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CREATING A CLIMATE FOR GREAT LEARNING, SUCCESS AND OPPORTUNITY

# Year 10 - History Semester 1B 2023-2024





## Subject: History

Topic: Germany

Year 10 Semester 1 W12

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CREATING A CLIMATE FO SUCCESS AND O	OR GREAT LEARNIN PPORTUNITY
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ion	Fuhrer Means leader in German, name given to Hitler when he took control of Germany	
Nord volut	Enabling Act	A law which allowed Hitler to take control, banning individual freedoms and political opponents
Rev	Reichstag	The German parliament building

#### Fire to Enabling Act Consolidation:

27 February 1933- the Reichstag building, which was home to the German Parliament, was burned down. The communists were blamed for the fire because a Dutch communist, called Van der Lubbe, was found in the building as it burned.

Hitler expelled the communists from Parliament and imprisoned many communist leaders. This stopped them campaigning prior to the March elections. This encouraged many to vote for the Nazis. who were seen as anti-communist.

Hindenburg declared a state of emergency using Article 48 of the Weimar Constitution. This resulted in newspapers being censored and personal letters and phone calls being checked. This is seen as the start of the end of democracy in Germany.

Both these actions helped the Nazis to win more seats in the election of 5 March 1933, increasing their share of the vote from 33 per cent to 44 per cent. This gave the Nazis and their allies, the German National People's Party (who won 8 per cent of the vote), a majority of 52 per cent in the Reichstag.

23rd March- Hitler passed the Enabling Act- allowing him to take control of the Reichstag and pass laws without their permission, he removed all opposition and trade Unions.

Once Hindenburg died Hitler was able to declare himself Fuhrer without opposition. Arguably this was the critical event during this period. It gave Hitler absolute power to make laws, which enabled him to destroy all opposition to his rule. This removed the Reichstag as a source of opposition.

14th July- all political parties were banned.

Nazi propaganda was controlled by Joseph Goebbels and had three mains themes:

The Führer cult. Hitler was always portrayed as Germany's saviour - the man who would rescue the country from the grip of depression.

Volksgemeinschaft (people's community). This was the idea that the Nazis would create one German community that would make religion or social class less relevant to people.

Scapegoating the Jews (and others). Jews were often portrayed as sub-human, or as a threat to both the racial purity and economic future of the country.

Goebbels' propaganda brought huge support for the Nazis by targeting specific groups of society with different slogans and policies to win their support.

- 1. What date did the Reichstag burn down?
- 2. Who was blamed?
- Questions 3. How did this help Hitler?
  - 4. What was the Enabling Act?
  - 5. Who was the head of Nazi propaganda?
  - 6. What three themes did propaganda have?

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lon	SA	Hitler's 'brownshirts', helped him get into power using force and violence
Nord oluti	Fuhrer	Means leader in German, name given to Hitler when he took control of Germany
Re	Concordat	An agreement made with the Catholic Church

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#### The work of the SA

The **SA** played a part in the Nazis' increasing popularity by: intimidating the Nazis' political opponents - especially the communists – by turning up at their meetings and attacking them providing opportunities for young, unemployed men to become involved in the party

protecting Hitler and other key Nazis when they organised meetings and made speeches. They were led by Ernst Rohm and numbered 400,000 at their height in 1932.

30th June 1934

#### Night of the Long Knives:

Many members of the SA, including its leader Ernst Röhm, were demanding that the Nazi party carry out its socialist agenda and that the SA take over the army.

Hitler could not afford to annoy businessmen or the army, so the SS (Hitler's personal body guards) murdered around 400 members of the SA, including Röhm, along with a number of Hitler's other opponents like the previous Chancellor, von Schleicher.

This destroyed all opposition to Hitler within the Nazi Party and gave power to the brutal SS. It also showed the rest of the world what a tvrant Hitler was.

This removed any internal Nazi Party opposition to Hitler. 19th August 1934 Hitler became Führer: when Hindenburg died, Hitler declared himself jointly president, chancellor and head of the army. Members of the armed forces had to swear a personal oath of allegiance not to Germany, but to Hitler.

Hitler also extended his power in other ways:

- **Local government** was reorganised with Nazi Party officials put in charge of each area of Germany.
- **Trade unions** were abolished and their leaders arrested.
- A Concordat (agreement) was signed with the Pope, which allowed Hitler to increase his power in Germany without opposition from the Catholic Church, as long as he left the Church alone.
- People's courts: Hitler set up the Nazi people's courts where judges had to swear an oath of loyalty to the Nazis.

