

3.1 Hitler's Rise to power

Weimar Republic

- Established in 1919

Spartacist Rebellion: (1919)

- Communist attack in 1919
- Took the combined forces of Freikorps (ex-soldiers) and the WR to stem rebellion

Kapp Putsch: (1920)

- Nationalist Rebellion
- Used Freikorps to take over Berlin
- Ended due to general strike by trade unions

Hyper-inflation: (1920s)

- Over-printing of money to keep up with reparations
- Caused steep decline in the value of German Mark, many lost their savings
- Led to hyper-inflation, workers' non-cooperation (see Invasion of Ruhr)

Invasion of Ruhr: (1923)

- Due to the Weimar Republic falling behind reparation fees
- French and Belgian troops invaded and occupied the Ruhr (Germany's prime industrial area)
- Left after appeal to LON

Dawes Plan: (1924)

- Germany received loans from USA
- Stabilized the German currency
- Increase foreign investments and loans
- Made Germany dependent on foreign markets and economies

Great Depression: (1929)

- Wall street USA crashed
- USA had to withdraw loans from Germany to support economy
- WR declined in popularity as their short-term solutions were the cause and they were unable to react.
- Favorable Circumstance to Hitler, as he had managed to predict it and the public was in favor of extremist groups
- Unemployment rose to almost 30% in 1930s

Strengths and Weaknesses of the Weimar Republic:

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Had capable leaders who managed to resolve some of Germany's issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dawes Plan: Germany received loans from USA, therefore stabilising the German currency and increasing Foreign investments and loans • Locarno Pact: Germany, France, Belgium, Britain and Italy agreed to maintain peace. Protected Germany from aggressive neighbouring countries 	<p>Dawes Plan made them reliant on foreign markets and economies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dawes Plan: Germany received loans from USA (see column to the right) • In 1929 when Wall Street USA crashed, USA withdrew all its loans • Caused mass unemployment
	<p>Proportional Representation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People voted for a party, and the party would gain seats in the cabinet based on the amount of votes they won • Too many small competing parties, and as there was no majority, decision making was severely difficult
	<p>Coalition Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All parties came together in the formation of government, and as a few extreme parties were unwilling to compromise, the government would break up constantly • This caused a great difficulty when laws were passed, and caused the WR to be perceived as weak to the German people
	<p>Article 48 of Weimar Constitution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed the president to dissolve both houses of parliament in "time of emergency" and override civil liberties such as lawful arrest, secrecy in communication and freedom of expression. • What constituted as an Emergency was not clearly defined
	<p>Lacked strong peacekeeping force</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Result of Demilitarization Clause in the TOV (100,000 men, 15,000 men in Navy, no air force, tanks or submarines)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Had to rely on Freikorps (ex-soldiers) to suppress the Spartacist (Communist) Rebellion and trade unions during Kapp Putsch • Unable to resist during Ruhr invasion by France and Belgium
	<p>Was unable to cope with Economic Strain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over-printing of money to keep up with reparations • Caused steep decline in the value of German Mark, many lost their savings • Led to hyper-inflation, workers' non-cooperation and the invasion of Ruhr
	<p>Were thought to have betrayed Germany</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Stab in the back" myth: Many Germans resented the Weimar Republic for signing the TOV as they felt that Germany had not lost the war (Germany had not invaded when TOV was signed)

National Socialist German Workers Party (NSDAP)

Primary Aims:

1. The abolition of TOV
2. Union of Germany and Austria
3. Preserving the Aryan race
4. Strong central government

Hitler and the NSDAP:

- Hitler joined the party in 1920, after he was sent there as a spy
- Became the party's leader in 1929: GD

Sturmabteilung (SA):

- Military force of NSDAP
- Headed by Ernst Rohm
- Intimidated what they perceived as sub-human races

Munich Putsch (1923):

- Revolt against the WR, stemmed as police managed to prevent Nazis from uniting with SA forces
- Hitler turned trial into political rally
- Hitler was sent to prison under rather comfortable circumstances
- Mein Kampf written in prison by dictation to secretary

