

#### The Puritan threat:

**Puritan**- Extreme Protestants who were unwilling to accept any other way of practicing their faith (e.g not sharing religious lands with Catholics)

**Presbyterians**- A small group of Puritans who refused to accept the Religious Settlement of 1559. They criticised the Queen and some wanted to remove her.

**Prophesyings**- Meetings held to discuss the bible, pray and criticise the Queen.

**Separatist Church**- New church set up to oppose the middle-way church. They aimed to make England Puritan.

# *R* The Orme Elizabethan England- Y11 *R* The Orme Academy

Elizabeth used the **Great Chain of Being** to control the population of the country, mainly due to the rising population and new group in society, the gentry. The three main groups were:

**Nobility**- A group just below the Queen with titles such as a Duke. They owned most of the land, 14% of the countries wealth and could avoid sever punishments for crime.

**Gentry**- A new group growing in society, made up of merchants who gained from new trades. Some were wealthier than the nobility which led to them having more influence in political issues.

**Peasants**- This group did most of the hard labour (farming etc), but many fell into extreme poverty. Queen expected the nobles to provide support for the poor, like God looked after all his subjects.

#### Theatre and cultural improvements:

- England began to see a growth of the arts in Tudor times, and Elizabeth encouraged this through her patronage (gifts and money) of the theatre, music and art.

Robert Dudley was the Patron of theatre and funded the Lord Chamberlain's theatre group which acted out Shakespeare's plays.
Purpose-built theatres (The Globe Theatre) were encouraged and had varied seating with prices accessible for people from all

groups of society (rich to poor).

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## **1601: Elizabeth goes**

## national!!!!

### 1601 Poor Law:

- The wealthy were to be taxed to pay for the care of the sick and vulnerable. Many would pay for almshouses.
- Those who do not pay could be sent to jail.
- Fit and healthy paupers should be given work.
- Begging became a crime and beggars would be sent to HoC.
- Identified the different types of poor. The idle poor who refused to work would be sent to the House of Correction.
- Different types of poor= helpless, idle and able-bodied.

TO HELP THE POOR ELIZABÉTH IN 1576 INTRODUCED: "SETTING THE POOR ON WORK." LOCAL COUNCILS WOULD NOW HAVE TO HELP THE POOR

#### Poverty

Social causes of poverty:

- 1. Henry VIII closed all of the monasteries in England. Monks and nuns were now jobless. The shelter and care given to the homeless from the monasteries was now taken away from them.
- 2. In the 1556 outbreak of flu, 200,000 workers died, including food workers.

Economic (countries money) causes of poverty:

- 1. Henry VIII used fake money to pay for a war in France- led to inflation in England.
- 2. A new system of farming occurred; landlords moved from growing crops to sheep farming. This meant fewer workers were needed and left many jobless.

### Too many poor people led to them being categorised in to two groups:

### The Deserving poor The undeserving poor

- Able-bodied paupers struggled to find work but were recognised as trying to find work. I.E going into businesses and farms asking for jobs.
- Wealthier people wanted to help this group, and many provided charity to those who tried to help themselves.
- Archbishop Whitgift established almshouses in South London. These were buildings to provide accommodation and food for those in need.
- These were untrustworthy beggars who had no interest in hard work. They were too lazy to change their ways and go to work.
- In 1567, Thomas Harman published a book that drew attention to some of the tricks and scams used by these men and women.
- The book was popular and hardened people's view of the poor. Many wealthy people questioned the honesty of beggars and didn't want to support.
- The undeserving poor were labelled as criminals who should be severely punished.

York- Many beggars were expected to work in weaving and spinning cloth to help this industry grow. Those who refused were sent to a House of Correction, similar to a prison where they were forced to work, or they were sent back to where they were from. Ipswich- Set up youth training schemes to help them learn a trade that would lift them out of poverty. They, like York, also had a House of Correction.

**Norwich- Separated** their poor in to **idle** poor and **unfortunate** poor. The idle poor were given work such as knitting or sewing whilst the unfortunate poor were given food and other forms of care. They **taxed the rich** to pay for the care of the vulnerable.