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## The Mexican Flu: The Second Plague?

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**Date :** 27-04-2009

Some are suggesting the Mexican Flu is the second plague. Who is to say? It might even be the third with the first two being different (and very ongoing) aspects of the current financial crises. There are some interesting coincidences though.

But first of all, let's be clear: The Mexican Flu is for real. There are millions of Mexicans staying home and off the streets right now and it's not from hysteria. There is an alarming large rate of healthy people dying in Mexico after contracting this highly contagious version of swine flu AH1N1. And all the signs point to this being the one, just like its predecessors in 1918, 1957, and 1968 that killed millions of healthy people.

Here in the US, we first learned of this pandemic on Saturday (Shabbat) when the NY Times published a front page article explaining that **61** people had died already in Mexico. Obviously that number **61** was shifting and by Sunday it was 81 and then over 100 by Monday; nevertheless the published figure on the Shabbat that we read the portions *Tazria* and *Metzora*, where we discussed plagues (*nega*) and their spiritual causes, it was **61**.

Now, back in our articles on the **10** plagues we revealed that the sum of the first letters of all **10** plagues was **541**, the numerical value of Israel, and so it's mighty coincidental that this week we have the **61**st anniversary of Israel.

But of even further coincidence is that the dates of the previous swine flu epidemics vis-a-vis **5778**, the date given by the *tzaddikim* (righteous) for the *geula* (final redemption) are the Spanish Flu in **1918**, exactly **100** years before (**2018 CE**) **5778**; and the Hong Kong Flu in **1968**, exactly **50** years prior to (**2018 CE**) **5778**; and the Asian Flu in **1957**, which is exactly **61** years prior to (**2018 CE**) **5778**.

As of today, Monday, the Mexican flu strain has spread to NY, TX, CA, KS,, OH and to both coasts of Canada. If this is the big one, it will be the **4**th in the final **100** hundred years, the first one having occurred exactly **2** jubilee years before **5778** and the last one, having occurred exactly **1** jubilee year, out of the exactly **66.6** jubilee years (**50** year interval as spelled out in the Bible) between the Exodus (**10** plagues) in **2448** and **5778**. All together, vis-a-vis **5778**, the **3** deadly pandemics occurred  $2 + 1.22 + 1 = 4.22$  jubilee years before **5778**, and **422** as readers of *The Divine Calendar* know, is the numerical value of "seventy," as in the **70** years that Israel will celebrate in **2018 CE (5778)**.

And if in this year of our **44**th US President, who had just held court in Latin America, the Mexican Flu of **2009** is the **4**th one, then all **4** deadly Flu epidemics will have occurred exactly **4.4** jubilee years before **2018**, with **44** being the value of the first plague, *dam* (blood), and also the ordinal value (placement within the Hebrew alphabet) of the initials of all **10** plagues. The 2nd plague by the way, was frogs (*tzarfdea*) of numerical value **444**.

You can decide for yourself if there are any connections. Back in 1918, between 20 and 40% of the world became infected and 25 million or more people died; today, our scientists and medical staffs are much better prepared. In this week that the **61**st anniversary of Israel is celebrated and the **4**th epidemic of swine flu was announced and pronounced to the world, it's interesting for Torah scholars and kabbalists alike that the Hebrew word plague (*nega*, *NGA*) is repeated

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**65** times (or **61 + 4**) in this week's double reading.

But what's better than interesting is that the *Arizal* and *tzaddikim* have provided us a spiritual antidote for plagues hidden within the **42**-Letter Name of G-d (*Ana B'koach* or Genesis Prayer), but more about that in our next article.

One last note for those that believe like the kabbalists that there are spiritual causes behind the world's physical ills, this same weekend also brought NY Times articles to the effect that the Wall Street and banking bonuses are already back up to their pre-crisis levels. Now what was it that the Bible said about "hardening Pharaoh's heart?"