1924 Election: Hitler's failure

- The WR had great success with the Locarno Pact and the Dawes Plan
- General shift away from extremist groups as people did not want to ruin political instability
- Hitler downplayed extremist image
- NSDAP only won 14 seats

1930 Election: Hitler's success

- Great Depression
- General shift towards extremist groups
- Hitler had predicted the GD, thus public hoped that he could solve it
- Won 107 seats, 2nd largest party

Ability	Circumstance
<p>Charisma and oratorical Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Able to make 4 speeches a day• Spoke in beer halls and exploited audience's drunkenness• Knew the concerns of people	<p>Treaty of Versailles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brought great German Humiliation: Loss of territory, weakening of a German army, reparations debt- Increased appeal of NSDAP's nationalistic beliefs and Hitler's aryan race ideology and lebensraum• Left the Germans poverty-stricken- Increased appeal of Nazi's promises of Bread, Freedom and work
<p>Exploitation of fears of Communism</p> <p>Farmers: Loss of land and imprisonment</p> <p>Businessmen: Industries overtaken by state, trade union strength</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NSDAP fiercely anti-communist• 1930s: Used armed forces to break up communist meetings and fight communists when they clashed with the police	<p>Weak and ineffective Weimar Republic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Article 48 which allowed the violation of civil rights during an emergency allowed Hitler to kill opponents during Reichstag Fire- Coalition Government system: Some extremist groups were unwilling to compromise, caused the government to break up frequently, perception of weakness- Proportional Representation: Many small competing parties, no clear majority, hampered decision making, perception of weakness- Weak peacekeeping force: Due to Demilitarisation Clause of TOV, unable to suppress riots. Allowed the SA to remain in case of communist riots, thus kept Hitler powerful militarily- Hyper-inflation: WRs ineffective reaction of printing more money weakened the German currency and

	<p>caused the loss of the population's life savings. Perception of weakness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stab in the Back: Thought to have betrayed Germany in TOV (see above)
<p>Skillfulness at making deals with politicians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Struck a deal with Von Papen, Von Papen could be Vice-Chancellor while Hitler was the Chancellor • Made decision as they thought they could control Hitler, as there were only 3 Nazis in the cabinet. Wanted Hitler for support and army against communists 	<p>Great Depression:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitler had managed to predict, thus the public hoped that he could solve it • Caused general shift towards extremist groups
<p>Reorganised NSDAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Party Membership - Created Local Nazi Groups and youth organisation • Established SS and SA (Armed forces) - Broke up communist meetings - Broke up strikes (gained industrialist support) • Employed Nazi Propaganda - Joseph Goebbels portrayed NSDAP positively 	

- Hitler was appointed Chancellor in 1933

3.2 Impact of Hitler’s rule

Political			
Name of Impact	Description	Result	+/-
Reichstag Fire (Feb 1933)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reichstag building caught fire • Marinus van der Lubbe and leaders of CP charged with arson and attempt to overthrow govt • Convinced President Hindenburg to activate Article 48 • Established emergency powers • Reichstag Fire Decree • Decree nullified many of the key civil liberties of German citizens • Decree was used as the legal basis for the imprisonment of anyone considered to be opponents of the Nazis, and to suppress publications not considered 	<p>Communists: Banned from Reichstag NSDAP: Granted the majority in the government</p>	-

