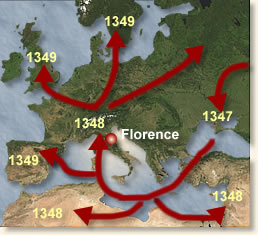
The **Black Death** reached Italy during the spring of 1348 causing deaths like never before recorded in history. Within three years, close to 50% of Europe’s population had died.



Three forms of the Black Death

* Bubonic
  + Swellings on the neck, armpits, groin
    - Sized from an egg to an apple
  + Spread by fleas on rats to humans
  + Life expectancy up to a week
* Pneumonic
  + Attacked the respiratory system
  + Spread by breathing the air of an infected person
  + Life expectancy of one or two days
* Septicemic
  + Attacked the blood system
  + Spread by bite from infected rodent or insect OR from open wounds OR cough from infected person
  + Life expectancy of 24 hours

Signs of inevitable death

* In the East, blood gushed from the orifices of the face – nose, eyes, ears, pores
* In Europe, the swellings/tumors changed to black or purple spots spread all over the body