

RISE OF NAZISM

SEPTEMBER 1918 New democratic government of Germany declared and Weimar Republic is established.

SEPTEMBER 1919 Adolf Hitler joins the German Workers' Party (GWP), which would eventually become known as the National Socialist German Workers' Party.

FEBRUARY 24, 1920 Hitler presents a 25-point program to the Nazi Party detailing the intention to segregate Jews from "Aryan" life and strip them of their citizenship.

NOVEMBER 9, 1923 Hitler and the Nazi party attempt to overthrow the Weimar Republic. This failed coup d'état comes to be known as the Beer Hall Putsch. Hitler is arrested for treason and sentenced to five years in prison.

DECEMBER 20, 1924 Hitler is pardoned and released from prison after serving less than a year.

FEBRUARY 27, 1925 Nazi party is re-established and Hitler appoints himself as the leader.

1924-1929 Nazi Party membership grows from 27,000 to 108,000, but the party still performs poorly in the 1928 election and receives only three percent of the vote.

OCTOBER 29, 1929 Stock market crash and the beginning of the Great Depression. Unemployment doubles in Germany.

SEPTEMBER 1930 Nazi party wins 18.3 percent of the vote and sends 107 delegates to the Reichstag, the German Parliament.

JULY 1932 Nazi party capitalizes on the economic crisis and the desperation of the German population and wins 230 seats.

JANUARY 30, 1933 German President Paul von Hindenburg appoints Hitler as Chancellor at the head of a coalition government.

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- FEBRUARY 28, 1933** The Reichstag is destroyed by arson. President Hindenburg issues the Decree for the Protection of People and the Reich. The decree makes Germany a police state and is a key step towards creating the Nazi dictatorship.
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- MARCH 22, 1933** Dachau concentration camp is established to incarcerate political opponents of the Nazi Regime.
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- APRIL 1, 1933** Nazi party organizes a nation-wide boycott of Jewish-owned businesses.
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- AUGUST 2, 1934** Death of President von Hindenburg. While maintaining his position as Chancellor, Hitler also becomes President of Germany.
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- AUGUST 19, 1934** Having full political authority, Hitler abolishes the office of President and declares himself *Fuhrer* of the German Reich and its people. Hitler and the Nazi Party begin their dictatorship.
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- SEPTEMBER 15, 1935** The Nuremberg Laws are passed, stripping Jews of their citizenship and rights.
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- JULY 15, 1937** Buchenwald concentration camp is established in Germany.
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- MARCH 1938** Austria is invaded and annexed into Nazi Germany.
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- SEPTEMBER 28, 1938** Conference held in Munich during which the leaders of Great Britain, France and Italy agree to allow Germany to annex certain areas of Czechoslovakia.
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- NOVEMBER 9, 1938** In a nationwide pogrom called *Kristallnacht*, synagogues are burned, Jewish homes and businesses are looted and at least 91 Jews are killed.
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- MARCH 15, 1939** Nazi Germany invades and occupies all of Czechoslovakia.
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- SEPTEMBER 1, 1939** Nazi Germany invades Poland, initiating the Second World War in Europe.
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