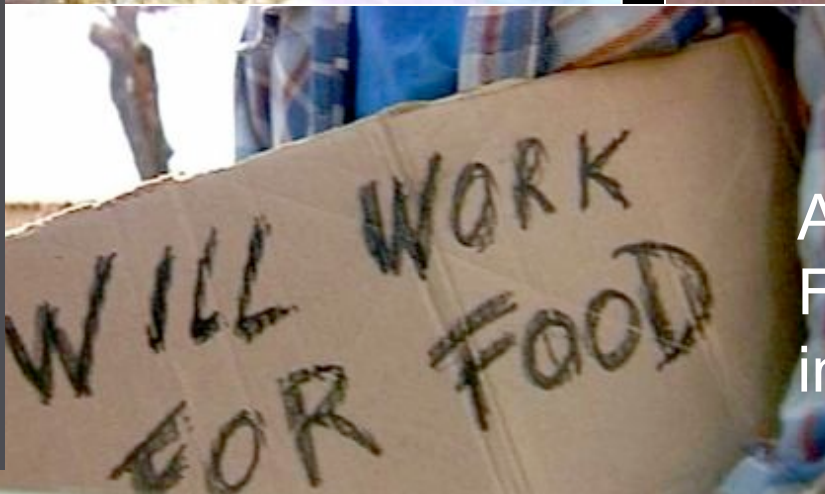
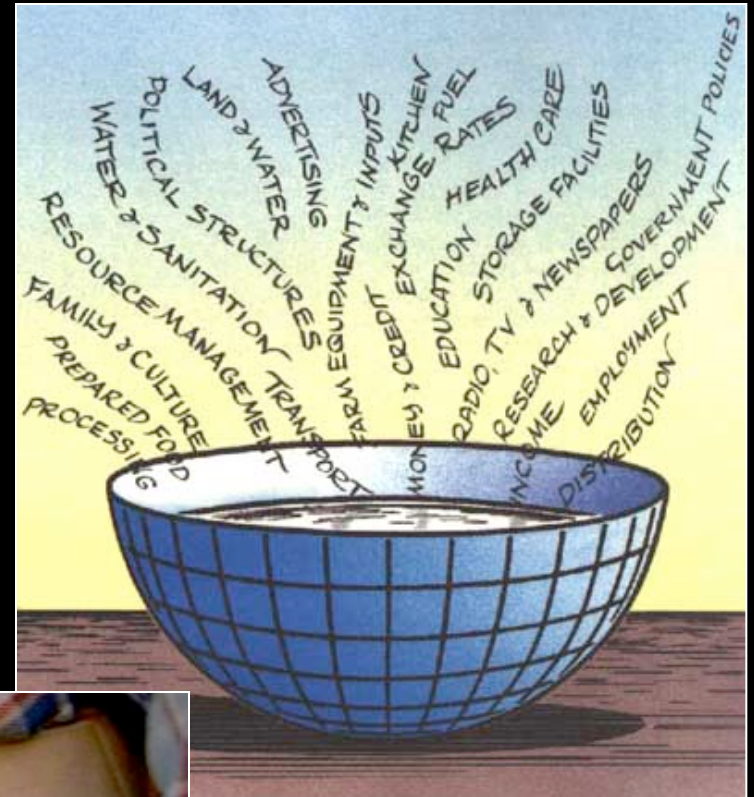


# Food insecurity: going hungry...



ARCH 0770  
Food and Drink  
in Classical Antiquity

First Hourly

Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

**1) Multiple choice/True False**

**2) Identify and comment on the significance of XX of the following terms, quotes and images.**

**Place your answer in as broad a context as possible;  
give specific examples where possible.**

**` ‘the paradox of the ancient countryside’; Prytaneion;  
Mediterranean triad**

**2) Short Answer Questions: answer ONE  
What might you ask?**

# Vocabulary of hunger/malnutrition

## Food crisis spectrum, or continuum



### ***Food shortage***

endemic; low level  
constant; 'controlled'

### ***Famine***

catastrophic  
rare; acute; crisis

- ‘*Food shortage* is a short-term reduction in the amount of available foodstuffs, as indicated by rising prices, popular discontent and hunger, in the worst cases leading to death by disease or starvation.’
- ‘*Famine* is a critical shortage of essential foodstuffs, leading through hunger to a substantially increased mortality rate in a community or region, and involving a collapse of the social, political and moral order.’



