“Everything in the state, nothing outside the state, nothing against the state!”

Mussolini = he and his party were the state

Fascism Rises in Europe

WEIMAR GERMANY

1. A German democratic state was established after WW I called the Weimar Republic
2. Key political leaders in the 1920’s - Friedrich Ebert, Gustav Stresemann
3. Hated by the left and the right
4. Economic problems - inflation and unemployment
5. After the Great Depression - fear, discontent, and extremist parties

Hitler Rises to Power in Germany

“When Mussolini became dictator of Italy in the mid-1920s, **Adolf Hitler** was a little-known political leader whose early life had been marked by disappointment. When World War I broke out, Hitler found a new beginning. He volunteered for the German army and was twice awarded the Iron Cross, a medal for bravery.” (p. 911)

The Rise of the Nazis

- Hitler settled in Munich at the end of World War I. He was appointed “police-spy” to investigate a small political party known as the “German Workers Party.”
- Hitler was impressed by the views of this party’s leader and joined the group.
- The group later changed its name to the **National Socialist German Workers Party**, Nazi for short. The policies of this party formed the brand of fascism called **Nazism**.
Symbols of Nazism

- The Nazi party chose the swastika as its symbol.
- The swastika has been used for thousands of years as a symbol of power.

The SA or “Brownshirts”

- The Nazis set up a private militia called the Sturmabteilung meaning “storm detachment” or “storm troopers.” They were also called “Brownshirts” because of the brown uniform they wore. The SA was mostly made up of working class Nazis. They were prone to street violence.

Beer Hall Putsch

- Within a short time Hitler was chosen as the Führer (the leader).
- Hitler followed Mussolini’s example of the March on Rome and plotted to seize power in Munich on November 8, 1923.
- Hitler wanted to use Munich as a base to overthrow the government in Berlin. This was called the Beer Hall Putsch.
- The attempted coup failed and Hitler was tried for treason and sentenced to five years in prison. He only served nine months of that sentence.

Mein Kampf (My Struggle)

- Written during the nine months Hitler served in prison.
- The book set forth his beliefs and goals for Germany.
- He asserted Germans were a “master race.”
- He expressed his outrage over the Versailles Treaty.
- He declared Germany’s need for “lebensraum” or “living space.”

POST WWI GERMANY

- WEIMAR REPUBLIC
  - 1919-1933
  - DEMOCRATIC – President, Chancellor, Bi-Cameral Legislature
  - Signed the Treaty of Versailles
  - Mass unemployment, loss of resources Alsace-Lorraine, Saar Valley, high reparations, loss of savings middle class, hyper inflation, printed money
- 1929 WORLD DEPRESSION
**POST WWI GERMANY**

- **WEIMAR REPUBLIC**
  - Lost 13% of territory
  - 6 million people
  - 65% of iron ore reserves, 45% coal
  - 10% of factories
  - All colonies
  - Reparations 38% of national wealth

- **Locarno Pact** (1925) – demilitarized Rhineland
- **Kellogg-Briand Pact** (1928) – 65 nations outlawed war as an instrument of foreign policy
- **Dawes Plan** – US $$$ to Germany
- **Young Plan** – further reduced reparations
- **A false sense of Peace?**

**RISE OF NAZISM**

- **ECONOMIC DISTRESS** – Hyper Inflation 1921-24 (1923 7,000 marks = $1 US – 1924 4,000,000,000,000 = $1 US) 1932 6 million out of work
- **FEAR OF COMMUNISM** = 15% of total vote election of 1930 – Industrialists supported Nazism - $, military equipment, and jobs

- **NATIONALISM** – students, war veterans, army officers, denounce “war-guilt” clause, demanded the return of Germany’s colonies, right to rearm, perpetuate “stabbed in the back” theory, blamed Communists and Jews, not defeated but cheated by Allies
- **Friedrich Nietzsche** – Übermensch – distorted by Nazi paty
- **“master race”, Social Darwinian “pure Aryan” race**
Adolf Hitler (1889-1945)

