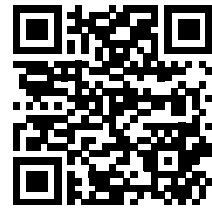


name: \_\_\_\_\_

class: \_\_\_\_\_

date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Witchcraft Persecutions



In the 16th and 17th centuries, witchcraft persecution was common in \_\_\_\_\_.

People believed that witches had magical powers. They were often blamed for bad events like \_\_\_\_\_ failures and diseases. The government and church encouraged these beliefs. This led to many \_\_\_\_\_ and executions of suspected witches.

The most famous witch trial in England was the \_\_\_\_\_ witch trial of 1612.

Twelve people were accused of witchcraft and ten were found guilty. They were executed by \_\_\_\_\_.

These trials were influenced by fear and superstition. Anyone could be accused of witchcraft, but most accused were \_\_\_\_\_. They were often poor and vulnerable members of society.

Matthew Hopkins was known as the "Witchfinder \_\_\_\_\_." He conducted witch hunts in the 1640s. Hopkins claimed to have a special knowledge of identifying witches. His methods included \_\_\_\_\_ and forced confessions. Many innocent people were executed based on his accusations.

The Witchcraft \_\_\_\_\_ of 1735 marked the end of witch trials in England.

This law made it illegal to accuse someone of being a \_\_\_\_\_. The focus shifted to preventing fraud by those claiming to have magical powers. This change reflected a shift in \_\_\_\_\_ about witchcraft.

Witchcraft persecution in England was a result of social, religious, and political \_\_\_\_\_. Fear of the unknown and the need to find scapegoats for problems played a large role. Over time, increased \_\_\_\_\_ and scientific understanding led to the decline of witch hunts. Today, these events are seen as a dark \_\_\_\_\_ in history.

- torture
- factors
- chapter
- General
- England
- witch
- rationality
- hanging
- trials
- women
- Act
- crop
- beliefs
- Pendle