**Crop failure, food shortage  
requires  
survival strategies,  
coping mechanisms...  
how to build a 'safety net'**

**Storage;** 'laying away for a rainy day'



'Do as I tell you, and the ears will sweep the ground in their ripeness, if the Olympian himself grants that all shall end well; and you can knock the spider-webs from your bins, and, as I hope, be happy as you draw on all that substance that's stored up. You will have plenty to make it till the next gray spring; you need not gaze longingly at others. It's the other man who will need you...' (Hesiod, *Works and Days* 473-78; Hesiod fl. ca. 700 BC)

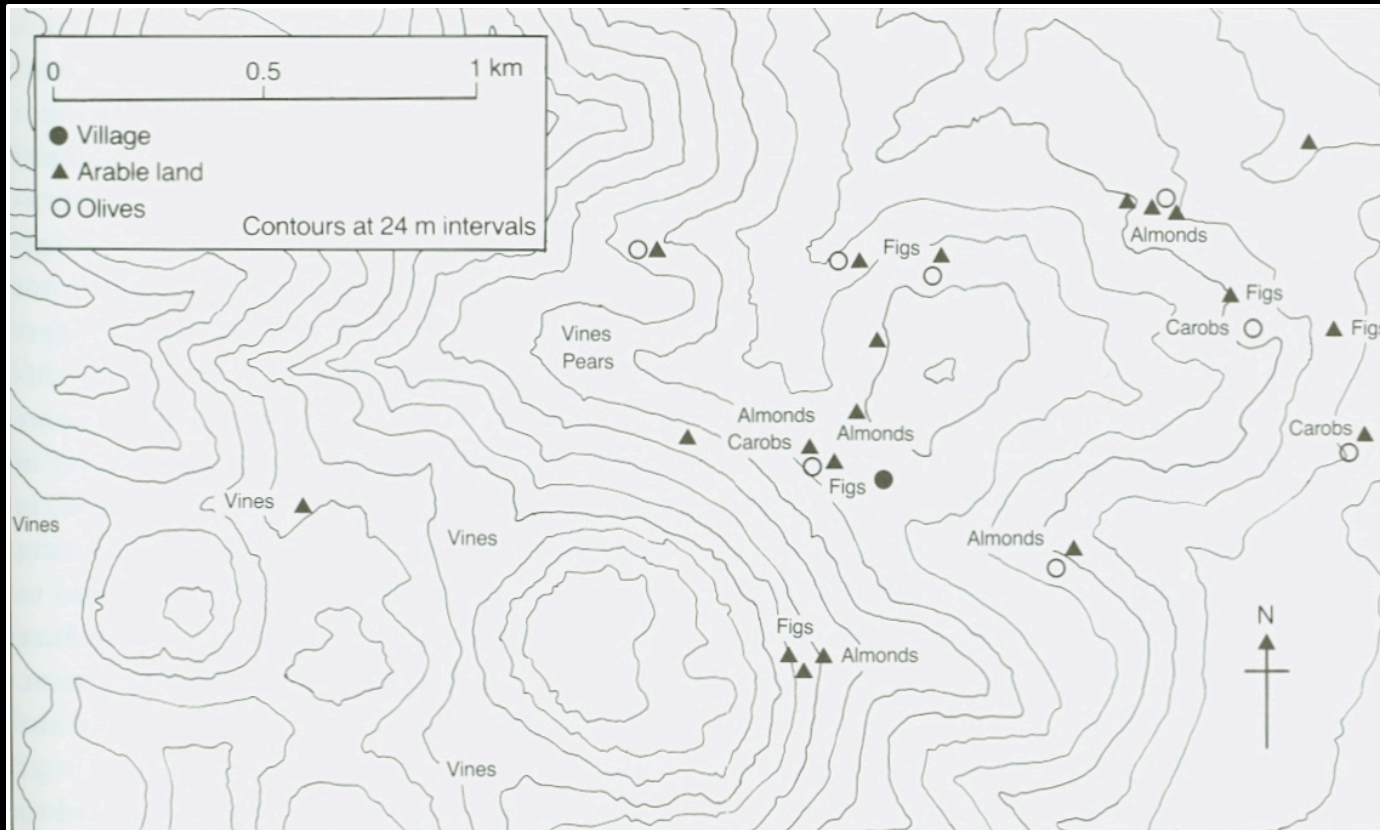


## crop diversification; polyculture

‘we have a little of everything and that keeps us safe’

