Record Nr. UNINA9910782336003321 Autore Graham Michael F Titolo The blasphemies of Thomas Aikenhead [[electronic resource]]: boundaries of belief on the eve of the enlightenment / / Michael F. Graham Edinburgh,: Edinburgh University Press, c2008 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-7486-5345-7 1-281-94776-8 9786611947767 0-7486-3427-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (193 p.) Classificazione NN 4040 Disciplina 345.4110288 941.1068 Soggetti Blasphemy - Scotland - History - 17th century Enlightenment - Scotland Hanging - Scotland - History - 17th century Scotland Intellectual life 17th century Scotland Civilization 17th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Contents: Abbreviations: A Note on the Text: Acknowledgements: Introduction; Edinburgh and Scotland in the 1690's; The Politics of Blasphemy; 'So unnaturall a seasone': The Dreadful Year 1696; The Making of a Blasphemer; Trial and Execution; The Aftermath: Public Opinion in Scotland and England; Conclusion; Bibliography of Works Cited: Index Sommario/riassunto This is the first modern book-length study of the case of Thomas Aikenhead, the sometime University of Edinburgh student who in 1697 earned the unfortunate distinction of being the last person executed for blasphemy in Britain. Taking a micro-historical approach, Michael

> Graham uses the Aikenhead case to open a window into the world of Edinburgh, Scotland and Britain in its transition from the confessional era of the Reformation and the covenants, which placed high emphasis

on the defence of orthodox belief, to the polite, literary world of the Enlightenment, of which Edinburgh would become a