

Health and Disease in Rural Afghanistan

by Alfred A. Buck, Robert I. Anderson, Kazuyoski Kawata, I. Willard Abrahams, Ronald A. Ward, and Tom T. Sasaki

This comprehensive study of four contrasting Afghan communities is a basic new reference on Afghan medical and public health problems. It is the most recent, most complete, and most specific study of health and disease in the villages of this strategically located country.

New findings on

- Endemic and venereal syphilis
- Endemic malaria
- Smallpox
- Q-fever
- Arbovirus infections
- Ascariasis
- Genetic abnormalities

Includes on-site epidemiological and medical reports on infectious, parasitic, and other diseases—backed by a field laboratory and laboratories at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and at The Johns Hopkins University. The study was carried out by an interdisciplinary team—including epidemiologists, an ophthalmologist, laboratory scientists, a sanitary engineer, an entomologist, and others. The methods chapter will be of special interest to epidemiologists.

Partial Contents

- The Communities
 - Household and Family; Village Political Structure; Health Services and Practices
- Environmental Factors
 - Water Supply; Excreta Disposal; Houses; Domestic Animals; Personal Hygiene
- Medical Entomology
- Epidemiological Features
 - Nutrition; Hemoglobin; Fertility, Birth Rates, and Infant Mortality
- Habitual Use of Hashish, Opium, and Chewing Tobacco
- Blood Pressure
- Specific Infections
 - Parasitic Infections; Bacterial Diseases; Rickettsioses; Virus Infections; Fungal Infections
- Material and Methods

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