Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Tuesday 11 June 2024

Morning (Time: 2 hours 15 minutes)

Paper reference **9HI0/33**

History

Advanced

PAPER 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

Option 33: The witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America, c1580–c1750

Source Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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Source for use with Section A.

From King James VI of Scotland, *Daemonologie,* published 1597.

The Devil is ready to imitate God. Being a spirit, he is able to transport himself as a solid body from one place to another. This is seen commonly and daily. In this transporting, he and other spirits, known as witches, are invisible to anyone else, except themselves. For, if these witches may take whatever form they please in the air, they may also thicken and obscure the air so that they are invisible. Another way of the witches coming to their gatherings is that they can come and enter into any house or Church, even though all ordinary entrances be closed. They can do this by being transformed into the likeness of a beast. And some say that, although the bodies of the witches are lying still, their spirits can rise out of their bodies, and be carried to these gatherings. By this form of journeying, the witches can be transported from one country to another.

The Prince or the Judge may punish the witches as he thinks convenient. But in the end, to spare the life of the witch is a fault, and treason, against God. It is not only unlawful, but also a sin for the Judge to be saving or sparing them. This is comparable to the sin of Witchcraft itself. Surely then, this crime ought to be as severely punished. Judges ought to be aware that they should not simply condemn anyone, except those witches that they are sure are guilty. Judges ought indeed to beware whom they condemn. For it is as great a crime to condemn the innocent, as to let the guilty escape free.

In addition, the report of any one person should not be admitted as a sufficient proof; this cannot be the working of the law. The confessions of several guilty persons can work against a person who is accused. Since this is a matter of treason against the Prince and against other persons, in my opinion, our law should provide for sufficient witnesses and proofs. For, as witches can be proven, are they then the best witnesses of the actions of other witches? I surely think that these witches, as witnesses, may be sufficient in matters of high treason against God.

Acknowledgement:

Source from: *Daemonologie* By King James I