- Born in Austria
- Poor student who drops out at 14
- Goes to Vienna, attempts to become an artist, rejected by art school
- In Vienna, he establishes his world view and philosophy: Extremist nationalism, Anti-Semitism. The will to power/need to dominate – the music of Wagner
- Moves to Munich; the war starts, and he joins the German army – salvation for Hitler
- Serves at the rank of corporal; awarded the “Iron Cross”
- The end of the war is shattering for Hitler; meaningless and betrayal
- In 1919 after the war, Hitler enters politics and joins the German Workers’ Party
- By 1921 he takes control and renames the party the National Socialist German Workers’ Party = Nazi

The End of the War is Shattering for Hitler

1889-1945

- Born in Austria
- Artist?
- Volunteered for the German Army – “dispatch runner”
- Karl Lueger (1844-1919) Mayor of Vienna

RISE OF NAZISM

- National Socialist German Workers Party (1919-1945)
- Anti-parliamentary, democratic, capitalistic, communistic
- Anti-Semitic, Pan-Germanism
- Extreme Nationalism, Militarism, Racism
- Use of Violence
- Charismatic Leader

Life, Sun, Power, Strength, Good Luck

WEAKNESSES OF THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC – weak president, many political parties

LACK OF DEMOCRATIC TRADITION – history of autocracy, Democracy = economic failure, Nazi promises of economic stability, nationalist glory

LEADERSHIP OF HITLER – orator, mass politics, propaganda, violence, suppressed opposition, organizational ability

APPEAL OF NAZISM

- Redistribute income and war profits
- Profit sharing in large industry
- Increase in old age pensions
- Free education
- “RIGHT THE WRONG OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES”
CHARACTERISTICS

- State over the individual
- One-political party
- Cult of personality
- Propaganda over truth
- Mass media to lie and kill
- Secret Police / censorship

HITLER’S RISE

- Uprising against the Weimar Republic – Communist (Spartacist)-1919, Kapp Putsch (right-wing coup) –1920
- Freikorps – “Free Corps” – former senior officers of the Army – paramilitary group organized to fight the Red Army
- Munich Beer Hall Putsch 1923

HITLER’S RISE

- Munich Beer Hall Putsch Nov. 8/9 (1923)
- Munich, Bavaria – take over Munich and then Berlin and declare himself Dictator
- 3,000 men with the assistance of General Ludendorff
- 16 Nazi’s and 3 police officers died
- Hitler – trial – 5 years treason

HITLER’S RISE

- The Great Depression (1929)
- 40% unemployment
- Industrial Production 1929-1932 fell by ½
- Hitler – simple answers – complex problems
- “national rebirth”
- “crimes” of the Treaty of Versailles

Fuhrerprinzip = the leadership principle = Hitler as the Führer = leader
**Election 1932**

- President – Paul von Hindenburg
  - 19,360,000
- Hitler – 13,400,000
- Reichstag – Nazi Party
  - 230 seats, 38%

**Hitler’s Rise**

- Hindenburg names Hitler Chancellor
  - Jan. 1933
- Feb. 1933 Reichstag fire
  - Article 48 – suspension of civil liberties in time of national crisis
- March 1933 - The Enabling Act – ruled by decree

**The Nazi Consolation of Power**

- The Enabling Act - March 1933 = Reichstag passes legislation suspending the constitution and giving Hitler dictatorial power
  1. Nazis move to take control of all social institutions
  2. Becomes a one-party state
  3. Strike were outlawed and trade unions dissolved - replaced with the Nazi Labour Front
  4. Universities and publishing houses brought under Nazi control

**The Nazi Rise to Power**

- The burning of the Reichstag = blamed on the communists/Hitler convinces Hindenburg to sign a decree giving the government emergency powers - basic rights of citizens are suspended - Nazis can arrest and imprison whoever they want
  - Elections of March 1933 - Nazis win 44%

**The Night of the Long Knives**

- Army remains independent - Hitler agrees to eliminate the threat from his own personal army the SA - in return the German army will support him as sole ruler of Germany
  - The Night of the Long Knives = Hitler murders Ernst Rohm and the leaders of the SA
  - August 1934 a national election approves Hitler as Fuhrer with 85% of the vote
August 1934 Hindenburg dies (age 87)
Office of President and Chancellor combined
Der Fuhrer – “leader”
Third Reich – “empire”, “nation”
“One people, one Reich, one leader”

