

## The Bussa flag..... After the rebellion

This source below describes what happened a few years after the rebellion. It describes a flag that some slaves flew in honour of Bussa. There is no surviving flag, only this description.

### Task

Draw your own version of the Bussa flag using the description as your guide. You have to decide the layout, design , size and colour of the flag.

In 1819 Lord Combermere, governor of Barbados, reported that a 'medical person' visiting a female slave had seen a flag flying similar to those used by the leaders of the Bussa rebellion of 1816. He describes the flag as follows: 'This Flag having for its Motto, "Royal Sufferers", was supposed to refer to those who were executed during the late insurrection. Three bloody hands, three Keys and three Lions rampant, disposed in something like heraldic order, were interpreted to mean, Revenge, Secrecy and Courage. The Supporters were Justice, with her Scales unequally poised, and blindfolded on one side, and a Negress dressed as a Huntress on the other.' Investigation suggested that the flag was a memento of the earlier rebellion rather than an indication of current planning, but Combermere suggested that all slave houses should be searched.