

Unit 3

The mystery of the Tollund man

History investigation





بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Mystery of the Tollund Man

History Investigation

The Nature of History



Activity 1

Can you explain why a historian is like a detective?

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6 W History Questions

Activity 2

Answer the 6 W questions historians ask in the mystery of the Tollund. Set up a list of questions and try to find answers and take notes of all the websites and books you have used to find the information. If you find it hard to summarize lengthy articles, try to scan for key words. Scan reading is an important skill for reasearch, it's good you start learning about this skill now.



What?
[]

Where?
[]

How?
[]

When?
[]

Who?
[]

Why?
[]



The Mystery of the Tollund Man

History Investigation

History Detective



Activity 3

What exactly is a History Detective?

A History Detective investigates evidence from the past. They don't want to use this evidence to catch criminals or bring anyone to justice. History detectives want to learn about the past by following the clues left by others. The further back in time we look, the more difficult it is to find clues.

Is it true that I'm a history detective?

YES! You will be a History Detective in today's lesson. You will look into a murder that occurred in Denmark during the Iron Age. You will try to figure out why a man died by using PRIMARY and SECONDARY evidence about the murder.

If you believe YOU are up to the challenge, please read the following information.



Is it a murder?



Is it a sacrifice?



The Tollund Man Mystery

Is it a punishment?



In this investigation you will use the evidence collected from this case gathered in the source section and try to come up with a conclusion on how the Tollund Man my have died.

But start with (The Autopsy Report) and then investigate your sources to fill the table "Ways he could have died).



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Autopsy Report



Activity 4

An autopsy is the examination of a deceased body to discover the cause of death or the extent of disease. In this activity, you will investigate the crime scene and fill out this autopsy Report to help you discover the cause of death and solve this mystery.



Date of Death

Place of Death

Name

Age

Gender

Clothing

Possessions

Injuries

Food

Overall Health

Cause of Death

Explanation of Death





Ways he could have died...	Evidence to support this...
A sacrifice	
A murder	
A punishment	



Sources

Source A



This image depicts the body discovered in a peat bog on Denmark's Tollund Fen in May 1950. Peat was being dug for burning by two men. As they continued to work, they unexpectedly noticed a face in the peat layer that was so new that believed they had discovered a recent murder. They made a police report. To reveal more of him, the men painstakingly scraped the peat from the body. The man appeared to be sleepy as he lied on his right side. Except for a sleek hide belt and a pointed skin cap, he was naked. Short haircut for his hair. The neck was bound with an iron neck ring and a rope noose. It was tightly wrapped around his throat and neck.

Source B



These items were found around Tollund Man's neck.

The items are a rope noose and a neck ring. Iron Age people buried neck rings with their dead as an offering to the Spring Goddess.



Source C

Forensic Report 1

Age: The heart and organs were healthy. The wisdom teeth had grown. These appear in people around 20 years of age.
Stomach: The man had eaten soup at least 12 hrs before he died. The soup was made up of seeds that were connected only with the Spring
DOD: When they dug the grave some plants were trapped under the body. They were about 2000 years old.

Source D

Forensic Report 2

This man was found buried in a bog at Grauballe in Denmark. His throat had been cut from ear to ear. Scientists discovered that he had been buried 1650 years ago. His last meal, eaten shortly before his death, had been a vegetable soup made from Spring seeds.

Source E



Map depicting the northern German tribes who lived where Denmark is now.

Source F



An Earth Goddess of Spring statue found in a bog.



Source G

An excerpt (Written in 97-98 AD by Cornelius Tacitus, a Roman, in his book about the German tribes).

"There is nothing unusual about these tribes except their worship of Mother Earth, the Goddess of Spring. They believe that each spring she rides through the tribes. A chariot carries a statue of the Goddess in a procession. After this the chariot and her robes.....are washed clean in a hidden lake. This task is done by slaves who are then..." killed.

Source H

Excerpt from:
"introduction to
Al-Majmu': "Al-
Saymari [He is
Abu Al-Qasim,
one of the great
Shafi'i scholars,
died in 405 AH]
&
Quran 12:76

Imam Nawawi (Allah have mercy on him) mentions several etiquettes relating to fatwa (issuing rulings): one of them is: "He does not omit to seal his answers by saying "Allah knows best", "And God grants success". As Muslim historians when we try to unveil the Mystery of the past we should take an example in the manners of our great Muslim scholars in their humbleness, and Adabs (manners) when seeking knowledge.

Saying "Allah knows best" does not inspire or entail doubt about the ruling, for our case about the historical evidence ; instead, even if the scholar was correct, there is no scholar except that Allah, Most High, is more knowledgeable than him.

But above those ranking in knowledge is the One All-Knowing.[Quran, 12:76]

So as history detectives, whatever conclusion we reach, we know that only Allah swt detains the absolute Knowledge, because:

Allah Knows Best



Activitiy 5

Finally, explain how should a Muslim Historian finish his investigation?

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Congratulations

Al Hamdulillah!

You have accomplished your first History Investigation,

Get ready and excited to learn more about History...

