in the Himalayan lowlands on the border of India and China. In both regions, the plague bacterium, Yersinia pestis, has long thrived among wild *marmots*, ground squirrels, and gerbils.

ON THE MOVE

How did the disease travel from wild rodents to humans? According to early accounts, before the Black Death broke out, earthquakes, floods, and famines devastated Asia. One theory is that these disasters drove wild animals into villages and towns in search of food. Fleas then spread plague germs to rats. Many types of fleas defecate as they feed, and their victims work the infection into their skin by scratching the itchy bite.

When rats died of the plague, their fleas hunted for new hosts. Since rats nested in the adobe (sun-dried brick) walls and thatched roofs of medieval houses, the next meal for these fleas often came from people. The rat flea, Xenopsylla cheopis, is especially effective at transmitting plague because an infected flea *regurgitates* the

疫情始于东部

最先发现黑死病迹象的地方是一片墓地,它位于伊塞克湖边的一个小镇上。在中亚传说中的丝绸之路上,这个小镇曾经盛极一时。在那片墓地里,年代为1338年和1339年的墓葬数目多得出奇。其中有三座墓碑提到了逝者的死因,这为解释后来人们大量无故丧命的原因提供了蛛丝马迹:他们均死于瘟疫。

那么,黑死病最初是从伊塞克湖附近爆发的吗?对此,谁也无法确定。中世纪的很多作家都认为,这一瘟疫是从东方开始爆发的,同时还给出了具体的地域,如中国、印度、土耳其以及"撒拉森之地(指阿拉伯国家)"等。现代历史学家也认为,这种疾病肇始于亚洲——说得更具体点,始于中亚西伯利亚一带没有树木的大草原,或者是印度与中国交界的喜马拉雅低地。在这两个地区,引发黑死病的细菌——耶尔森氏鼠疫杆菌——长期以来大量繁殖于野生的旱獭、地松鼠以及沙鼠身上。

疫情恣意蔓延

这种疾病是怎样从啮齿动物传染给人类的呢?据早期的相关资料记载,黑死病疫情爆发之前,亚洲地区地震频发,洪水肆虐,饥馑连连。一种理论认为,由于自然灾害频仍,野生动物为了获取食物被迫向人类村落和城镇迁徙。这样,黑死病病菌便以跳蚤为媒介传染给了家鼠。种类繁多的跳蚤通过吸食家鼠的血液,自己彻底清除了黑死病病菌,但被吸食的家鼠由于搔痒难耐会

bacterium into its host.

The disease spread more easily if an infected person's lungs started filling up with plague bacteria. Then, every cough and sneeze spewed germs into the air, spreading pneumonic plague directly to others.

If they are not among the lucky few who recover, people and rats soon die of the plague, but infected fleas can lurk in a rat's nest, barnyard manure, or bedding and clothing for many months without eating. A medieval writer was not far wrong when he wrote that "even the houses or clothes of the victims could kill."

Plague germs also remain alive for more than five months in dried particles of sputum (a blood and saliva mixture coughed up by victims). They live still longer in the droppings of diseased

rats. Thus, cloth, grain, furs, and hides kept

抓挠皮肤,这样家鼠的皮肤就感染上了黑死病 病菌。

感染黑死病病菌的家鼠丧命以后,家鼠身上的跳蚤就会寻找新的吸食对象。由于家鼠往往穴居在中世纪的土坯茅屋里,跳蚤的下一个吸食对象往往就是人类。受感染的跳蚤通过反刍把病菌传递给周围的人,其传递速度非常迅速。

如果黑死病病菌进入人的肺部,那么疫情 蔓延就更加容易了。患者每咳嗽一次,每打一 个喷嚏,都会把病菌散播在空气中,从而直接 将肺部的病菌传染给其他人。

受感染的人或者老鼠如果不能侥幸痊愈,很快就会被黑死病夺去生命。不过, 受感染的跳蚤可以在鼠窝、厩肥、被褥

或者衣物中蛰伏数月而

The **silk Road** was the ancient trade route that linked China with the west and along which goods and ideas traveled between the civilizations of Rome and China.

Steppes are the great plains of southeast Europe and Asia that have few trees.

Marmots are thick-bodied, gnawing, burrowing squirrels with coarse fur and a short bushy tail.

To **regurgitate** means "to bring what has been eaten back into the mouth."

7

in rat-infested ware-houses soon became delayed-action "plague bombs" waiting to go off. An account tells how four soldiers learned the hard way about contaminated goods. Looting houses in a deserted town, they stole a fleece off a bed and later slept under it. They were dead by morning.

Commercial caravans, Mongol armies, and other wayfarers "carried" the Black Death in their baggage as they crisscrossed Asia. By 1345, it had traveled from Issyk-Kul to Sarai and Astrakhan, the major cities of the Golden Horde (a part of the Mongol Empire that is today southwestern Russia).