By the autumn of 1934 Hitler was in complete control of Germany.

	1. Who were the SA?	
	2. Who was the leader of the SA?	
tions	3. Why was Hitler threatened by the SA in 1934?	
Ques	4. What happened on the Night of the Long Knives?	
	5. What happened on 19 <sup>th</sup> August 1934?	
	6. How did Hitler extend his power?	

Autarky Economic self-sufficiency		
Word	Rearmament	Building up your armed forces, banned by the Treaty of Versailles
	Autobahn	Large German motorways

#### **Employment and living standards in Nazi Germany**

Subject: History

The German people had suffered terribly during both the First World War and the **Depression** and a huge part of the Nazis' appeal was that they promised to make Germany's economy strong again. Hitler aimed for full employment and by 1939 there was virtually no official unemployment in Germany.

He also wanted to make Germany self-sufficient (a concept known as autarkv).

The policy of **autarky** would mean it would no longer be necessary for Germans to trade internationally.

In 1937 Hermann Göring was made Economics Minister with the job of making Germany self-sufficient in four years. The measures he introduced, such as tighter controls on imports and subsidies for farmers to produce more food, were not successful. By the outbreak of World War Two Germany was still importing 20 per cent of its food and 33 per cent of its raw materials.

#### How did Hitler increase employment?

He began a huge programme of public works, which included building hospitals, schools, and public buildings such as the 1936 Olympic Stadium.

The construction of the autobahns created work for 80,000 men. Rearmament was responsible for the bulk of economic growth between 1933 and 1938. Rearmament started almost as soon as Hitler came to power but was announced publicly in 1935. This created millions of jobs for German workers.

The introduction of the National Labour Service (NLS) meant all young men spent six months in the NLS and were conscripted into the army.

#### **Invisible employment**

Although Germany claimed to have full employment by 1939, many groups of people were not included in the statistics, including:

- The 1.4 million men in the army at this time.
- Jews who were sacked and their jobs given to non-Jews.
- Women who were encouraged to give up their jobs to men.

Despite the loss of freedom, life improved in Germany for many ordinary people who were prepared to conform in order to have a job and a wage.

Big business benefited and major industrial companies saw profits rise by up to 50%

- 1. How did Germany suffer economically after WW1?
- 2. What is autarky?

Questions

- 3. How quickly did Goring want to make Germany self sufficient?
- 4. Why was autarky a failure?
- 5. What was the NLS?
- 6. What is invisible employment?



_ io	Trade Unions	Organisations set up to support workers rights
Word	Agriculture	Farming
Strength through Joy Nazi scheme designed to give	Nazi scheme designed to give workers rewards to keep them loyal	

Questions

The Nazis set up three organisations that would manage German workers: the Nazis set up three organisations that would manage German workers:

- The Labour Front. This was a Nazi organisation that replaced Trades Unions, which were banned. It set wages and nearly always followed the wishes of employers, rather than employees.
- · Strength Through Joy. This scheme gave workers rewards for their work - evening classes, theatre trips, picnics, and even very cheap or free holidays. Hitler even helped to design a new car; the Volkswagen (People's Car) which workers were told they could earn through their hard work - no one was ever given one!
- Beauty of Labour. The job of this organisation was to help Germans see that work was good, and that everyone who could work should. It also encouraged factory owners to improve conditions for workers.

The living standards of German workers in the non-armaments industries did not really improve under the Nazis. From 1933 to 1939:

- wages fell
- the number of hours worked rose by 15 per cent
- serious accidents in factories increased
- workers could be blacklisted by employers for questioning their working conditions

Big businesses - Rearmament from 1935 onwards boosted profits of big weapons companies, and managers of the major industrial companies saw their incomes rise by 50 per cent between 1933 and 1939.

Small business - Rules on opening and running small businesses were tightened, which resulted in 20 per cent of them closing. Farmers - Having been one of the main sources of their electoral support during their rise to power, farmers benefitted under the Nazis. By 1937, agricultural prices had increased by 20 per cent and agricultural wages rose more quickly than those in industry. The Hereditary Farm Law of 1933 prevented farms from being repossessed from their owners, which gave farming families greater security.

