Jews were penned up in wooden buildings and burned alive. 16,000 Jews were murdered in Strasbourg, 12,000 in Mainz.

- Pope Clement was largely impotent in attempting to prevent the massacres, and only King Casimir of Poland was wholly effective in protecting his Jewish subjects.
- By 1350, virtually nowhere in Europe was left unaffected by the plague. Factors in whether an area was seriously affected or less so depended upon available food for the rats, climate (yersinia pestis did not like cold weather)

"The Black Death: Part 2" P.Ziegler

- One of the distinguishing features of the outbreak of the Black Death in England compared to the rest of Europe is the almost total lack of civil disorder. The flagellant movement did not spread to England, as one group who performed their gruesome rights in front of St.Paul's Cathedral were quickly sent back over the channel. Nor was there any mass anti-Jewish pogroms. Only minor events, such as the Bishop of Bath and Wells being attacked by angry protesters, stand out.
- Broadly the same pattern persisted throughout the country where tenants died, leaving no heirs to take on their tenements and the landlord’s income dwindled dramatically, along with profits from farming.
- The loss to landlords was counterbalanced by the fine that those who replaced the deceased had to pay before their could enter into their estate or the taxes in kind levied on the dead man’s cattle.
- Remarkable efforts of the peasantry to pay what was due and render manorial services when conditions were chaotic enough that he could have evaded them.
- After March 1349, the plague started to spread alot more randomly than when it arrived-springing up in seemingly 100 different places simultaneously and reaching its peak in different areas at different times.
- very few villages can actually be shown to have been finally and completely deserted as a result of the Black Death. One of the exceptions was the Eynsham manor of Tilgarsley, where the collectors of the lay subsidy reported in 1359 that it was not possible to gather the tax because nobody had lived there since 1350.
- King Edward III postponed parliament meeting in January 1349 because "the plague of deadly pestilence had suddenly broken out in the said place and the neighbourhood, and daily increased in severity so that grave fears were entertained for the safety of those coming there at that time."
- No study of the Black Death can make sense unless one constantly remind oneself that it was not primarily a matter of statistics, but of a shock of pain and appalling fear felt by many millions of people.
• workers were not cruelly using their new-found labour scarcity to make exorbitant demands against now hapless employers and landlords
  o suffering a reduction in real wages
  o soaring prices from governmental monetary manipulations which ate into their wages as late as the 1380s
• did landlords actually benefit rather than suffer?

"The Black Death and the Burning of Jews"

• One of the most monumental of medieval Jewish persecutions, which almost entirely eradicated the principle Jewish communities of Europe - those of the Rhineland - and resulted in a fundamental redistribution of Jewry
• Between 1348 and 1351, Jews were
  o accused of poisoning food and wells
  o tortured into confessions
  o rounded up in city squares or their synagogues
  o exterminated en masse
• Were the Jewish massacres at the time of the Black Death popular insurrections spurred on by Jewish exploitation - notably their role as moneylenders?
• did the Black Death realign the trajectories of social conflict north and south of the Alps
  o no evidence of communication or coordination
  o social movements with concrete aims to redress economic grievances, challenge political authority and question social hierarchies are hard to find in the immediate aftermath of the Black Death
  o chronicles and archival sources give few signs of popular revolt between 1348 and 1355
  o In France, there were only a handful of revolts out of 300 chronicles
• Black Death nonetheless gave rise to mass movements and violence
  o flagellant groups and the burning of Jews swept across German-speaking areas, Spain, France and the low countries. Italy was not so badly affected
  o violence on the continent differed largely from the organised protest of peasants or labourers before counts or kings
  o sources give little indication for prior planning of the flagellant movement
  o few names of individual leaders of the flagellants emerge - those who do were members of the Church or aristocracy
• violence that fills the chronicles reveals little hints of class grievances
  o rather than form coherent political or economic goals, this violence targeted forces outside political and economic hierarchies in order to address fear and anger
  o in accusations of well-poisoning, outsiders (Jews, Catalans, foreign beggars or the poor) were used as scapegoats
• God's wrath was blamed or the configurations of the stars
• Did the chronological development in violence and social protest follow the trajectories of other areas e.g the approach and attitudes of plague doctors and chroniclers?
  o the Black Death had left medicine in confusion: 'the art of Hippocrates was lost'
  o Chroniclers were the same with pessimism - apart from an appeal to God's mercy