

name: _____

class: _____

date: _____

Colonial America and Witch Trials



Colonial America was a time of growth and _____. Settlers from Europe came to the New World seeking freedom and opportunities. However, life was _____. Communities were small, and people relied on each other for survival. In 1692, the town of Salem, _____, experienced a series of events that would become infamous. These events are known as the Salem _____ Trials.

The trials began when a group of young girls in Salem Village claimed to be possessed by the _____ and accused several local women of witchcraft. The _____ was already on edge due to a recent smallpox outbreak and fear of Native American attacks. These _____ spread quickly, leading to a wave of hysteria.

During the trials, more than 200 people were accused of practicing _____. The accused were often women who were outcasts or did not fit the _____ of Puritan society. Many were poor, unmarried, or had different beliefs. The _____ used questionable evidence, such as spectral evidence, where the _____ claimed to see the spirit of the witch harming them.

Nineteen _____ were hanged, and one man was pressed to death with heavy stones. The _____ eventually ended when the governor of Massachusetts intervened and declared the _____ proceedings unlawful. The Salem Witch Trials remain a powerful reminder of the dangers of _____ hysteria and the importance of due process.

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