

Nazi Ideology

- German Nazism was an early twentieth century ideological movement which:
 - Upheld ideas of German racial superiority
 - Promoted territorial expansion
 - Blamed the Jews for the ills of Germany and called for their removal from German society.

Nazi Party

- Founded in 1919, the Nazi party was characterized by a strict authoritarian structure with the Fuehrer (leader) as its head.



Rise to Power

- The Nazi party's rise to power was facilitated by:
 - World depression
 - Cancellation of foreign loans to Germany
 - Withdrawal of foreign investments

Unemployment

- In 1931, all banks closed and disorders broke out in many cities. A year later, the number of unemployed had reached six million and desperate, jobless workers roamed the streets shouting, "Give us bread."



Salvation for the Masses

- Hungry, frightened, and desperate, the impoverished masses turned to Hitler as a source of salvation.



Shield Against Revolution

- Alarmed at the growth of the German Communist movement, the great industrialists also supported Hitler. They saw the Nazi party as a shield against revolution.



Party Growth

- In the summer of 1932, the number of Nazis in the Reichstag had swelled to 230 and the Nazis had become the largest political party in Germany.



Election Poster

- Work and Bread: an election poster of the Nazi party. When Hitler came to power in 1933, the worst crisis was over, but the population credited the Nazis with this success.



Party Program

- The Nazis called for:
 - German territorial expansion
 - Extreme nationalism
 - Racism
 - Anti-Semitism

Adolf Hitler's *Mein Kampf*

- Hitler's autobiography *Mein Kampf* became the bible of the Nazi party. It included the myth of the Aryan race, anti-Semitism, and plans to take over Eastern Europe.



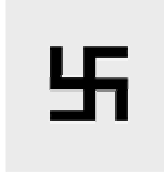
Bestselling Autobiography

- By 1939, *Mein Kampf* had sold five million copies and had been translated into eleven languages.



Party Symbol

- The word swastika derives from the Sanskrit *svastika*, which means "conducive to well-being." In 1910 a German nationalist suggested the swastika as a universal symbol for anti-Semitic organizations. The Nazi Party adopted it as their emblem in 1920.



National Flag

- In 1935 the black swastika on a white circle against a red field became the national flag of Germany. Today, it is illegal to display the symbol in that country.



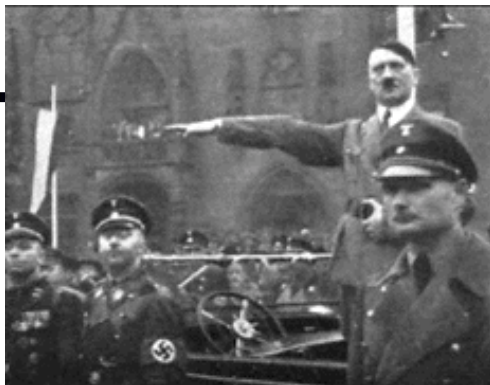
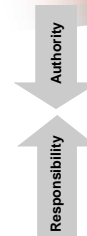
Nazi Party Anthem

- The Horst Wessel Song was the Nazi Party anthem. Wessel was a member of the SA who was shot by a Communist. His death was depicted by Nazi propaganda as a political murder and he became a hero and a political symbol.



Fuehrerprinzip (Leader Principle)

- *Fuehrerprinzip* was a Nazi term relating to the creation of:
 - Authority from above downward
 - Responsibility from below upward.



Authoritarian Structure

- It included a cult of the Fuehrer (leader) based on pseudo-Germanic ideas of:
 - Order
 - Authority
 - Hero-worship
- All Nazi organizations became absolutely authoritarian in accordance with this principle.

Economic Policies

- The government's attempts to solve Germany's economic problems included:
 - Levying a high tax on the middle class
 - Increasing the national debt by one third to provide work for the unemployed.

First Four-Year Plan

- To create jobs, the first Four-Year Plan, established in 1933, initiated an extensive program of public works and rearmament.



