



### **Ugly History - Witch Hunts C1-C2**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7x5KesH3dzM



### Before watching the video answer the questions:

- 1 Do you know anything about witch hunts in history?
- 2 Do you know what the phrase "burn at the stake" means?





### Now watch the video and answer the questions that follow:

1 How did Maria Hala's experience differ from that of Rebecca Lemp during the witch hunts?

- 2 Who was Heinrich Kramer, and what role did he play in promoting the belief in witches?
- 3 What was the significance of Heinrich Kramer's book, the Malleus Maleficarum, in the context of witch hunts?

4 How did communities typically react to misfortunes like failed harvests or sick animals during the time of the witch hunts?



5 What type of people were usually accused of witchcraft?  6 Describe the process of questioning and punishing accused witches during the witch hunts.	
7 What factors contributed to the eventual decline of witch hunting particles and the American colonies?	oractices in
8 "The potential of similar situations in which authorities use mobilize society against a false threat still exists today." How do you statement made at the end of the video? Can you think of any current affairs to support that this danger really exists?	u feel about this
9 Do you believe our capacity to use our reasoning to combat thes still strong in the 21st century? How difficult/easy is it to be carried claims in the era of social media and instant information? Justify you	ed away by false
10 How do you feel about what you saw in the video? Express your o paragraph with justification.	pinion in a



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### Before watching the video answer the questions:

- 1 Do you know anything about witch hunts in history?
- 2 Do you know what the phrase "burn at the stake" means?

#### Now watch the video and answer the questions that follow:

## 1 How did Maria Hala's experience differ from that of Rebecca Lemp during the witch hunts?

Maria Hala was eventually released after enduring torture, while Rebecca Lemp falsely confessed and was executed by burning

- 2 Who was Heinrich Kramer, and what role did he play in promoting the belief in witches? Heinrich Kramer was a friar and professor of theology who gained permission from the Pope to conduct inquisitions in search of witches, leading to the spread of beliefs about witchcraft.
- 3 What was the significance of Heinrich Kramer's book, the Malleus Maleficarum, in the context of witch hunts?

The Malleus Maleficarum, written argued for the existence of witches and provided guidelines for hunting and prosecuting them, contributing to the widespread fear of witchcraft.

# 4 How did communities typically react to misfortunes like failed harvests or sick animals during the time of the witch hunts?

Communities often blamed these misfortunes on witchcraft, leading to accusations within the community and the targeting of individuals as witches.

#### 5 What type of people were usually accused of witchcraft?

Usually the accused were people on the fringes of society: the elderly, the poor or social outcasts but every member of the community could be targeted, even children.

## 6 Describe the process of questioning and punishing accused witches during the witch hunts.

Accused witches were questioned, tortured, and forced to confess to witchcraft, implicating others in the process. Punishments ranged from fines to burning at the stake.

# 7 What factors contributed to the eventual decline of witch hunting practices in Europe and the American colonies?

The rise of stronger central governments, legal norms like due process, and dissenting voices from scholars and physicians contributed to the gradual decline of witch hunting practices over time.

- 8 "The potential of similar situations in which authorities use their power to mobilize society against a false threat still exists today." How do you feel about this statement made at the end of the video? Can you think of any examples from current affairs to support that this danger really exists?
- 9 Do you believe our capacity to use our reasoning to combat these false beliefs is still strong in the 21st century? How difficult/easy is it to be carried away by false claims in the era of social media and instant information? Justify your answers.
- 10 How do you feel about what you saw in the video? Express your opinion in a paragraph with justification.





#### The video was made by the organisation TED-Ed

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