

name: _____

class: _____

date: _____

The Witchfinder General in History



In the 17th century, the Witchfinder General was a significant _____ during the witch trials in England. This role was not officially sanctioned by the _____ but was self-appointed by individuals like Matthew Hopkins. Hopkins is the most famous Witchfinder _____, claiming to have caught many witches.

Hopkins traveled across East Anglia, a region in _____, conducting trials. He used questionable methods to identify witches, such as the swimming _____. In this test, suspected witches were thrown into water. If they floated, they were considered guilty of _____.

The Witchfinder General's main task was to gather evidence against _____. This often involved extracting confessions through torture. Many people were accused based on flimsy _____ or personal grudges. The trials were often unfair and led to the _____ of many innocent people.

One of the reasons for the witch trials was the widespread _____ of witchcraft. People believed witches were causing misfortune and sickness. The Witchfinder General capitalized on these _____ to justify his actions and earn money. Communities would pay Hopkins and others for their _____, leading to more accusations and executions. The role of the Witchfinder General highlights the dangers of _____ hysteria and the lack of due process. The actions of people like Hopkins caused great _____. Eventually, the witch trials declined as people began to question the validity of the _____ and the methods used to obtain confessions.

Overall, the Witchfinder General played a dark _____ in English history. His actions remind us of the importance of justice and _____ over fear and superstition. The legacy of the witch trials is a cautionary tale about the consequences of _____ beliefs and the abuse of power.

England suffering role reason government suspects services fear General
execution irrational fears accusations figure mass witchcraft test evidence