

Y9 History

Hitler and Life in Nazi Germany



Summary

Adolf Hitler rose to power in Germany after becoming the leader of the National Socialist German Worker's Party, known as the Nazi party. After an attempt to take over the German government, Hitler was sent to prison and wrote *Mein Kampf*, which made him more popular. In 1933, Hitler became the chancellor of Germany and one year later, he made himself a dictator. He was able to establish his control over the people of Germany through the use of informers, the SA and the SS. As chancellor of Germany, Hitler wanted to establish a Thousand Year Reich. To achieve this, women and young children would have to be converted to Nazi ideals such as obedience, following the Fuhrer and strengthening the racial purity of Germany. This also led to the systematic persecution of minorities across Germany, particularly Jews.

Key Figures

Adolf Hitler	Leader of the Nazi Party and of Germany. Established a dictatorship from 1934-1945.
Paul Von Hindenburg	The president of Germany until his death in 1934. Reluctant to appoint Hitler as chancellor, but ultimately caved in the belief he could control Hitler (in the end, he could not).
Heinrich Himmler	Leading member of the Nazi Party. Head of the SS and main architect of the holocaust.
Joseph Goebbels	Nazi politician and Minister of Propaganda.
Benito Mussolini	Leader of Italy since 1925, known for his fascist ideas and tyrannical dictatorship which inspired the Nazi Party.



Key Vocabulary

Dictator	A leader with total power over their country. Their style of government is known as a 'dictatorship'. Usually have taken control of a country by force.
Fascism	A type of government that puts the nation and one race above individual people. It is a belief system usually associated with dictators like Hitler and Mussolini.
Nazi Party	The National Socialist German Worker's Party, a far-right political party in Germany led by Adolf Hitler.
Thousand Year Reich	Hitler proclaimed that the Nazi era would last for a thousand years by establishing generations of pure race within Germany.
Anti-Semitism	Hatred and persecution of the Jews. The Nazi Party started a policy of systematic oppression.
SA	Hitler's private army. Played a large role in Hitler's rise to power in the 1920s and 1930s.
SS	The most powerful troops in Germany who acted as Hitler's bodyguards and carried out the Final Solution.
The Final Solution	The Nazi policy of exterminating European Jews which resulted in the murder of 6 million Jews in concentration camps.
Concentration Camp	Prison for political prisoners and enemies of Germany (minority groups), who are placed there without trial.
Holocaust	The mass murder of 6 million Jews carried out by Hitler and the Nazi party.
Gestapo	The secret police for the Nazi regime.

Challenge— Look at the timeline below: which event do you think was the biggest turning point in Hitler's career?

Other Resources

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zymqwxw>