The Third Reich (1933-1945)
Gestapo – Secret Police Heinrich Himmler
Propaganda – Joseph Goebbels
BIG LIE TECHNIQUE
“Nuremberg laws”
Holocaust – Genocide 6 million Jews
Public Works, Economy – Full employment - TOTAL WAR
“THE ENIGMA OF HITLER” – Dali (1939)

“THE FACE OF WAR” – Dali (1940)
Hitler Becomes Chancellor

- The Nazis were the largest political party in Germany by 1932.
- Conservative leaders advised President Paul von Hindenburg to name Hitler chancellor thinking they could control him.
- Hindenburg appointed Hitler chancellor in January 1933.

Reichstag Fire

- Hitler immediately called for new elections hoping to win a parliamentary majority.
- Fire destroyed the Reichstag (parliament) building six days before the election.
- The Nazis blamed the Communists for this fire.
- The Nazis won a majority of votes in the Reichstag and were able to pass significant legislation increasing Hitler’s power.
The Reichstag Fire Decree
- The **Reichstag Fire Decree** abolished civil rights protections. The text reads:
  - § 1. Articles 114, 115, 117, 118, 123, 124 and 153 of the Constitution of the German Reich are suspended until further notice. It is therefore permissible to restrict the rights of personal freedom (habeas corpus), freedom of opinion, including the freedom of the press, the freedom to organize and assemble, the privacy of postal, telegraphic and telephonic communications, and warrants for house searches, orders for confiscations as well as restrictions on property, are also permissible beyond the legal limits otherwise prescribed.

Enabling Act of 1933
- This act gave the Office of the Chancellor **plenary powers** (powers he could exercise without the review of the legislative branch).
- The law gave the Chancellor’s cabinet the power to enact their own laws apart from the Reichstag. Therefore, Hitler came to this absolute power in a “legal” manner.

Hitler’s Totalitarian State
- Hitler banned other political parties.
- Hitler created the SS (**Schutzstaffel**, or protection squad). The SS arrested and murdered hundreds of Hitler’s enemies.
- The Gestapo was established as the Nazi’s secret police.
- Strikes were made illegal.
- Millions of people were put to work building up the military.

The Führer Is Supreme
- Hitler used the press, radio, literature, painting, and film as his propaganda tools.
- Churches were forbidden to criticize the Nazis or the government.
  - Ministers were required to sign an oath of allegiance. This was opposed in Germany by Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the “confessing church.”
- The Boy Scouts was abolished in Germany. School children had to join Nazi organizations like the Hitler Youth.

Hitler Makes War on the Jews
- Hatred of Jews, anti-Semitism, was a key part of Nazi ideology.
- Jews were used as scapegoats for all Germany’s troubles since the end of the war.
- Nazis passed the Nuremberg Laws depriving Jews of most of their rights.
- Violence against Jews grew. On November 9, 1938 mobs attacked thousands of Jewish owned buildings and businesses. This was called **Kristallnacht** (Night of Broken Glass).

Nuremberg Laws
- Prohibited marriages between Jews and German citizens.
- Prohibited sexual relations between Jews and German citizens.
- Jews were not permitted to hire German females as domestic servants under the age of 45.
- Jews were forbidden to display the national flag or national colors, but could display the Jewish colors identifying them as Jews.
- Punishment for violating these laws includes hard labor or imprisonment.
Other Countries Fall to Dictators

- Poland: Marshal Jozef Pilsudski—seized power in 1926.
- Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, and Romania—kings turn to strong man rule.
- Argentina: Juan Peron is a fascist “strong man”

Nazism in the United States

- German-American Bund, (earlier called the Friends of New Germany) headed by the “American Führer” Fritz Julius Kuhn.
- Kuhn was appointed because Hitler wanted an American citizen fronting the organization to make it look like there were Americans truly supportive of Nazi Germany.
- Kuhn was eventually convicted of embezzlement from his own organization when the Mayor La Guardia of New York ordered an investigation into the organization.
- Kuhn was arrested during World War II as an enemy agent and held in a detainment camp in Texas. He was later deported to Germany and died in Munich in 1951.

