Fletcher Christian

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Born	September 25, 1764 Brigham, Cumbria, England
Died	1793 (aged 28–29) Pitcairn Island
Cause of death	Shot
Occupation	Sailor
Title	Lieutenant
Spouse	Maimiti
Children	Thursday October Christian

Fletcher Christian (September 25, 1764 - 1793) was an English seaman on *HMS Bounty* when it sailed to Tahiti to collect breadfruit trees in 1787. He led a mutiny (take over) to stop Lieutenant William Bligh returning to England. (See Mutiny on the Bounty). He left Bligh and 18 seaman in a small boat, and went back to Tahiti in the *Bounty*. Christian and some of the other sailors then sailed to Pitcairn Island to live. Christian was later killed in a fight between the Tahitian men and the seamen.and he was the first ruler of the Pitcairn Islands.

Early life

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Christian was born in 1764 at the family home of *Moorland Close*, near Brigham, Cumbria.[1] He was one of 10 children of Charles Christian and Ann Dixon. He could trace his ancestry back to William the Conqueror. The name Christian is an English way of saying the Manx name "McCrystyn". Fletcher's mother came from Cumberland and he was named after his grandmother, Mary Fletcher. After his father died, Christian went to sea. He was 18 years old. He was a sailor on the ship 'Cambridge'. William Bligh was also on the ship. Christian later sailed on two trips with Bligh to Jamaica on the ship 'Britannia'.[1]

After the mutiny

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After the mutiny, Christian wanted to settle on the island of Tubuai. The sailors were scared of the natives who lived on the island. The sailors went back to Tahiti. Christian married Maimiti, the daughter of one of the chiefs on June 16, 1789.[2] He then left Tahiti with 8 of the mutineers, 13 Tahitian women and six men. They sailed to the remote Pitcairn Island.[3] Sixteen

sailors from the Bounty stayed at Tahiti. At Pitcairn they took everything they could from the Bounty. After that Matthew Quintal set it on fire. The sexual imbalance (more men than women) and the [slavery](#) of the Tahitian men by the mutineers led to fighting and the deaths of most of the men. Fletcher Christian was killed in the fighting. He had a son with Maimiti, Thursday October Christian and two additional children.

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- [Mutiny on the Bounty](#)
- [Pitcairn Island](#)

References

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1. ↑ [1.0](#) [1.1](#) ["Fletcher Christian"](#). *Mutiny on the Bounty.* Archived from [the original](#) (html) on 2005-11-23. Retrieved 2008-07-25.
2. ↑ ["Person Page"](#). *www.thepeerage.com*.
3. ↑ ["History of Govt & Law"](#). *library.puc.edu*.

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