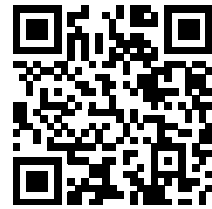


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Puritan Influence in Stuart England



During the Stuart period, the _____ played a significant role in English society and politics. The Puritans were a group of religious reformers who sought to _____ the Church of England from its Catholic practices. They believed in a simpler form of worship and a more personal relationship with _____. Their strict moral code and emphasis on education influenced many, particularly in the middle classes. Under the reign of _____ I, who ascended the throne in 1603, tensions between the Puritans and the established church began to surface. _____ was suspicious of their intentions and feared their challenge to his authority as both king and spiritual _____. The Puritans, meanwhile, found his overbearing style and his defense of the _____ system frustrating.

When Charles I became king in 1625, the situation worsened. Charles's wife, _____ Maria, was a Catholic, which made the Puritans even more wary of the crown's religious _____. Their discontent was further fueled by Charles's handling of economic and foreign policies, which they saw as detrimental to the _____.

The culmination of these tensions was the English Civil War, which began in 1642. The Puritans sided largely with the Parliamentary _____ against the king. Their influence grew significantly when Oliver Cromwell, a Puritan member of Parliament, took command of the rebel _____. Cromwell's leadership led to the eventual defeat of the Royalists and the execution of Charles I in 1649.

Under Cromwell's _____, the Puritans had a profound impact on English governance and social norms. They promoted education, censored _____ and other forms of entertainment they deemed immoral, and made significant changes to legal and social _____. However, their rule was often seen as overly strict and dictatorial.

After the restoration of the _____ in 1660, many Puritan reforms were reversed, but their influence on English society persisted. The Puritans had sown the _____ for a more democratic society in England, paving the way for future reforms.

James forces seeds Puritans Episcopal country Henrietta leader God
theater structures purify monarchy policies Commonwealth James forces