Aggressors Invade Nations

Chapter 31, Section 4

Introduction

- By the mid-1930s, Germany and Italy seemed bent on military conquest. The major democracies—Britain, France, and the United States—were distracted by economic problems at home and longed to remain at peace. With the world moving toward war, many nations pinned their hopes for peace on the League of Nations. As fascism spread in Europe, however, a powerful nation in Asia moved toward a similar system. Following a period of reform and progress in the 1920s, Japan fell under military rule.

Japan Seeks an Empire

- During the 1920s, the Japanese government became more democratic.
- In 1922, Japan signed an international treaty agreeing to respect China’s borders.
- In 1928, it signed the Kellogg-Briand Pact renouncing war.
- Japan’s parliamentary system had several weaknesses.
  - strict limits on the powers of the prime minister and the cabinet
  - civilian leaders had little control over the armed forces
  - Military leaders reported only to the emperor.

Militarists Take Control of Japan

- During prosperity the civilian government kept power.
- Great Depression struck in 1929, many Japanese blamed the government.
- Military leaders gained support control of the country.
- Militarists wanted to restore traditional control of the government to the military.
- Militarists made the emperor the symbol of state power.
Militarists Take Control of Japan

- Emperor Hirohito as head of state won popular support for the army leaders who ruled in his name.
- Japan’s militarists were extreme nationalists. They wanted to solve the country’s economic problems through foreign expansion.
- Pacific empire included a conquered China to get raw materials, markets and room for expansion.

Japan Invades Manchuria

- Japanese businesses had invested heavily in Manchuria.
  - rich in iron and coal
- 1931—the Japanese army seized Manchuria, despite objections from the Japanese parliament. The army then set up a puppet government.
- Japanese engineers and technicians began arriving in large numbers to build mines and factories.

Japan Invades Manchuria 2

- Attack on Manchuria was the first direct challenge to the League of Nations.
- League's members included all major democracies except the United States.
- The League included the three countries that posed the greatest threat to peace—Germany, Japan, and Italy.
- Many League members vigorously protested. Japan withdrew from the League in 1933.

Japan Invades China

- Four years later, a border incident touched off a full-scale war between Japan and China.
- Japanese forces swept into northern China.
- China’s army led by Jiang Jieshi was no match for the better equipped and trained Japanese.

Japan Invades China 2

- Beijing and other northern cities as well as the capital, Nanjing, fell to the Japanese in 1937.
- Japanese troops killed tens of thousands of captured soldiers and civilians in Nanjing.
- Forced to retreat westward, Jiang Jieshi set up a new capital at Chongqing.
- Chinese guerrillas led by China’s Communist leader, Mao Zedong, continued to fight the Japanese in the conquered area.

European Aggressors on the March

- The League’s failure to stop the Japanese encouraged European Fascists to plan aggression of their own. The Italian leader Mussolini dreamed of building a colonial empire in Africa like those of Britain and France.
Mussolini Attacks Ethiopia

- Ethiopia was one of Africa’s three independent nations.
- Mussolini attacked Ethiopia in revenge for a failed attempt of Italy to set up a colony in the 1890s.
- The Ethiopian emperor, Haile Selassie, urgently appealed to the League for help.
- The League condemned the attack, but did nothing.
- Britain controlled the Suez canal, but let Italy through with ships and supplies in order to keep the peace.

Hitler Defies Versailles Treaty

- Hitler had long pledged to undo the Versailles Treaty.
- The treaty limited the size of Germany’s army.
- In March 1935, Hitler announced that Germany would not obey these restrictions. The League issued only a mild condemnation.

Hitler Defies Versailles Treaty 2

- Hitler then re-militarized the Rhineland which was forbidden by the Versailles Treaty as a buffer between France and Germany. It was also an important industrial area.
- Stunned, the French were unwilling to risk war.
- The British urged appeasement, giving in to an aggressor to keep peace.

Hitler Defies Versailles Treaty 3

- The German reoccupation of the Rhineland marked a turning point in the march toward war.
  - First, it strengthened Hitler’s power and prestige within Germany.
  - Second, the balance of power changed in Germany’s favor. France and Belgium were now open to attack from German troops.
  - Finally, the weak response by France and Britain encouraged Hitler to speed up his expansion.