Women Employed in Munitions Factory

The Autobahn

- The unemployed were put to work on public projects (especially noteworthy was a great network of highways, the *Autobahn*), in munitions factories, and in the army.



Armaments

- The program led to the production of vast armaments and to their eventual use in aggression against other states.



Second Four-Year Plan

- The objective of the second Four-Year Plan, initiated in 1936, was to set up a self-sufficient state. To achieve self-sufficiency, quantities of substitute commodities – frequently inferior in quality and more costly than those purchased on the world market – were produced by German laboratories, factories, and mills.



Business and Labor

- Nazism retained capitalism and private property, however, business and labor were rigidly controlled by the state.



Labor Front

- Labor unions were dissolved and both workers and employers were enrolled in a new organization, the Labor Front.



Prohibition of Strikes

- The right of workers to strike or of management to call a lockout was denied.
- Compulsory dues were taken from workers' wages to support Nazi organizations.



Strength Through Joy

- As a distraction, the government established the Strength Through Joy movement, which provided sports events, musical festivals, movies, and vacations at low cost.



Lebensraum (Living Space)

- The term *Lebensraum* means "living space" and refers to Hitler's policy to conquer eastern Europe, in order to establish a continental empire ruled by Germans. This would provide for the Aryan race its place as the world's master race.



Policy Toward Non-Aryans

- German policy towards the conquered peoples would include:
 - Exploitation
 - Slave labor
 - Annihilation of the Jews



Nazi Propaganda

- Hitler and his master of propaganda, Joseph Goebbels, utilized every type of persuasion to make the mass of the people permanent converts to Nazism.



Mass Rallies

- The Nazi propaganda machine used techniques such as spectacular mass rallies and meetings to inflame the German masses and gain their loyalty.



Parades

- The Nazis held elaborate and spectacular public rallies featuring Storm Troopers.
- Nazi flags and decorations were used by propaganda experts, to create an attractive environment for the audience and to help inspire awe.



Mass Meetings

- Nazi propagandists specialized in organizing spectacular mass meetings in which they created a euphoric atmosphere to inspire popular enthusiasm for Hitler and Nazism.



Thousands of women saluting in devotion to Hitler

Militarism

- The Wehrmacht (German military forces) marched through the banner-filled streets in a show of strength and nationalism. Militarism was central to Hitler's ideology and realpolitik.



Public Ceremonies

- Civilians gathered to view a Nazi roll-call in the square. Part of the Nazi agenda was to brainwash the civilian population through spectacular public ceremonies, which glorified Hitler, Nazi ideology, and German superiority.



Blood and Soil

- Part of overall Nazi propaganda efforts, this poster was used to inspire Germans to return to the soil. The myth of "Blood and Soil" was used by the Nazis to encourage German patriotism.



Censorship

- A Reich culture cabinet was set up to instill a single pattern of thought in literature, the press, broadcasting, drama, music, art, and movies.



Book Burnings

- Forbidden books, including the works of some of Germany's most distinguished men of letters, were seized and destroyed in huge bonfires.
- Nazis threw into the fire books whose authors were themselves racially unacceptable or whose works did not reflect Aryan racial ideas.
- SS and SA members, Hitler Youth, students and the general public participated in the event.



German Youth Movement

- The school system was integrated with the German Youth Movement, which drilled and regimented boys and girls between the ages of ten and fourteen.
 - The boys were taught above all else to be ready to fight and die for their Fuehrer.
 - The girls were taught to mother the many babies needed by the Third Reich.



Stab in the Back Myth

- This popular German theory held that the liberals, socialists and Jews were responsible for the German defeat in World War I.
- It claimed that these groups influenced the military to lay down arms in the war.



The Master Race

- The Nazi party encouraged SS men & young German girls to have children while unmarried, to ensure the future of the genetically superior Reich. These youths who were found "fit to breed the master-race."



