<u>The Witch Hunts of the Elizabethan Era</u>



The Elizabethan Era was a time of great change in	. Queen Elizabeth
I ruled during this period. People were very superstitious. They often blamed	
for problems. Bad weather, il	lness, and crop failures were often seen
as witchcraft were most ofte	en accused of being witches. They were
thought to have made pacts with the	. The church played a big role in
this belief. It taught that witches were evil. Many peopl	
 Accused witches faced harsh punishments. They could b	e imprisoned or even executed. The
witch trials were unfair. There was little	needed to convict someone.
Gossip and rumors were often enough. The accused had	almost no chance to defend
themselves. Torture was sometimes used to get	. This made the
situation even worse. Fear spread quickly in communiti	es. Anyone could be accused of
witchcraft.	
The supported the witch hunt	s. Laws were made to punish witches.
The Witchcraft Act of 1563 was a	. It made witchcraft a crime
punishable by death. Many trials were held in the late 1	
were accused. The fear of wit	ches affected everyone. It was a dark
time in England's	
However, not everyone believed in witchcraft. Some peo	ople spoke out against the trials. They
thought the were based on su	perstition. Over time, the hysteria died
down. By the early 17th century, fewer trials were held	. The
eventually ended. The Elizabethan Era left a lasting imp	pact on how people viewed witchcraft.
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