	"friendly" to the Nazi cause <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA arrested communists and opposition 		
Enabling Act (March 1933)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed Hitler to pass laws without the president's approval SS and SA men surrounded the building and only allowed Nazi supporters in Banned CP and Social Democratic Party from future elections 	NSDAP: Strengthened in political authority	-
One Party Rule (July 1933)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSDAP was the only legal political party Trade unions dissolved SS and SA dealt brutally with anyone who opposed 	NSDAP: Had full power over Germany Hitler: legal dictator	-
Night of Long Knives (June 1934)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nazi leaders viewed Ernst Roehm as a threat due to the powerful SA Leaders of the army were also suspicious of Ernst Roehm as he had talked rashly about taking over the army - Thus the army made a pact with Hitler to swear allegiance to him if he removed Ernst Roehm Hitler killed SA leaders and Roehm 	SA: Devoted to Hitler due to fear and lack of leader Army: Sworn into allegiance with Hitler NSDAP: Enhanced military power	-
Creation of the Fuhrer position (August 1934)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Hindenburg died in 1934 Hitler combined the positions of the chancellor and the president and proclaimed himself the Fuhrer of Germany. 	Hitler: Could invoke Article 48 Complete power over Germany German Army swore allegiance to Hitler instead of German constitution	
	Memory Technique: REKT Reichstag Fire, Enabling Laws, Night of Long Knives, Total Power (Fuhrer position, One party rule)		
Economic			
Name of Impact	Description	Result	+/-

Re-employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nearly a third of Germany was unemployed in 1933 ● German Labour Front's Reich Labour Service (RAD) scheme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cheap manual Labour e.g. for the building of Autobahns, digging of ditches, made compulsory in 1935 for unemployed adult males - Reduced unemployment - Militarised Workforce - Nazi Indoctrination ● Conscription 	<p>Germany: Greatly reduced unemployment</p> <p>Unemployed: Given work, militarised, indoctrinated in Nazi ideology</p>	+
Rise of big industrialists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Plan of 1934 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subsidised German industries, barred foreign imports - Production of war material, oil, steel and coal for the country and the NSDAPs rearmament scheme - Given valuable government contracts - Companies thus supported govt ● Goering's Four Year Plan (1936) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare Germany for war - Massive amounts spent on armaments boosted incomes of companies involved in production of war materials - These companies made compulsory donations to NSDAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Plan of 1934 <p>Industrialists: Profited greatly, gain support from big companies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Goering's Four Year Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Industrialists: thrived - Production of important products boosted economy <p>NSDAP: Ensure economic security, power and influence</p>	
Control of Trade Unions through German Worker Front	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Abolished trade unions ● Outlawed strikes ● Increased wages ● Workers forced to join German Work Front (DAF) ● Made dismissal difficult ● Instrumental to join for the sake of a job 	<p>Workers: Lost freedom, yet increased job security because they couldn't be sacked on the spot and couldn't change jobs freely</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum wages and benefits <p>Employers: Could demand more from workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workers and employers united into a single body <p>NSDAP: Economic Growth</p>	+/-
Boosting Worker Morale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Beauty of Labour (SdA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aimed to make workplaces more enticing to workers - e.g., renovations of outdated factories, new canteens for workers, smoking-free rooms, cleaner working spaces etc. ● Strength through Joy (KdF) 	<p>Workers: Cheap entertainment, better working conditions, higher productivity</p> <p>NSDAP: Economic growth</p>	+

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control over German workers' leisure time - Organisation giving the workers cheap/free holidays in addition to subsidised sporting and leisure facilities. ● State scheme by which workers saved 5 marks a week towards a cheap car(KdF-Wagen) was very popular 		
Militarisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conscription introduced in 1935 ● Modern air force - the Luftwaffe created in 1935, opposing LON 	Big Industrialists: Profit from war materials NSDAP: Rearmed and ready to expand Germany Workers: Reduced Unemployment due to job creation	+
	RITHM: Re-employment, Rise of big industrialists, Trade Union control, Happiness of Workers, Militarisation		
Social			
Name of Impact	Description	Result	+/-
Propaganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reich Ministry of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda, headed by Joseph Goebbels - Promoted pro-Hitler, anti-semitic, anti-communist feelings - Posters and film ● Nuremberg Rallies - Rallies, marches, torch-lit processions and public meetings 	German Public: increase in nationalistic sentiments NSDAP: increased in popularity	
Censorship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reich Chamber of Commerce (1933) - Had to be a member before they could release any form of media ● Organised public book-burning event to burn unacceptable books ● Radio affordability and control - Controlled radio stations - Repeat hitler's speeches 	German Public: lack of freedom in expression NSDAP: enforcement of Nazi doctrine and control of public opinion made easier	-