- 1. Which 3 organisations managed German workers?
- 2. Give 2 examples of the rewards from Strength Through Joy
- 3. Give 2 ways living standards did not improve
- 4. How did big business benefit?
- 5. What % did agricultural prices rise?
- 6. Why did the Nazis ban trade unions?



d tion	Lebensborn	Nazi policy designed to increase the birth rate (Aryan children)
Nord /oluti	ss	Schutzstaffel was a major paramilitary organization under Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party (Blackshirts)
Re	Conscription	Being forced to go into the army

#### **Nazi Policies towards Women**

The Nazis had clear ideas of what they wanted from women. They were expected to stay at home, look after the family and produce children in order to secure the future of the Aryan race.

Hitler believed women's lives should revolve round the three 'Ks';

- Kinder (Children)
- Kuche (Kitchen)
- Kirche (Church)

Hitler wanted a high birth rate so that the Aryan population would grow. He tried to achieve this by:

- introducing the Law for the Encouragement of Marriage which gave newlywed couples a loan of 1,000 marks, and allowed them to keep 250 marks for each child they had
- giving an award called the Mother's Cross to women who had large numbers of children
- allowing women to volunteer to have a baby for an Aryan member of the SS

#### **Employment**

Measures were introduced which strongly discouraged women from working, including:

- the introduction of the Law for the Reduction of Unemployment, which gave women financial incentives to stay at home
- not conscripting women to help in the war effort until 1943 However, female labour was cheap and between 1933 and 1939 the number of women in employment actually rose by 2.4 million. As the German economy grew, women were needed in the workplace.

#### **Appearance**

Hitler disliked the trends and fashions for women from the Golden Age of the 1920s, particularly those which came from America/ Hollywood.

Women were expected to emulate traditional German peasant fashions - plain peasant costumes, hair in plaits or buns and flat shoes.

They were not expected to wear make-up or trousers, dye their hair or smoke in public.

They were discouraged from staying slim, because it was thought that thin women had trouble giving birth.

- 1. What is the policy of Lebensborn?
- 2. What are the 3'Ks?
- 3. How did the Nazis reward women for having babies?
- 4. How many marks did the law for the encouragement of marriage give?
- 5. By how much did female employment grow between 33-39?
- 6. What were women expected to look like?







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e O	Third Reich	The Nazi regime/ empire
/olut	Indoctrinate	the aim was to brainwash children so that they would grow up accepting Nazi ideas without question.
Re	Eugenics	Race studies- the belief that the Aryan race was genetically superior

#### Nazi aims and policies towards children

Young people were very important to Hitler and the Nazis. Hitler spoke of his **Third Reich** lasting for a thousand years and to achieve this he would have to ensure German children were thoroughly **indoctrinated** into Nazi ideology.

To this end, from the age of 10 boys and girls were encouraged to join the Nazis' youth organisation, the Hitler Youth (the girls' wing of which was called the League of German Maidens). Membership from age 10 was made compulsory in 1936 and by 1939 90 per cent of German boys aged 14 and over were members.

As well as influencing the beliefs of young Germans through the Hitler Youth, schools indoctrinated young people into the political and racial ideas of Nazism.

All teachers had to join the Nazi Teachers' Association, which vetted them for political and racial suitability.

The curriculum was altered to reflect Nazi ideology and priorities:

History - lessons included a course on the rise of the Nazi Party.

Biology - lessons were used to teach Nazi racial theories of evolution in eugenics.

Race study and ideology - this became a new subject, dealing with the Aryan ideas and anti-Semitism.

**Physical Education -** German school children had five one-hour sports lessons every week.

	The Hitler Youth	The League of German Maidens
	Its aim was to prepare German boys to be future soldiers	Its aim was to prepare German girls for future motherhood
2:	Boys wore military-style uniforms	Girls wore a uniform of blue skirt, white blouse and heavy marching shoes
	Activities centred on physical exercise and rifle practice, as well as political indoctrination	Girls undertook physical exercise, but activities mainly centred on developing domestic skills such as sewing and cooking

	1. Why were young people important to the Nazis?			
	2. How did Hitler intend of achieving a 1000 year Reich?			
STIOUS	3. When was membership to the Hitler Youth made compulsory?			
on o	4. What activities did Hitler youth boys do?			
	5. What activities did League of German Maidens do?			
	6. How did Nazi schools indoctrinate students?			







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Word Revolution	Catholic Church	The Christian Church led by the Pope
	Protestant Church	The branch of Christianity which separated from the Catholic Church during the Reformation
	Concordat	Agreement with the Pope; Hitler would not interfere in the running of the Catholic Church if they stayed out of political matters.

#### Nazi policies towards the Catholic and Protestant Churches

There were approximately 45 million **Protestants** and 22 million Catholic Christians in Germany in 1933. Hitler saw Christianity as a threat and a potential source of opposition to Nazism because it emphasised peace. The Nazis tried to control the Churches with policies and bargaining.

