Task Four – Link the Disease to the Society

The table below includes some of the most lethal diseases endured by *Homo Sapiens*. For each disease, suggest which of the above societies (and any others) you think might have been impacted by them.

Disease	Type of Organism	Animal Hosts	Origins	Transmission Strategies	Societies Potentially Impacted
Malaria	Plasmodium (single-celled eukaryote, multiple strains)	Primates, possibly birds ultimately	Tropical Africa	Infects red blood cells; uses mosquitoes as transmission vector	
Shiztomatosis / Bilharzia	Animal (worm/fluke)	Aquatic snails / free living	Uncertain; oldest evidence from Egypt c. 1200 B.C.	Complex life cycle; infects humans through wounds, escapes through urine, faeces etc.	
Black Death	Bacteria	Rodents	Possibly East Africa or India; now endemic in rodent burrows worldwide	Fleas living on rats used as transmission vector from; also respiratory transfer	
Typhus	Bacteria	Rodents and game birds	Unknown	Use fleas and lice as vectors, which thrive in unwashed clothing and sacking material	
Smallpox	Virus	Many, including cattle and camels	Probably African rodents	Respiratory & skin contact	
Influenza	Virus	Various, especially poultry and pigs	Probably Asia	Respiratory	
HIV/AIDS	Virus	SIV in Chimpanzees	Equatorial West Africa	Transfer of bodily fluids; low rate of transmission from sexual intercourse greatly increased by other venereal disease causing open sores.	