land fragmentation, dispersal of holdings

microclimates; partible inheritance; dowries





market (cash economy); bartering (direct exchange of goods or labor)

reciprocal exchanges; reciprocity

friends and family; **horizontal** social relationships

patronage; patron;

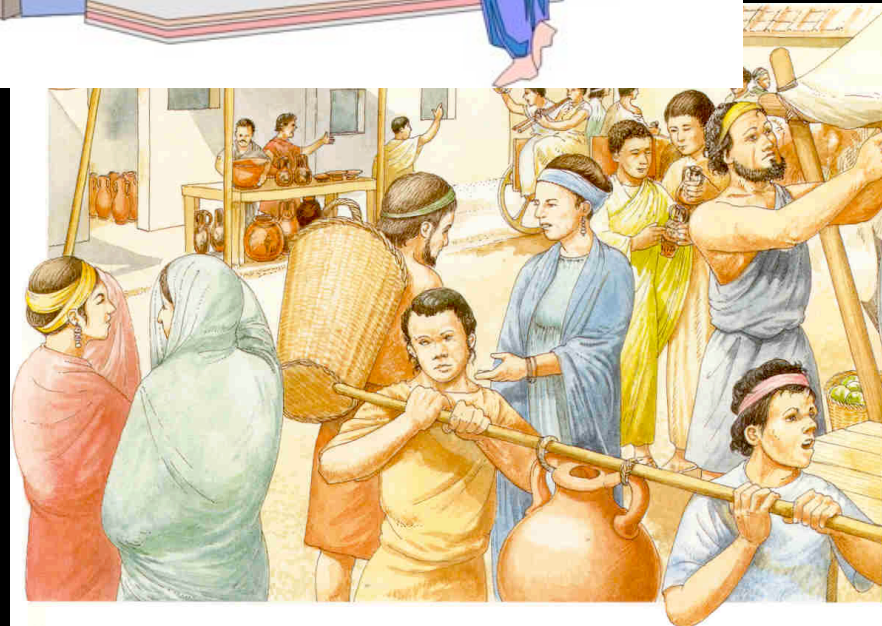
**vertical** social relationships



# PATRONAGE IN ANCIENT SOCIETY



Edited by  
Andrew Wallace-Hadrill



family demographics:  
contraception; migration/colonization;  
infanticide



*'Famine is a critical shortage of essential foodstuffs, leading through hunger to a substantially increased mortality rate in a community or region, and involving a collapse of the social, political and moral order.*