#### **Control of the Churches**

- A state Reich Church under the leadership of the Nazi Bishop Ludwig Müller was established to unify the different branches of Protestantism. This enabled the Nazis to use a group called the 'German Christians' to promote Nazi ideas.
- In 1933 Hitler agreed a Concordat with the Pope, which said that he would not interfere in the running of the Catholic Church if it stayed out of political matters.

### Nazi attempts to supress the Churches

- · The Reich Church attempted to ban the use of the Old Testament in religious services as it was considered a 'Jewish book'. Eight hundred Pastors of the Confessional Church, a non-conforming Protestant group, were arrested and sent to concentration camps.
- · Catholic schools and youth organisations were supressed, with German children being educated in state schools and taught a Nazi curriculum, as well as being expected to join the various branches of the Hitler Youth.
- Catholic newspapers were banned and four hundred Catholic priests were sent to Dachau concentration camp.

#### Impact of the Nazis actions

In 1937 Hitler was forced to return control of the Church to the old Protestant leadership, in return for a promise that the Church would stay out of politics.

Attendance at Catholic churches increased substantially under the Nazis, especially during World War Two, showing that Hitler's attempts to reduce the influence of religion in Germany was ultimately unsuccessful.

Both Protestant and Catholic clergy played a large role in opposing Hitler and the Nazis, for which they often paid a high price.

- 1. How many Christians lived in Germany?
- 2. Why did Hitler see the churches as a threat?
- 3. What was the Concordat?
- 4. How did the Nazis supress the church?
- 5. What happened when religious figures resisted?
- 5. What does the increase in churches show?

Questions

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lo	Police State	A totalitarian state controlled by a political police force that secretly supervises the citizens' activities.
Word Revoluti	Gestapo	Secret police force.
	Resistance	Fighting back against a government or rule.

#### Nazi propaganda and control

#### The Police State

By August 1934 Hitler was a dictator with absolute power. In order to maintain this power he needed organisations that could control the population to ensure absolute loyalty to the Führer.

After the demise of the SA on the Night of the Long Knives, there were three main interlinked organisations (in addition to the regular German police force) involved in controlling the German people through spying, intimidation and if necessary imprisonment.

Schutzstaffel (SS) - Led by Heinrich Himmler, the SS was the most important of these organisations and oversaw the others. Initially set up as Hitler's personal bodyguard service, the SS was fanatically loyal to the Führer. It later set up concentration camps where 'enemies of the state' were sent.

Gestapo - This was the Nazis' secret police force. Its job was to monitor the German population for signs of opposition or resistance to Nazi rule. It was greatly helped by ordinary German people informing on their fellow citizens.

Sicherheitsdienst (SD) - This was the intelligence gathering agency of the SS. It was responsible for the security of Hitler and other top Nazis and was led by Himmler's right hand man, Reinhard Heydrich.

#### Nazi control of the legal system

The Nazis quickly swept away many of the freedoms that Germans had enjoyed under the Weimar constitution. The party's control of the legal system made opposition to the regime very difficult indeed: Judges had to swear an oath of loyalty to Hitler and were expected to act always in the interests of the Nazi state.

All lawyers had to join the Nazi Lawyers' Association, which meant they could be controlled.

The role of defence lawyers in criminal trials was weakened. Standard punishment for crimes were abolished, the number of crimes that carried the death penalty increased from three to 46.

Questions	1. What 3 ways were German people controlled?		
	2. What 3 groups made up the police state?		
	3. Who led the SS?		
	4. Why was the gestapo important?		
	5. How were judges and lawyers controlled?		
	6. How many crimes carried the death penalty?		

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lon	Propaganda	Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view
Nord voluti	Swastika	The symbol of the Nazi party, often on view at rallies and in propaganda
\ Re\	Aryan race	Nazi ideology of pure Germans (blonde hair and blue eyes) being racially superior to others (Jews)

#### The Ministry of Propaganda

Hitler and the Nazi Party were a constant presence in the life of the German people, with:

- The infamous Swastika symbol appearing on every government uniform and public building.
- · Pictures of Hitler displayed everywhere.
- · Germans having to greet each other with a 'Heil Hitler' raised arm salute.

The government department responsible for all of this was the Ministry of Enlightenment and Propaganda, headed by Dr Joseph Goebbels. It aimed to brainwash people into obeying the Nazis and idolising Hitler.

Censorship of the press. All newspapers were controlled by the government and could only print stories favourable to the Nazi regime.