Hitler Defies Versailles Treaty 4

- Hitler’s growing strength convinced Mussolini that he should seek an alliance with Germany. In October 1936, the two dictators reached an agreement that became known as the Rome-Berlin Axis. A month later, Germany also made an agreement with Japan. Germany, Italy, and Japan came to be called the Axis Powers.

Civil War Erupts in Spain

- Hitler and Mussolini again tested the will of the democracies of Europe in the Spanish Civil War. Spain had been a monarchy until 1931, when a republic was declared. The government, run by liberals and Socialists, held office amid many crises. In July 1936, army leaders, favoring a Fascist-style government, joined General Francisco Franco in a revolt. This began a civil war that dragged on for three years.
Civil War Erupts in Spain

- Hitler and Mussolini sent troops, tanks, and airplanes to help Franco's forces, which were called the Nationalists. The armed forces of the Republicans, as supporters of Spain's elected government were known, received little help from abroad. The Western democracies remained neutral. Only the Soviet Union sent equipment and advisers. An international brigade of volunteers fought on the Republican side. Early in 1939, Republican resistance collapsed. Franco became Spain's Fascist dictator.

Democratic Nations Try to Preserve Peace

- Instead of taking a stand against Fascist aggression in the 1930s, Britain and France repeatedly made concessions, hoping to keep peace. Both nations were dealing with serious economic problems as a result of the Great Depression. In addition, the horrors of World War I had created a deep desire to avoid war.

United States Follows an Isolationist Policy

- Many Americans supported *isolationism*, the belief that political ties to other countries should be avoided. Isolationists argued that entry into World War I had been a costly error. Beginning in 1935, Congress passed three Neutrality Acts. These laws banned loans and the sale of arms to nations at war.

The German Reich Expands

- On November 5, 1937, Hitler announced to his advisers his plans to absorb Austria and Czechoslovakia into the Third Reich (ryk), or German Empire. The Treaty of Versailles prohibited Anschluss (AHN•SHLUS), or a union between Austria and Germany. However, many Austrians supported unity with Germany. In March 1938, Hitler sent his army into Austria and annexed it. France and Britain ignored their pledge to protect Austrian independence.

The German Reich Expands

- Hitler next turned to Czechoslovakia. About three million German-speaking people lived in the western border regions of Czechoslovakia called the Sudetenland. (See map, page 895.) This heavily fortified area formed the Czechs’ main defense against Germany. The Anschluss raised pro-Nazi feelings among Sudeten Germans. In September 1938, Hitler demanded that the Sudetenland be given to Germany. The Czechs refused and asked France for help.

Britain and France Again Choose Appeasement

- France and Britain were preparing for war when Mussolini proposed a meeting of Germany, France, Britain, and Italy in Munich, Germany. The Munich Conference was held on September 29, 1938. The Czechs were not invited. British prime minister Neville Chamberlain believed that he could preserve peace by giving in to Hitler’s demand. Britain and France agreed that Hitler could take the Sudetenland. In exchange, Hitler pledged to respect Czechoslovakia’s new borders.
When Chamberlain returned to London, he told cheering crowds, “I believe it is peace for our time.” Winston Churchill, then a member of the British Parliament, strongly disagreed. He opposed the appeasement policy and gloomily warned of its consequences:

“...we have sustained a defeat without a war. ... And do not suppose that this is the end. ... This is only the first sip, the first foretaste of a bitter cup which will be proffered to us year by year unless, by a supreme recovery of moral health and martial vigor, we arise again and take our stand for freedom as in the olden time.”

WINSTON CHURCHILL, speech before the House of Commons, October 5, 1938

Less than six months after the Munich meeting, Hitler took Czechoslovakia. Soon after, Mussolini seized Albania. Then Hitler demanded that Poland return the former German port of Danzig. The Poles refused and turned to Britain and France for aid. But appeasement had convinced Hitler that neither nation would risk war.

Britain and France asked the Soviet Union to join them in stopping Hitler’s aggression. As Stalin talked with Britain and France, he also bargained with Hitler. The two dictators reached an agreement. Once bitter enemies, Fascist Germany and Communist Russia now publicly pledged never to attack one another. On August 23, 1939, their leaders signed a nonaggression pact. As the Axis Powers moved unchecked at the end of the decade, war appeared inevitable.