

CHAPTER -3 NAZISM AND THE RISE OF HITLER

HISTORY

Chapter 3 Nazism and the Rise of Hitler

Q1. Name the allied powers of the Second World War.

Ans. The Allied Powers were initially led by the UK and France. In 1941 they were joined by the USSR(Union of Soviet Socialist Republic or Soviet Union) and USA(United States of America). They fought against the Axis Powers – Germany , Italy and Japan.

Q2. Describe any two features of life of the soldiers during World War I.

Ans. i) The soldiers lived miserable lives in the trenches, trapped with rats feeding on corpses.

ii) They faced poisonous gas and enemy shelling and witnessed their ranks reduced rapidly.

Q3. When did the Wall Street Exchange crash? What was its effect?

Ans. The Wall Street Exchange crashed in 1929. This marked the beginning of the Great Economic Depression.

Q4. What was the position of the Nazi Party in the elections of 1928 and 1932?

Ans. In 1928, the Nazi Party did not get more than 2.6 per cent votes in the Reichstag(Parliament) but by 1932, it became the largest party with 37 per cent votes.

Q5. Describe some of the feature of style of politics adopted by Hitler.

Ans. i) Red banners with Swastika.

ii) The Nazi salute

iii) The ritualized rounds of applause after the speeches

iv) Massive rallies and public meetings

Q6. Which act was passed on March 1933? What was its effect?

Ans. On 3 March 1933 the famous Enabling Act was passed.

The effects of Enabling Act:

1. It established dictatorship in Germany.
2. Hitler sidelined parliament and rule by decree.
3. All political parties were banned except Nazi party.

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Q7. When were Austria and Germany integrated by Hitler and under which slogan?

Ans. In 1938, Hitler integrated Austria and Germany under the slogan One People, One Empire and One leader.

Q8. When was the Tripartite Pact signed and which countries were its signatories?

Ans. In September 1940, Tripartite Pact was signed between Germany, Italy and Japan strengthening Hitler's claim to international power.

Q9. Why was Hitler interested in acquiring new territories?

Ans. He believed that new territories had to be acquired for settlement of Germans. This would enhance the area of the mother country. It would also enhance the material resources and power of the German nation.

Q 10. What type of society did Nazis want to set up?

Ans. The Nazis wanted to setup a society of 'pure and healthy Nordic Aryans'.

Q11. Why was there the traditional Christian hostility towards Jews?

Ans. Jews had been stereotyped as killers of Christ and usurers (moneylenders charging excessive interest).

Q12. Give two features of the gas chambers.

Ans. i) The gas chambers were labelled 'disinfection areas'.

ii) Gas chambers looked like bathrooms equipped with fake showerheads.

Q13. Name the most infamous film on the Jews.

Ans. The Eternal Jew.

Q14. What was the Holocaust?

Ans. The Holocaust refers to Nazi killing operations, i.e. mass murder of Jews (1941-1945).

Q15. How do we know about the Holocaust?

Ans. We know about the Holocaust from memoirs, fiction, documentaries, poetry, memorials and museums in many parts of the world. Many ghetto and camp inhabitants wrote diaries, kept notebook and create archives.

Q16. "The Treaty of Versailles was humiliating on the Germans." Give 3 examples to support your answer.

Ans. The Treaty of Versailles was humiliating on the Germans due to following reasons:

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- i) Germany lost its overseas colonies, a tenth of its population, 13 per cent of its territories, 75 per cent of its iron and 26 per cent of its coal to France, Poland, Denmark and Lithuania.
- ii) The Allied powers demilitarized Germany to weaken its power.
- iii) The War Guilt Clause held Germany responsible for the war and damages the Allies countries suffered.

Q17. “The First world War left a deep imprint on European society and polity”. Support the statement with 3 examples.

Ans.

- i) Soldiers came to be placed above civilians.
- ii) Politicians and publicists laid great stress on the need for men to be aggressive, strong and masculine.
- iii) The media glorified trench life. The truth, however, was that soldiers lived miserable lives in these trenches, trapped with rats feeding on corpses.

Q18. Describe the effects of the Great Economic Depression of 1929-32 on Germany.

Ans. Following are the effects of the Great Economic Depression on Germany: -

- i) By 1932, industrial production was reduced to 40 per cent of the 1929 level.
- ii) Workers lost their jobs or were paid reduced wages.
- iii) The number of unemployed touched 6 million.
- iv) The youth took to criminal activities due to unemployment.
- iv) The economic crisis created deep anxieties and fears in people. The middle classes saw their savings were ruined.

Q19. List the communities which were classified as undesirable in Nazi Germany.

Ans. The communities which were classified as undesirable in Nazi Germany:

- i) Jews
- ii) Gypsies and blacks living in Germany were considered as racial inferiors who threatened the biological purity of the superior Aryan race.
- iii) Russians and Poles were considered subhuman and hence undeserving of any humanity.

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Q20. Who was given the responsibility of Economic recovery by Hitler? What were the objectives of Economic Recovery Programme?

Ans.

- i. The responsibility of economic recovery was assigned by Hitler to the economist Hjalmar Schacht.
- ii. He aimed at full employment and full production through state funded work - creation programmed.
- iii) The Project produced the famous German superhighways and the people's car, Volkswagen.
- iv) Schacht was removed as he cautioned Hitler against investing in rearmament.

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