FROM ASIA TO THE

MEDITERRAMEAN

At the time, Italian merchants from Genoa and Venice had established trading posts at Kaffa, a city on the Crimean peninsula that juts out into the Black Sea. Since the mid-1200s, their galleys had transported Asian horses, furs, and slaves to Syria and Egypt, and silks and spices to Italy. When plague began to spread to the Crimea, many of the Europeans tried to escape by sea, but the Black Death sailed with them.

The following summer, plague broke out in Constantinople. From there, it crossed the Mediterranean region. That fall, ships brought the plague to Alexandria, Egypt, one arriving with only 45 of its original crew of 332 men still alive.

不吸食人类的血液。曾有一位中世纪的作家这样写道:"就连受害者住的房屋、穿的衣服都可能让人毙命。"他的文字不无道理。

黑死病的病菌存活时间很长,在感染者咳出的血痰中,即使是已经变干的血痰颗粒中,它也能存活五个多月。如果是在受感染的家鼠的粪便中,它的存活

物以及皮革,只要是曾经存放 在被鼠疫感染的库房之中,都

时间则更长。因此,衣物、毛皮、谷

是一颗颗定时的"瘟疫炸弹",随时都可能爆炸。据相关资料记载,四位士兵因掠夺受鼠疫感染的物品而付出了惨痛的代价。他们来到一个被死神扫荡过的空城抢劫,从一所民宅的床上偷了一床羊毛毯子,用它盖着睡觉。第二天早上,这四个人全

都一命呜呼了。

除此以外,大型商队的行李、蒙古军队的随军辎重以及徒步旅行者的随身行囊也携带着黑死病病菌,病菌随着这些人群的来往穿梭于亚洲各地。到1345年,黑死病病菌已经从伊斯库尔湖传染到了萨拉伊、阿斯特拉罕以及古蒙古帝国的主要城市(即今天的俄罗斯西南部)。

从亚洲到地中海

那时,意大利热那亚和威尼斯的商人已经在卡法市——个位于克里米亚半岛、四周被黑海环绕的城市——建立了贸易网点。13世纪中叶以来,意大利的商船开始贩运亚洲的马匹、毛皮和奴隶,将它们运往叙利亚和埃及等地,同时把丝绸和香料运回意大利。当瘟疫蔓延到克里米亚半岛的时候,很多欧洲人设法搭船从海路逃亡,但黑死病也跟着他们漂洋过海。

第二年夏天,瘟疫在君士坦丁堡爆发,然后蔓延到了地中海地区。同年秋天,瘟疫随着漂洋过海的轮船传到了埃及的亚历山大,其中的一艘船到达亚历山大港时,船上原有的332名船员中仅有45名侥幸生

Another fleet came to Messina, Sicily, its crew so ill that a chronicle reports that the men had "sickness clinging to their very bones."

The epidemic reached Genoa on New Year's Eve 1347 aboard three galleys laden with spices from the East. On discovering that many seamen were sick, the Genoese chased the ships from the port with "burning arrows and engines of war." Plague-ridden rats, however, had already jumped ship. The galleys sailed off along the coast of France, still hoping to find a place to sell their deadly merchandise.

FOLLOWING THE TRADE ROUTES

Following 14th-century trade routes, the Black Death swept across Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East. After it assaulted the seaports, smaller boats carried it to neighboring towns and to river ports far inland. It could not be stopped. Although some towns refused entry to travelers from infected areas, and people learned to mistrust "plague goods," few noticed the dead rats, and no one thought of the fleas.

Reports of plague in 1348 show how the circles of infection widened. In the east, it hit Cyprus, Aleppo, Damascus, Jerusalem, and even pilgrims visiting Mecca. From Genoa and Venice it crept down the Italian boot toward Florence and Rome. Going west, it struck Marseilles, Tunis, and Barcelona. By June, the epidemic was storming Paris, causing the French royal family to flee to Rouen, where

还。另一艘轮船到了意大利西西里岛的墨西拿港,据 某编年史记载,这只船上的船员当时已经"病人膏 肓"。

1347年新年前夕,三条商船满载着从东方运来的香料返回到热那亚,同时也把瘟疫带到了热那亚。热那亚人很快发现,很多海员已经病得奄奄一息,于是他们拿着"点燃的火箭","开动了战船的引擎",把那三只商船从热那亚港赶了出去。但是,受到感染的老鼠已经从商船上跳到了岸边。商船沿着法国海岸航行,渴望能够找到一个停泊之所,卖掉这些致命的货物。

瘟疫沿商路蔓延

沿着14世纪的商业贸易线,黑死病很快便席卷了整个欧洲、北非和中东地区。黑死病在海港城市爆发以后,随着一条条小船,蔓延到了邻近的城镇和远在内陆的河港城市。没有人能够遏制它的蔓延。尽管某些城镇禁止来自疫区的游客人境,人们也学会了如何辨别可能带菌的货物,但很少有人留意那些死去的老鼠,更没有人想到老鼠身上的



it soon followed. That summer, it overran Germany, Poland, and Hungary, and crossed the channel to southern England.