## HOW MANY MUST DIE?

**Ireland, Great Potato Famine =  
(1846-50), 1 million**

**Ukraine, Soviet Union (1933) =  
4-5 million?**

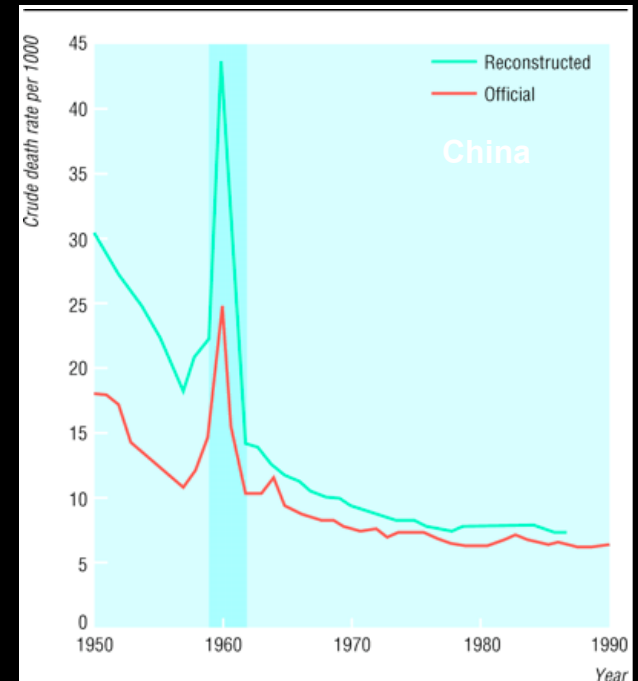
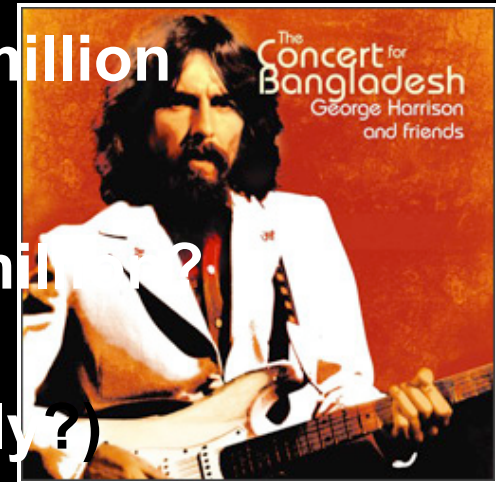
**China (1959-1961) = officially, 15  
million**

**Bangladesh (1974-1975) =  
1.5 million**

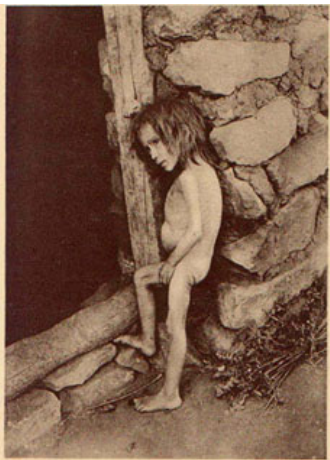
**1 million**

**4-5 million?**

**officially?**







*La famine en Russie. IX.* SEULE AU MONDE!  
Image navrante de la misère enfantine! Hâtons-nous  
de secourir les milliers et les milliers d'enfants semblables  
à cette pauvre petite.

1.10 fr.-or suffit à nourrir un enfant pendant une semaine.

## China's Secret Famine

餓  
hungry  
ghosts  
鬼

JASPER BECKER

## THE CONCERT FOR BANGLA DESH



FRANK DIKÖTTER

# MAO'S GREAT FAMINE



THE HISTORY OF CHINA'S MOST  
DEVASTATING CATASTROPHE

BLOOMSBURY





- *Limos*  
severe hunger;  
starvation
- *Loimos*  
epidemic disease

## Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse





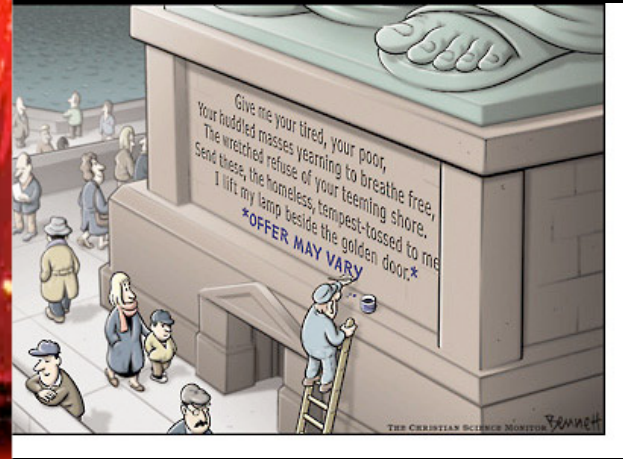
# Death by famine: hunger and disease

- **Famine foods**
  - under/malnutrition  
Galen, *On the Fruit from Wild Plants*
- **Fertility problems**
  - amenorrhea
  - infanticide