Control of radio broadcasts. Radios were sold very cheaply so that most Germans could afford one. All radio output was controlled by Goebbels' ministry through the Reich Broadcasting Corporation. Mass rallies. These public displays of support for Nazism involved music, speeches and demonstrations of German strength. The biggest one was held each year in August at Nuremberg.

Use of sports events. Berlin hosted the Olympics of 1936, which the Nazis used as an opportunity to showcase the success of the regime and to demonstrate the superiority of the Aryan race. The victories of the African-American athlete Jesse Owens for the USA infuriated the Nazi leadership.

Loudspeakers in public places also blared out Nazi propaganda.

#### Nazi control of the arts

Art- Hitler saw modern art as 'degenerate' and over 6,500 works of art were removed from display across Germany. Hitler encouraged 'Aryan art' instead, which showed the physical and military power of Germany and the Aryan race.

Literature- Nazis ceremonially burned thousands of books in 1933 that were viewed as being subversive or as representing ideologies opposed to Nazism.

Film- To make sure that film served the goals of propaganda, the Nazi Party gradually took over film production and distribution. The Nazi leaders often used film stars, like Lil Dagover, to help promote the popularity of the party in Germany.

- 1. How was Nazi Propaganda used?
- 2. Who was in charge?
- Questions 3. Name 3 types of propaganda
  - 4. How was the Berlin Olympics used to brainwash people?
  - 5. What did the Nazi's do to books?
  - 6. What is censorship?



	Resistance To fight back, either physically, verbally or passively		To fight back, either physically, verbally or passively
Nord /oluti	Edelweiss Pirates	A youth group who actively protested against the Nazis	
	Re	Degenerate	Lacking the desired qualities, going against the beliefs of the time

Questions

#### **Opposition and resistance in Nazi Germany**

Historians tend to define 'opposition' in Nazi Germany as any acts which openly defied the regime, while resistance is taken to mean active attempts to overthrow Hitler and the Nazis.

It is difficult to know exactly how popular the regime was as Hitler's police state made it very difficult to express opposition and

Nazi propaganda portrayed the Führer as his people's saviour. However, it is clear that the Nazis were the most popular party when they came to power and many Germans welcomed the stability and economic growth an authoritarian regime brought.

In general, Germans were happy to trade the freedom and democracy of Weimar for the certainty and security Hitler brought. His regime restored Germany's international prestige through rearmament and the dismantling of the Treaty of Versailles. The sheer scale of propaganda - especially that directed towards German children - meant that many more Germans became active Nazi Party members and were convinced of Hitler's areatness

#### Opposition from the Churches

#### Protestantism-

Many Protestant pastors, led by Martin Niemöller, formed the Confessional Church in opposition to Hitler's Reich Church. Niemöller was held in a concentration camp during the period 1937-1945 and a total of 800 clergy were sent to camps.

#### Catholicism-

Despite the Concordat, some Catholic priests opposed Hitler. In 1937, the Pope's message 'With Burning Concern' attacked Hitler as 'a mad prophet with repulsive arrogance' and was read in every Catholic Church. The Catholic Archbishop of Munster, von Galen, led a successful campaign to end euthanasia of mentally-disabled people. 400 German Catholic priests were imprisoned in Dachau concentration camp by the regime.

#### Opposition from the young

The main youth opposition group was the **Edelweiss Pirates**, based in the Rhineland. They reacted to the discipline of the Hitler Youth by daubing anti-Nazi slogans and singing pre-1933 folk songs. In 1942 over 700 of them were arrested and in 1944, the Pirates in Cologne killed the Gestapo chief, so the Nazis publicly hanged 12 of them.

The White Rose group was formed by students at Munich University in 1943. They published anti-Nazi leaflets and marched through the city in protest at Nazi policies. Its leaders, brother and sister Hans and Sophie Scholl, were arrested to and sentenced to the guillotine.

During the war, 'Swing Youth' and 'Jazz Youth' groups were formed. These were young people who rejected Nazi values, drank alcohol and danced to jazz. The Nazis rejected jazz music as degenerate, using their racial ideas against this cultural development. These youths were closely monitored by the Gestapo, who regularly raided illegal jazz clubs.

- 1. What is opposition?
- 2. Why is it difficult to know how many people support the Nazis?
- 3. Why were some Germans happy with the Nazi regime?
- 4. How did religious people oppose the Nazis?
- 5. Who were the White Rose Group?
- 6. How did the 'swing youth' groups defy the Nazis?