Winter did not slow its progress. The weather was unusually mild and wet, perhaps warm enough for fleas living on house rats to remain active. Huddled indoors, people were also exposed to air contaminated both by those suffering from pneumonic plague and by the dust from rodent droppings.

As the disease moved northward through England, citizens of Lincoln wrote wills at 30 times the normal annual rate. At first, the Scots avoided the plague, but when they assembled troops to invade England, pestilence struck, perhaps imported by soldiers from France.

The Black Death landed in Scandinavia on a ship carrying wool from London to Norway. The ship had run aground near Bergen because all the crew had died. From there, plague spread across Norway, into Sweden, and across the Baltic Sea to Russia.



病向东袭击了塞浦路斯、叙利亚城市阿勒颇和大马士革、耶路撒冷,甚至麦加的朝圣者;它从 热那亚和威尼斯向南扩散,沿意大利的靴子形国土蔓延到了佛罗伦萨和罗马,向西袭击了马赛、 突尼斯和巴塞罗那等城市。到了六月,黑死病席卷巴黎,迫使法国皇族向法国港口城市鲁昂逃 亡,可是没过多久,鲁昂市也自身难保了。同年夏天,黑死病蔓延到了德国、波兰和匈牙利, 还跨越英吉利海峡扩散到了英国的南部。

冬天的到来并没有放缓疫情蔓延的速度。那年冬天的气候格外温和湿润,暖暖的天气足以 使家鼠身上的跳蚤在冬日里继续活动。人们拥挤在室内,呼吸着污浊的空气,空气中夹带着肺 病感染者的病菌和病鼠的粪土尘埃。

当疾病向英国北部蔓延的时候,林肯市的市民以三十倍于正常年份的速度写遗书。苏格兰 人一开始拼命地躲避瘟疫,可是后来他们集结军队侵略英格兰时,瘟疫却无情地爆发了。兴许, 这些瘟疫是法国士兵带过来的吧。

当轮船满载羊毛从伦敦驶进挪威时,黑死病也趁机蔓延到了斯堪的纳维亚半岛。那只轮船曾在挪威西南部的港口城市卑尔根搁浅,因为当时船上的所有船员都已命丧黄泉。这样,黑死

THE JOURNEY ENDS

In 1350, plague peaked in Scotland and Scandinavia, while in southern Spain, it killed King Alfonso XI of Castile. The following year, it stretched to Greenland, where it helped wipe out the Norwegian colony, and to Yemen, at the tip of the Arabian peninsula. In 1353, it closed in on Moscow, killing both the patriarch of the Russian church and the grand duke of Muscovy.

Finally, the Black Death petered out somewhere in Kiev, having come almost full circle back to Kaffa. During its long rampage, between one third and one half of the population of Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East died. No natural disaster before or since has caused such devastation of human life over such a large area. It was one of the greatest catastrophes in human history.



病又迅速地席卷了整个挪威, 进而蔓延至瑞典, 然后跨越波罗的海进入俄罗斯境内。

死亡之旅的终结

1350年, 苏格兰和斯堪的纳维亚半岛的疫情达到高峰。在西班牙南部, 它夺去了卡斯提尔国王阿方索十一世的生命。次年, 瘟疫蔓延到了格陵兰岛, 使这一挪威的殖民属地生灵涂炭, 后来疫情进一步扩散到地处阿拉伯半岛南端的也门。1353年, 在夺取了俄国教会最高首脑和俄国大公的生命之后, 黑死病终于在莫斯科停止了蔓延。

黑死病在全世界蔓延一圈以后回到了卡法,最终在俄罗斯的基辅附近销声匿迹。在它恣意 肆虐的漫长岁月里,欧洲、北非和中东地区丧失了近一半的人口。这一自然灾害肆虐的地域如 此宽广,给人类的生命造成的损害如此巨大,真是"前无古人,后无来者",堪称人类历史上 的灾害之最。

IN THE WORDS OF SURVIVORS

by Gloria W. Lannom

幸存者的话

The Black Death affected not just those who died but those who survived as well. The Italian poet Francesco Petrarch (A.D. 1304-1374) was devastated by the death of his beloved Laura de Noves in Avignon, France. "Rarely do great beauty and great virtue dwell together," he wrote in praise of the love of his life.