# Population change: numbers and structure

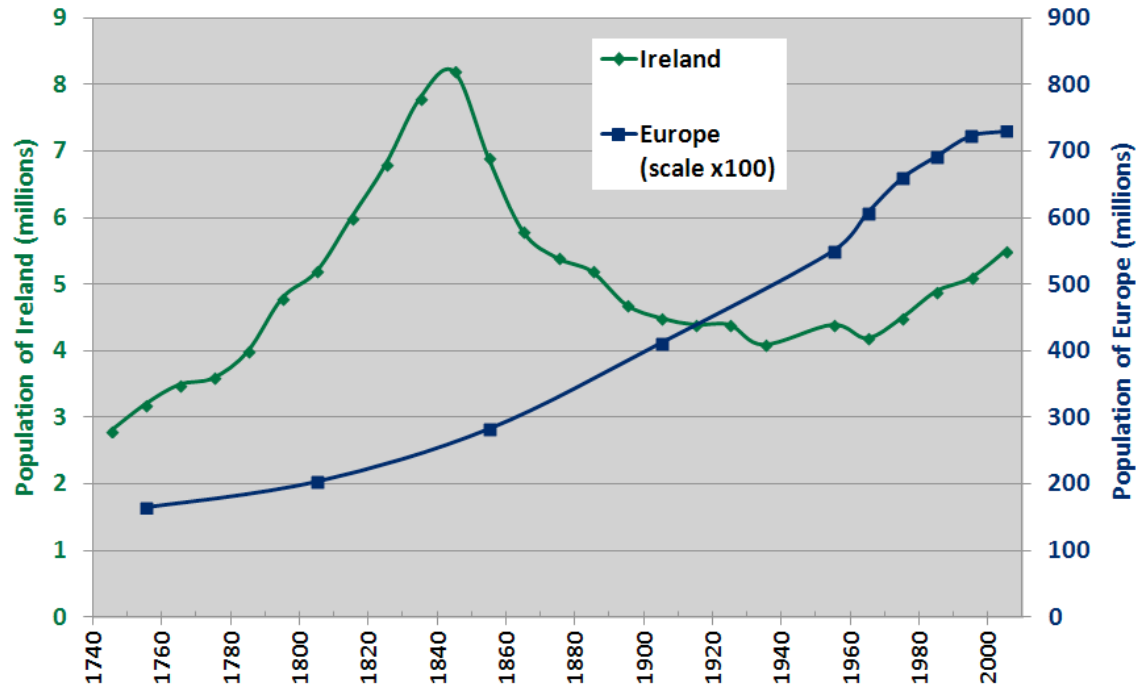
- migration;  
emigration



**Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me:  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door.**

**Emma Lazarus, 'The New Colossus'**

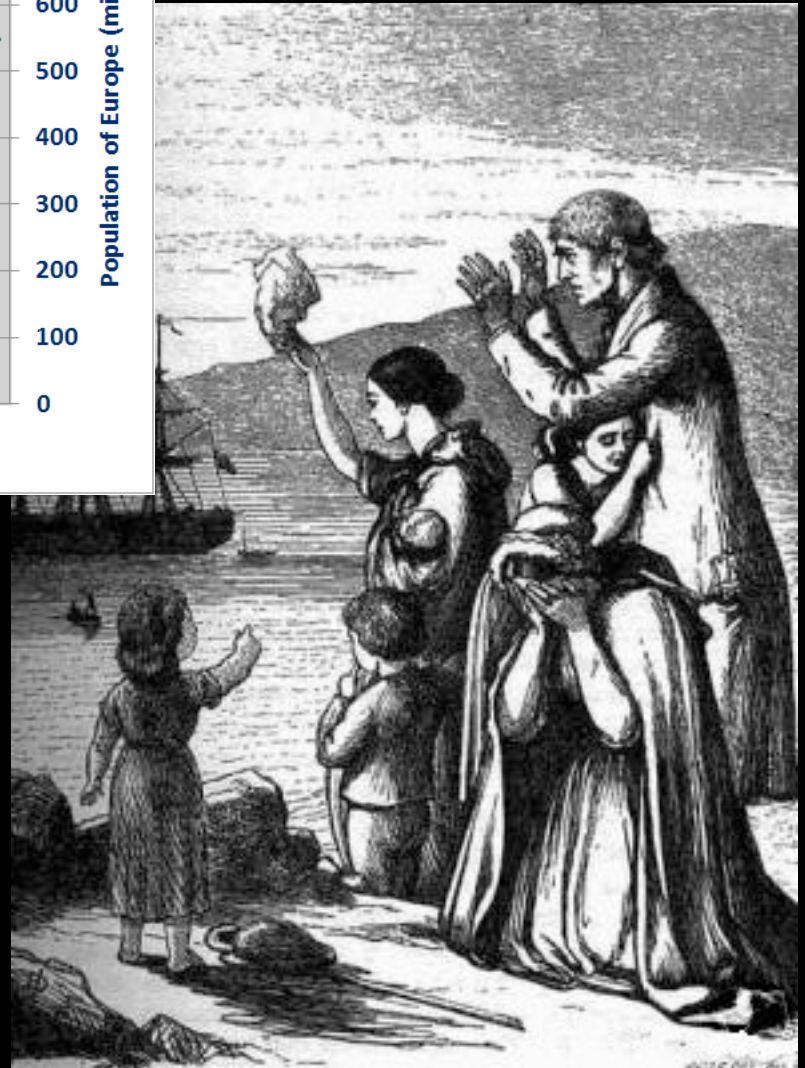
Population of Ireland and Europe



## Great Famine, Ireland 1845-1852

1 million dead;  
1 million emigrated

*an Gorta Mór* = 'the Great Hunger'





*'Famine is a critical shortage of essential foodstuffs, leading through hunger to a substantially increased mortality rate in a community or region, and involving a collapse of the social, political and moral order.'*

## Collapse

loss of horizontal  
and vertical  
relationships of  
patronage

corruption; anarchy;  
lawlessness



*'Famine is a critical shortage of essential foodstuffs, leading through hunger to a substantially increased mortality rate in a community or region, and involving a collapse of the social, political and moral order.'*

