

Hitler's Germany

- After WWI Germany was run by the **Weimar Republic**
- The government was always unstable and was opposed by the NAZI party under the leadership of Adolf Hitler
- He attempted a revolution with the **Beer Hall Putsch**
- This revolution failed and Hitler was imprisoned

The Beer Hall Putsch

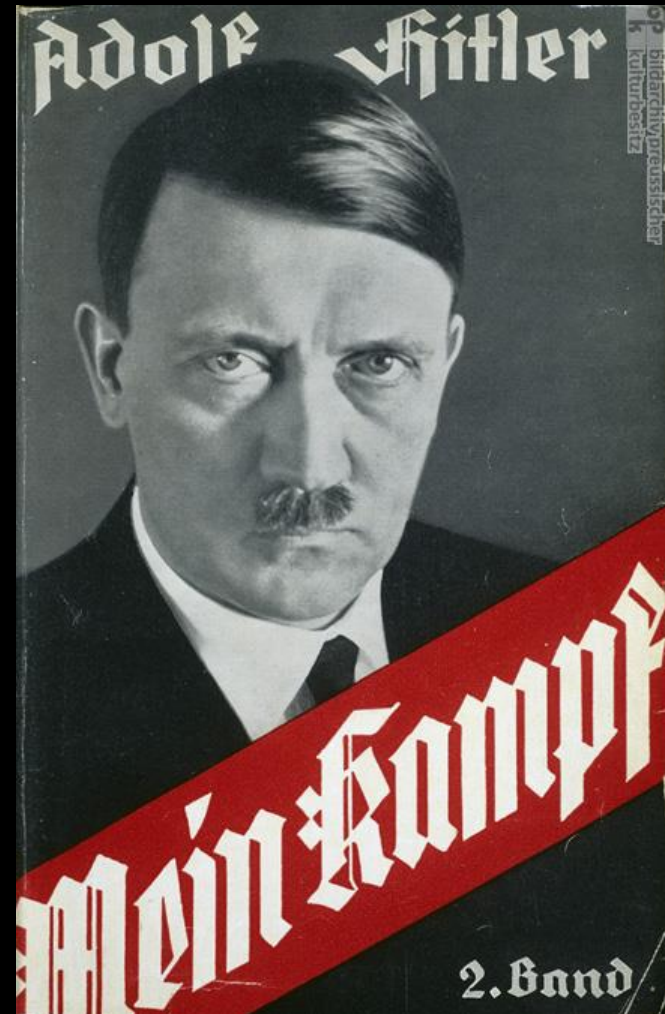


- In prison he wrote **Mein Kampf** where he outlined his plans for Germany:
- He believed that Germans were **Aryans** -the master race
- He wanted to join Austria and Germany into one country. This was know as **Anschluss**
- He also wanted the German people to have more land in the east. This was known as **Lebensraum (living space)**
- He also wanted to **destroy the Treaty of Versailles**

Aryan Race



Mein Kampf



Rise of Nazi Party

- Hitler and the Nazi's had an armed Militia known as the **Brownshirts (SA)- Leader was Rohm**
- He also set up a group of elite bodyguards known as the **SS – Leader was Himmler**

Röhm- SA Leader



Himmler- SS Leader



- Following the Treaty of Versailles the Germans had borrowed lots of money from America
- When the **Wall Street Crash (1929)** happened all of this money was recalled and the German economy collapsed
- This helped Hitler to get support and he started to become popular.

