

# King John and Magna Carta

It is a true story about the worst and most cruel king of Great Britain in the 13th Century. The Magna Carta is actually a document or a charter where it is written »no freeman shall be taken or imprisoned except by the lawful judgement of his or by the law of the land«. King John knew what it was and agreed with it by signing it, but later on he was against it. The whole nation turned against him, willing he must be replaced. Even the Pope hated him because of his treachery. He used to take rich peoples castles or houses, take their children as hostages or slaves and demand money. With his rich paid mercenaries he was so powerful that nobody could defeat him. Even the french soldiers couldn't beat him. The year 1215 was so important, that todays world and Great Britain wouldn't be as they are now. By this time we would be all working as slaves, killed or living very poorly. In the end the Pope convinced King John to resign and humiliated him so much he had to leave. Historical documents say every house King John slept in, the next morning he woke up and burn it. But he still had his mercenaries with him so he was still powerfull until one day, in the north of England a place called The Wash, he woke up with his army in a big lake. He didn't know by that time that tides were very high there so it washed away his coach where all his jewels and money were stored. The mercenaries gave up because nobody wanted to serve for a king who had nothing to pay them. King John was left alone with one horse and he begged everyone to help him. But nobody did. They found him poisoned one night in a forest. Everybody was happy and wishing for a better future and king. Many english speaking people, especially americans have heard about the Magna Carta, but most of them don't really know what it is. It was one of the most important documents in the history of Britain and still is today.

Unknown words:

- imprisoned: biti zaprt v ječi, zaporu.
- cruelness: zloba, nesramnost, obnašati se zelo grdo.
- slave: suženj.
- tide: plima in oseka oz. bibavica.
- willing: v upanju, želeti.
- nobles: bogati ljudje, premožnejši ljudje.
- Pope: papež.
- resign: odpustiti, odnehati, prenehati.
- treacherous: izdajalen, nekoga izdati.

Questions:

When did the story happen?

What did King John do to rich peoples homes?

Who convinced King John to resign?

What was the place called where King John woke up in a big lake?

How did he die?