死病不仅夺走了无数人的生命,还 大大影响了幸存者的生活。意大利诗 人弗兰西斯科·彼特拉克(1304-1374)因 其挚友,住在法国阿维尼翁的劳拉·德·诺 维斯死于瘟病而痛不欲生。"尽善和尽美永 难并存,"他用炙热的文字哀叹自己生命的 至爱。 To his brother, the only one of 35 monks left alive in his monastery, Petrarch predicted that generations to come would not believe tales of such horrors. "O happy people of the future, who have not known these miseries and perchance will class our testimony with the fables." As he watched those close to him die of the disease, he listed Giovanni Boccaccio (A.D. 1313-1375) as his only surviving friend.

Boccaccio, a giant of European literature, lost his father and many friends to the disease. The introduction to his book *Decameron*, his chief work, contains a very moving account of this horrific calamity. In the *Decameron*, 10 people flee Florence during the time of the Black Death. They describe how they would rule the world if given the chance to be king or queen. Each one ends his or her tale with a *canzone* (song) as the others dance. Boccaccio expressed the feelings of those who tried to escape the terrors of the Black Death by devoting themselves to frantic entertainment.

England's Geoffrey Chaucer (A.D. 1340-1400) was another survivor who incorporated the theme of the Black Death into his literary masterpiece *The Canterbury Tales*. Chaucer was only seven years old

被特拉克的哥哥是修道院 35 名僧人中惟一的幸存者。他对自己的哥哥预言,这种惨绝人寰的悲剧后代们肯定觉得难以置信。"哦!生活在将来的幸福的人儿啊,你们不知道这些苦难的经历,也许会把我们的言词归为寓言。"他目睹身边一个个亲人被病魔夺去了生命,只有乔瓦尼·薄伽丘(1313-1375)是他惟一幸存的朋友。

薄伽丘是欧洲的文学巨匠,那场瘟疫夺去了他父亲和众多朋友的生命。在巨著《十日谈》的序言中,薄伽丘用动人的笔触描绘了这场可怕的灾难。在《十日谈》中,有十个人因为黑死病的爆发逃离了佛罗伦萨,他们分别叙述了自己的治国理想,设想有一天会当上国王或王后。每个人的故事都以歌谣作结,其他人随着歌谣翩翩起舞。薄伽丘让书中的每个人都尽情狂欢,以此表达当时人们拼命逃避黑死病的情感。

英国的杰弗里·乔叟(1340-1400)是 另一位幸存者,他把黑死病这一主题写进了 自己的文学杰作《坎特伯雷故事集》。黑死 病爆发的时候乔叟只有七岁。童年时看到的 死尸与灾难给他留下了深刻的记忆,这种记 忆像梦魇一样伴随着他的一生。《坎特伯雷 故事集》是由朝圣者们在去往坎特伯雷大教



when the plague first struck. The nightmarish memory of dead bodies and disaster from this childhood remained with him forever. *The Canterbury Tales* is a series of stories told by pilgrims on their way to Canterbury Cathedral, as the Black Death raged about them.

The English monk-poet William Langland (A.D. 1332-1400), author of *Piers Plowman*, linked current political and social evils to the Black Death. He ridiculed greedy priests who abandoned poor parishes to go to London to sing requiem masses, "since silver is sweet."

Pope Clement VI (A.D. 1291-1352), lived in Avignon, France. His physician, who caught the disease but recovered, believed it was so contagious that people could contract it just by looking at one another. "The father did not visit the son nor the son his father. Charity was dead, and hope crushed."

Groups of men and women known as flagellants began parading through Europe's cities, whipping themselves with leather thongs tipped with metal spikes attached to a stick to atone for their sins. The flagellant movement was especially strong in Germany. Clement soon saw that it was out of control. In 1349, he issued a

堂朝圣途中讲述的一系列故事组成的, 当时黑死病正在他们的身边恣意横行。

英国僧侣诗人威廉·朗兰(1332 - 1400)是《耕者皮尔斯》的作者,他在书中将当时黑暗的政治与社会现实与黑死病相互关联。"因为银子是美好的,"他这样写道,对抛弃教民、远赴伦敦咏唱安魂曲的牧师的贪婪进行了无情的嘲弄。

教皇克莱门特六世(1291 - 1352) 住在法国城市阿维尼翁。他的医生感染 了黑死病但很快康复了。这位医生认为, 黑死病有极可怕的传染性,人们只要看 别人一眼,就会感染瘟疫。于是,"父亲 不去看望儿子,儿子也不去看望父亲。仁 慈彻底死亡,希望永远破灭。"

成群的男女苦行僧开始在欧洲的各大城市列队游行,他们用尖端坠着铁钉的皮带抽打自己,以此赎清他们犯下的罪过。苦行僧的游行运动在德国的声势特别浩大。教皇克莱门特眼见局势正在失控,于是在1349年正式颁布教皇令,命令基督教徒不得参与苦行僧的游行。

