

There were **Mackenzies** on both the Government and the Jacobite sides during the events of 1745–6. The clan chief, Kenneth, Lord Fortrose remained loyal to the government, though his father William had supported the Jacobites in 1715. Following his lead, many Mackenzies joined the new Independent Highland Companies raised against the Jacobites. A number of Mackenzies were captured by the Dornoch Firth, when they were surprised by a Jacobite attack from the sea in the spring of 1746. Fortrose's wife, however, upheld the Jacobite traditions of the clan and brought out some Mackenzie men on the side of the Prince. Many of those from the Ross and Cromarty area joined George Mackenzie, 3rd Earl of Cromartie in his Jacobite regiment. They took part in the battle of Falkirk and played a key role in harrying government troops in the north-east before they were captured the day before Culloden near Golspie. Others fought with the Camerons, the MacDonells of Glengarry and Clan Chattan.

On the day of the battle the Mackenzies fought alongside the Camerons; Clan Chattan; Glen Garry

The Mackenzies who fought at Culloden took part in the fatal charge. Some were involved in the fierce hand-to-hand fighting with the regiments on the left of the government front line.

In the months after Culloden when Prince Charles was on the run, young Roderick Mackenzie was mistaken for the prince by government troops; the resemblance was apparently striking. Seeing a chance to save the prince, Mackenzie allowed himself to be taken and beheaded in his place. His bravery is commemorated by a monument in Glenmoriston. Many of the Jacobite Mackenzies captured near Golspie were transported to the West Indies. The Earl of Cromartie was first imprisoned and then banished and his estates were forfeited to the Crown. He was pardoned in 1749 on the condition that he lived where he was directed; he stayed in southern England for the rest of his life. Immediately after Culloden, Lord Fortrose rallied Mackenzie men to patrol the northern passes and capture any fleeing Jacobites – though few seem to have come that way.

Of all the Mackenzies involved in the rising, the names of 124 individuals who fought with the Jacobites are recorded in the book 'No Quarter Given'.

The Prisoners of the '45 records 110 individuals who were taken prisoners during the rising of 1745. It notes one Hector M'Kenzie who hailed from Lochbroom who was a forester to Lord Cromarty. "He claimed duress and made frequent efforts to escape. He was tried in London and sentenced to death. By the intercession of Rev. James Robertson from Lochbroom he was pardoned and released on condition of leaving the country permanently and 'transporting himself to America'. It also notes on Simon M'Kenzie who came from Inverness who pleaded guilty at his trial at York on the 2nd of October and was sentenced to death.

Historically the Kintail mountain range was the Mackenzie homeland, which is still owned and maintained by the National Trust for Scotland.