## What causes a famine?

### Usual suspects:

- natural disaster
- bad crop failure

NOT AUTOMATIC





# Famine and War

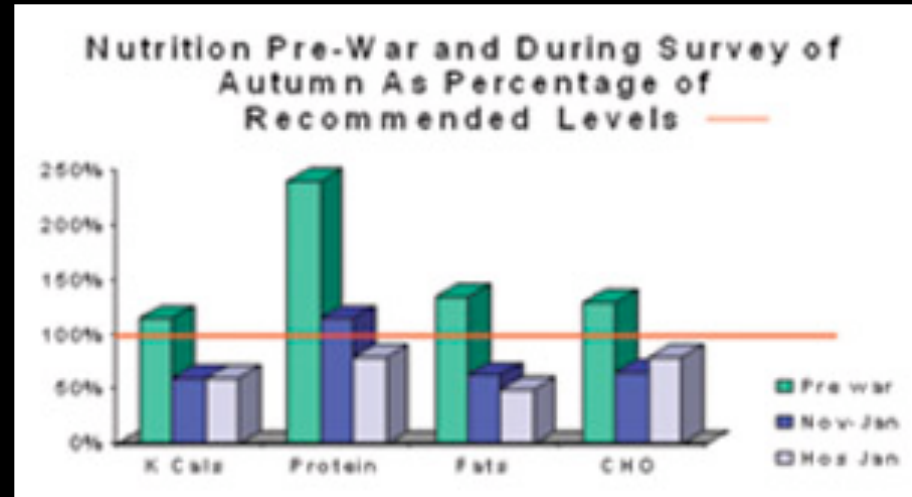
## Sieges

**Sarajevo (1992-1996)**

**Athens by Sparta**

**Rome by Attila the Hun**

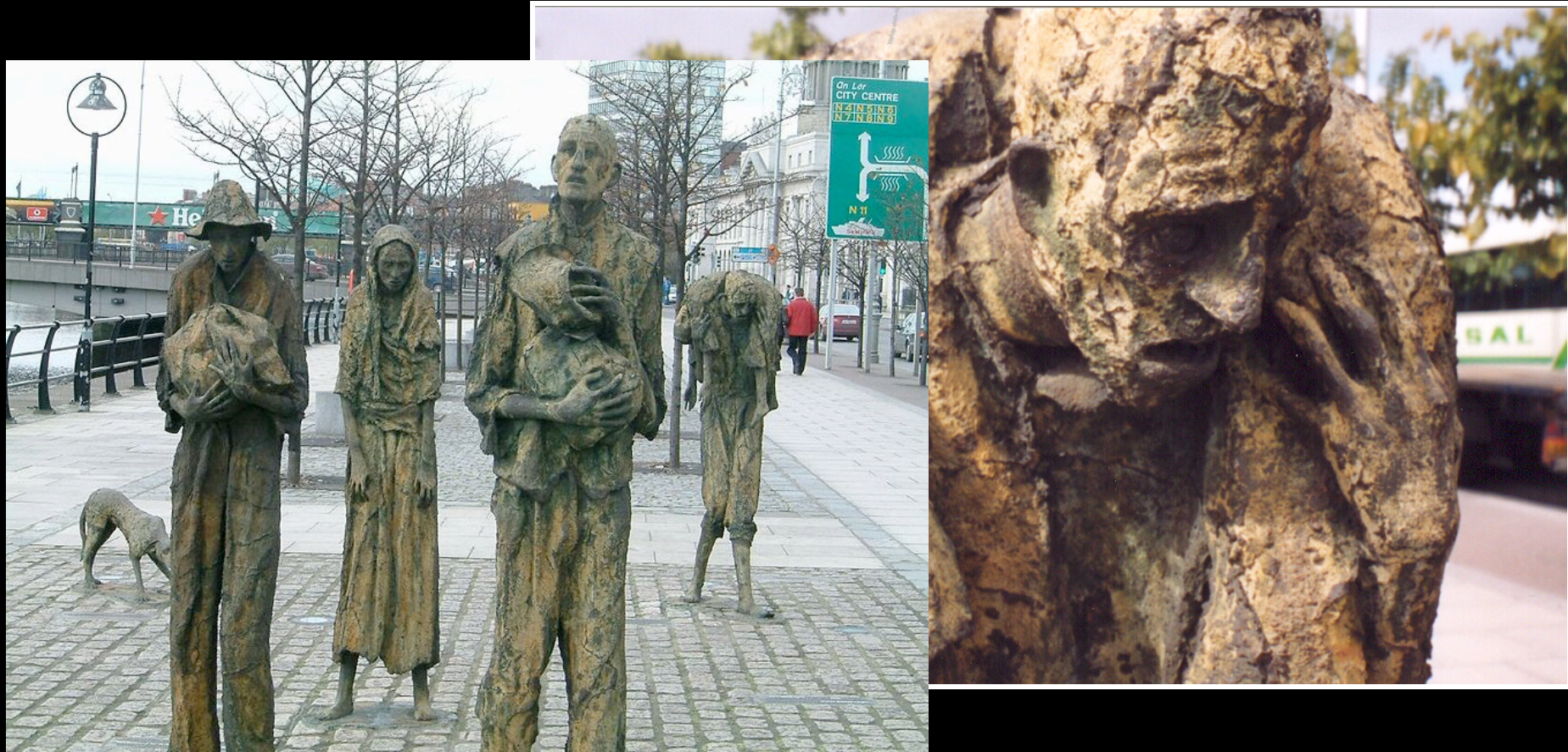
## Sarajevo siege





# Famine and prejudice

English unwilling to help the ‘incorrigibly indolent’ Irish



Famine Monument, Dublin Quay 2004



# Famine and political ideology

- Josef Stalin, Soviet Union (1933 famine in Ukraine, 4-5 mill)

- Mao Zedong, China (Great Leap Forward 1959-1961, 15+ mill)

Other human factors:  
breakdown of transport  
infrastructure  
maladministration  
corruption

