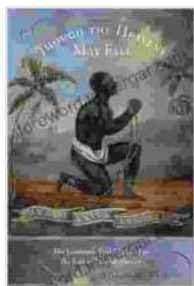


The Landmark Trial That Led to the End of Human Slavery

The Zong Massacre

In 1781, the slave ship Zong set sail from Africa with a cargo of 442 enslaved Africans. During the voyage, the ship's captain, Luke Collingwood, Free Downloaded the crew to throw 132 of the slaves overboard in Free Download to collect insurance money. The slaves were chained together and thrown alive into the sea.



Though the Heavens May Fall: The Landmark Trial That Led to the End of Human Slavery by Steven M. Wise

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2831 KB

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 312 pages



The Zong massacre was a horrific event that shocked the world. It led to a landmark trial in which the abolitionists argued that the slave trade was a crime against humanity. The trial lasted for two years and ended with the jury finding the defendants guilty of murder.

The Landmark Trial

The Zong trial was a major turning point in the fight against slavery. It was the first time that a British court had found that the slave trade was illegal. The trial also helped to raise awareness of the horrors of slavery and to galvanize the abolitionist movement.

The trial was presided over by Lord Mansfield, the Lord Chief Justice of England. Mansfield was a staunch supporter of slavery, but he was also a fair and impartial judge. He allowed the abolitionists to present their case, even though he did not agree with their arguments.

The abolitionists were led by Granville Sharp, a former slave trader who had become a vocal opponent of slavery. Sharp argued that the slave trade was a violation of natural law and that it should be abolished.

The defendants were represented by John Lee, a prominent lawyer who was known for his defense of the slave trade. Lee argued that the slave trade was legal and that the defendants were not guilty of murder.

The trial lasted for two years and was closely followed by the public. The jury eventually found the defendants guilty of murder, but they were only sentenced to one year in prison.

The Legacy of the Zong Trial

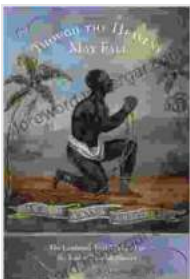
The Zong trial was a major victory for the abolitionist movement. It helped to raise awareness of the horrors of slavery and to galvanize the public against the slave trade. The trial also set a precedent for future legal challenges to slavery.

In 1807, the British Parliament passed the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, which made it illegal to trade in slaves. The Act was a major step towards the abolition of slavery, and it was largely due to the efforts of the abolitionists who had fought for justice in the Zong trial.

The Zong massacre and the trial that followed are a reminder of the horrors of slavery and the importance of fighting for justice. The legacy of the Zong trial continues to inspire activists today who are working to end human trafficking and other forms of modern slavery.

The Zong trial was a landmark event in the history of human rights. It helped to raise awareness of the horrors of slavery and to galvanize the abolitionist movement. The trial also set a precedent for future legal challenges to slavery, and it ultimately led to the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade.

The legacy of the Zong trial continues to inspire activists today who are working to end human trafficking and other forms of modern slavery. The trial is a reminder of the importance of fighting for justice and of the power of the law to change the world.



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