Secret Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schutz-Staffel (SS, April 1925) - Hitler's personal bodyguard - Took over Sturmabteilung (SA) - Death's Head Units: Ran concentration camps by conducting beatings and forced labour - SS Verfuegungstruppe (SS-VT) renamed as Waffen SS: NSDAP's personal armed force ● (Geheime Staatspolizei) Gestapo - Secret police force - Staffed by officers of SS - Removed threats to Nazi Party - 1937: Gestapo Law, Unlimited powers of arrest, arrest on suspicion and blackmail 	Untermenschen (sub-human races as perceived by Hitler): Faced discrimination, death marches, concentration camps German Public: Lived in constant fear and were thus fiercely loyal Anti-Hitler groups: Crushed, e.g. Hans and Sophie Scholl's non-violent protest: thousands of arrests, leaders executed	-
Persecution of Jews and Minority Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Propaganda against Jews ● SS and SA mistreatment ● April 1933: national boycott of Jewish businesses ● 1934: Jewish shops marked with Star of David, park benches marked 'Juden', burnt Jewish books, businesses, jobs and properties taken away from Jewish ● 1935 Nuremberg Laws: Jews lost citizenship and rights to marry 	Untermenschen (sub-human races as perceived by Hitler): Faced discrimination, death marches, concentration camps Jews: Loss of jobs, businesses, properties, citizenship and right to marry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attempted to leave though most had passports restricted - Wealthy Jewish people managed to leave 	-
	Night of Broken Glass (1938) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nazi Diplomat shot dead by Jewish boy in Paris ● Hitler used this as excuse for ordering a campaign of terror to be unleashed onto Jewish ● Looting and destruction of Jewish shops, twenty thousand Jews arrested and sent to concentration camps ● 1939: Poland invasion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3mil Jews in Poland rounded into ghettos with sparse living conditions - Mobile Killing units killed Soviet Jews - Mass murders of Jews carried out in other Eastern European countries 	Jews: - many people injured and killed, had their shops destroyed, sent to concentration camps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poland Invasion: Many Jews died of illness and starvation Mobile Killing Units + collaborators proolly killed about 1.3 mil Jews	-
	World War 2 Holocaust <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Headed by Heinrich Himmler ● 6 death camps in Poland 	Jews: Loss of many lives	-

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked, gassed, marched to death • Cruel medical experiments 		
Minority Groups (Untermenschen)	<p>Gypsies: - 1933 Law Against Dangerous habitual Criminals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nuremberg marriage ban - Inhumane experimentation - gassed <p>Homosexuals: Made homo acts a crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gestapo division dealt with homos - Arrest of homos - Sentenced to prison - medical experimentation - Castration - intimidation <p>Disabled: - July 1933: The Law for Prevention of Progeny and Hereditary Disorders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law for Prevention of Genetically Disabled Offspring - Under Law for the Prevention of Progeny with Hereditary Diseases, people were sterilised against their will - Targeted for euthanasia - gassed 	Basically all these 变态 acts were carried out to improve bullshit Aryan race	-
Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother and spouse • Excluded from politics and economics • Encouraged to give birth - Even illegitimately, for Hitler (Lebensborn) - Loans for babies - League of German Girls (Bund Deutscher Mädel/BDM) - Kinder, Küche, Kirche (children, kitchen, church) [3Ks] - Vigorous training in domestic tasks - 14-18 year-old girls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women: excluded from academics and politics • Women's associations were banned • Indoctrinated • Some saw this as an opportunity to establish a firm identity for themselves 	
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hitler Youth (Hitlerjugend, 1923) • 14-18 yo guys but later made mandatory for all Aryan German youths - Banned other youth Groups - Indoctrination of Nazi Ideology - Physical and Military Training - Manpower for WW2 		

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Jungmädel- 10-14 year old girls | | |
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