

Student Essay on Duncan's Murder from "Macbeth"

Duncan's Murder from "Macbeth" by William Shakespeare

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Duncan's Murder from "Macbeth"

Duncan the king of Scotland was murdered in the castle of Macbeth the thane of Galmis and Cawdor at midnight on 12th November 1556. The king was murdered on his bed with a dagger. Two grooms of king were also dead; covered with blood of Duncan on their face and with the dagger used to kill him.

Macduff being the first one to react said in horror that "murder hath broke ope the lord's antinone and stole thence the life of building". Soon after this there was lot of commotion in the castle and the alarm bell was rung. Everybody was informed about this incident. Macbeth was very upset and expressed his distress and great loss by saying that "the wine of life is drawn and the mere lees is left this vault to brag of". He also went to the extent of showing his love and affection towards the king by adding that "Had I but died an hour before this chance". On the other hand Malcolm and Donalbain the king's sons did not have much to say and remained silent.

Lady Macbeth fainted as Macbeth was giving the explanation of his repent of fury which had made him to kill the guards of the king. Banquo (nobleman) showed his determination of finding the killer by saying that "against the undivulged pretence I fight of treasonous malice". The people of Scotland were also shocked at Duncan's murder. The night Duncan was murdered was very wild. People heard lamenting painful ghostly cries. Many of the chimneys were blown down. Some people said that they could hear Screeching of owl.

Since Malcom and Donalbain both have escaped from the castle and left the country. So they are considered to be main suspects of Duncan's murder. While Macbeth was the next closest to king after his sons so he was made the king. Coronation of Macbeth is going to take place soon. The killer of king's mystery still unsolved.