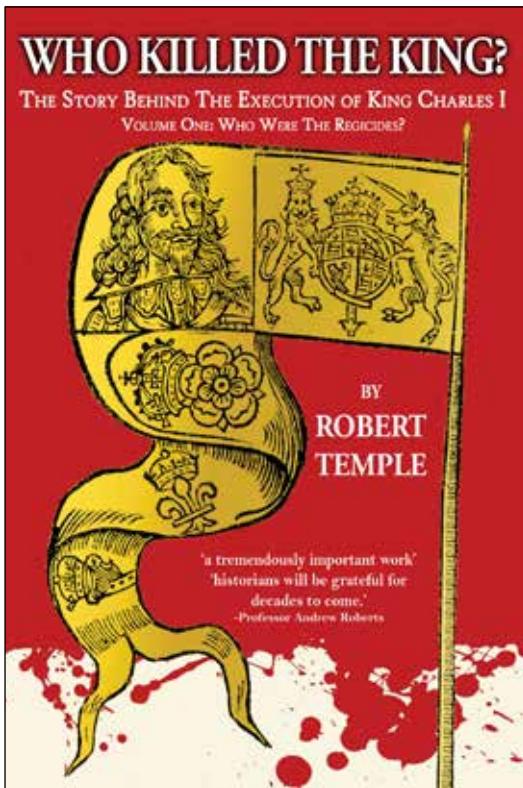


# Who Killed The King VOLUME ONE: Who Were The Regicides

by ROBERT TEMPLE

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## ROBERT TEMPLE

Robert Temple is known for his work in the history of science. As a colleague of Joseph Needham, he was author of *The Genius of China*, which summarizes 3000 years of scientific discoveries and technological inventions by the Chinese. It has recently been published in its sixth Chinese translation, was sponsored by UNESCO for international circulation, and has appeared in 43 languages. His most recent book on scientific subjects is *A New Science of Heaven* (Hodder & Stoughton, 2022), in which he traces the history of plasma physics from its first prediction by Aristotle to the discovery of plasma by Sir William Crookes and up to the present discoveries in astrophysics. His activities in 17th century English history have included several entries for the *Dictionary of National Biography* and other biographical dictionary entries, in addition to his discovery of the original officer list of the New Model Army written in the hand of Lord Fairfax himself. Professor Temple is Chairman of The Ancient Egypt Foundation, which has been subsidising the seven year project for the cleaning and restoration of the astronomical ceiling of the Temple of Khnum at Esna, south of Luxor on the Nile.

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Reactions to the unpublished early version of this work, expressed in letters to the author:

### The Law Lord, Lord Scarman:

'... the depth of research which is the foundation of your thesis is remarkable and is valuable. ... the work is well arranged and well written ... the research ... is extremely valuable ...'

### The historian, Lord Dacre (formerly Hugh Trevor-Roper):

'You are a lucid expositor and even more versatile than I had thought!'

Drawn largely from primary sources, more than 2000 of them discovered by the author in 53 separate archives, the true story behind the trial and execution of King Charles I emerges in greater detail than ever before. The central question is: who were the men who tried the King and signed his Death Warrant, who are known as the 'regicides'? For the first time it is possible to know who they really were, what were their backgrounds, their families, their early careers, their political and religious beliefs, and above all, their extensive relationships with one another. Eleven of them were barristers, one was a judge, some were colonels of army regiments, most were MPs. The majority of them could call one another 'cousin'.

In a sense, this was a family affair, an intensely traditional reaction against the tyranny of an upstart intruder, to show him they were not his subjects but his superiors. The previously unpublished private and public correspondence of these men reveals their deepest thoughts and feelings. A vast number of original documents have been transcribed and are published for the first time in full in the many appendices to the three volumes, of which this is Volume One. This work is one of the most detailed accounts of England in the seventeenth century which has ever been written, and it upsets many conventional notions of the period in question.

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