Brown Shirts

Wall St. Crash



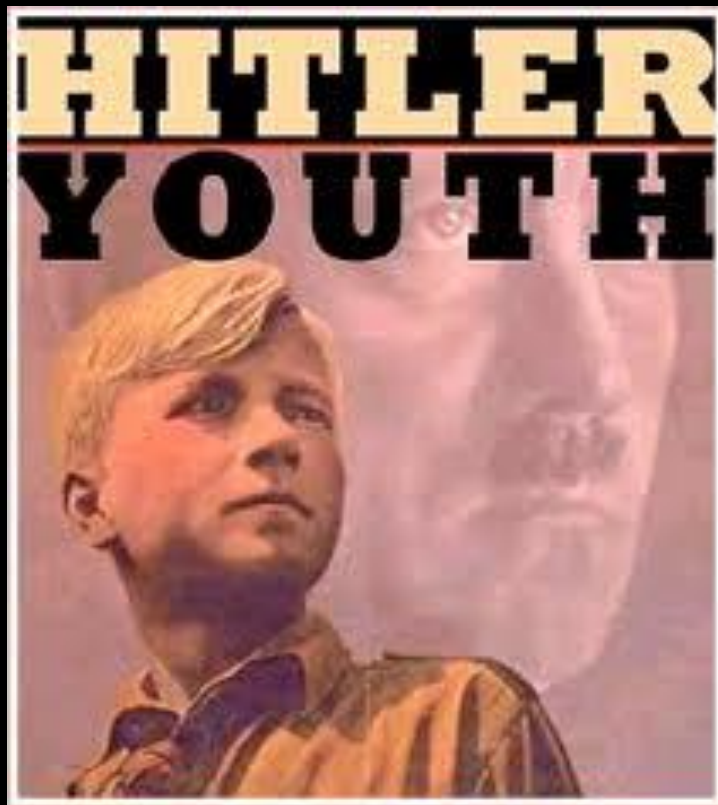
Rise of the Nazi Party

- Hitler used **propaganda** directed **by Joseph Goebbels** to gain more support
- His Brownshirts also intimidated people to do as the Nazi's wanted
- 1933- When the **Reichstag burned down** the President invited Hitler to lead a coalition government. Communist party was banned.
- When he got power he passed the **Enabling Act** which allowed him to rule for 4 years without consulting parliament. He was now a **Dictator**.

Burning of the Reichstag



- The **Gestapo** (secret police) was created.
- School books were re-written and boys were expected to join the **Hitler Youth** and girls to join the **League of German Maidens**



Joseph Goebbels- Minister for Propoganda



- 1934- When the President died Hitler combined the office of chancellor and president and became known as **Führer**(Leader)
- The new Nazi regime was called the **Third Reich** (empire) which Hitler said would last for at least 1000 years.
- 1934- He then killed the leader of the Brownshirts Ernst Rohm, and many of the other leaders
- This was known as the “**Night of the Long Knives**”- over 1,000 SA members murdered.
- Hitler's elite group run by Himmler, the SS, was responsible for the killings.

Der Führer



Ein Volk, ein Reich, ein Führer!

- A propoganda poster of Hitler.
- The caption reads *“One People, one Empire, one Leader”*

“The Night of the Long Knives”



Nazi Economics

- Hitler's greatest challenge was to reduce unemployment
- **Unemployment was reduced** from 6 million to nil by 1939
- **Public works schemes** such as the building of the **autobahn** helped in this
- The **weapons industry** also employed a huge number of people.
- New car for the people was built- **Volkswagen**
- Married women were paid to stay at home and have more children



Anti- Semitism (hatred of jews)

- When Hitler had consolidated his power he began his campaign against the Jews
- He blamed them for all of Germany's difficulties including the losing of the war
- 1935- The **Nuremberg Laws** were brought in to penalise the Jews
- Jews had to wear a **Star of David** at all times
- They were forbidden to marry non – Jews and could not hold certain jobs

The Star of David



Anti-Semitism (contd.)

- 1938- Jewish business' and shops were attacked in the “**Night of broken glass**” (**Kristallnacht**). Synagogues were burned, 90 jews killed.
- The jews were then shipped to ghettos in Poland where they lived in terrible conditions
- The **Final Solution** was then introduced by SS Colonel Adolf Eichmann.
- Jews were put into **concentration camps** (e.g. Auschwitz & Birkenau) and gassed to death
- Six million Jews were murdered by the Nazi's in what is known as the **Holocaust** .

Kristallnacht- Night of the Broken Glass



Auschwitz, Poland- Concentration Camp



2. Auschwitz, Poland - Concentration camp opens April 1940

The message: "Work makes one free."

Concentration Camps



Zyklon B pellets



- *They were dropped through vents into gas chambers where jews would die very quickly from the fumes.*

Gas Chambers



- *Gas chambers disguised as shower rooms*



- Bodies were then burned in large furnaces usually in a basement.
- The smoke rose through large chimney- stacks