A Race of Supermen

- The Nazis established state-registered human farms where young girls, selected for their perfect Aryan traits, procreated with SS officers in an effort to create a race of "supermen."



High Birth Rate

- To strengthen the race, Nazism promoted a high birth rate and urged women to be mothers and housewives.



Racial Procreation Chart

- The chart shown is entitled "Procreation for Stupidity." Nazi anthropologists wrote textbooks of questionable scientific accuracy in order to validate Nazi racial theories.



Racial Testing

- Government officials conducted racial tests on thousands of Germans who were suspected of having "doubtful origins."
- The theory behind these tests equated Aryan purity with "perfect" facial proportions



Gypsy Testing

- A staff member applies soft wax to a Gypsy's face, to make a mask.
- The Nazis studied Gypsy features in order to scientifically prove Gypsy inferiority.



Skull-Measuring

- Pseudo-scientific tests were performed by the Nazis to legitimize their racial theories.
- These tests were designed to prove the inferiority of Jews, Gypsies and Slavs and the superiority of the Aryan race.



Racial Classification

- Teams of Nazi anthropologists were engaged in scientific exploration of racial classification.
- By measuring specific features which they considered characteristic of each "race", they determined who was a pure "Aryan".



Elimination of the Mentally Ill

- The original euthanasia program was to "purify" the German race. The first gas chamber was designed by professors of psychiatry from 12 major German universities. They selected the patients and watched them die until the mental hospitals were almost empty.



"Life without hope" is how Nazi propaganda artists portrayed patients in Germany's mental institutions.

...and Handicapped Children

- They were joined by some pediatricians, who began emptying the institutions for handicapped children in 1939. By 1945, almost 300,000 "pure blood Aryan" Germans had been killed, including:
 - Bed wetters
 - Children with misshapen ears
 - Those with learning disabilities



Suppression of Homosexuality

- Homosexuality was considered an infectious disease of body and mind to be severely suppressed. Between 5,000 and 20,000 homosexuals were sent to concentration camps.



Anti-Semitic Publications

- Anti-Semitism was a central theme in the Nazi ideology. Anti-Semitic publications were addressed to children as well as to adults, and were used in schools as educational material.



Der Stürmer (The Attacker)

- This widely-read Nazi weekly newspaper promoted the idea that the Jews were the main enemy of the Germans and of all mankind. Its highlight was its vulgar anti-Semitic cartoons.



Children's Propaganda

- This children's book was advertised as a Christmas gift for grade-schoolers. In the illustration shown here, Aryan children are seen cheering the expulsion of Jewish children and their teacher.



Anti-Semitic Book for Children

- In this anti-Semitic book, Jews march into exile past a sign that reads, "One-way street."



Kristallnacht

- During Kristallnacht, the first major attack on the Jewish population, both the SS and general population participated in burning hundreds of synagogues, shops, and houses. Thirty thousand Jews were arrested and deported.



Einsatzgruppen

- The *Einsatzgruppen* were special mobile killing squads composed of SS, SD, and other police and security personnel.



Jewish victims of the advancing *Einsatzgruppen*

Sprachregelung (Language Rule)

- The Nazis had a practice of using words of neutral or positive meaning to designate acts of terror and destruction. The ultimate example was the term "Final Solution" to refer to the mass murder of European Jews.



Concentration Camp Badges

- Concentration camp prisoners had to wear colored triangles on their clothes following this color scheme:
 - Political prisoners - red
 - Jews - yellow
 - Criminals - green
 - Asocials - black
 - Sinti and Roma - brown
 - Homosexuals - pink



The star with the word "Jew" on it.



A passport of a Jewish women stamped with "J" for "Jew."



Victims of medical experiments in Auschwitz.



Concentration Camps

Hitler's Ambition

- This decorative desktop globe, removed from the *Fuehrerbunker* by Soviet troops in 1945, carries a pair of unnerving German-language inscriptions:
 - Atop the Soviet Union are the words "I am coming."
 - The inscription over North America reads "I will be there soon."

