

HISTORY

Chapter 3: Nazism and the Rise of Hitler



Nazism and the Rise of Hitler

The First World War and Germany

The rise of Hitler to power in Germany is often attributed to the harsh treaties which were faced by Germany during the First World War.

- Germany fought the First World War along with Austria–Hungary against the Allies—England, France, and Russia. Germany was defeated in the war, and the German emperor abdicated the throne.
- After the war, Weimer Republic—a democratic government—was formed in Germany. All Germans including women got the right to vote in the elections.



It was unpopular because it had accepted the harsh terms of the Treaty of Versailles after the German defeat in



An artist's impression of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles after the First World War

Terms of the Treaty of Versailles:

- Germany lost all its overseas colonies
- She also lost one-third of its iron reserves and one-fourth of its coal reserves to France
- It was demilitarised
- She also had to pay a huge compensation of six billion pounds to the allies

- The number of unemployed youths and poor people increased in German society. Thus, socialism became a great force in Germany. Communists also made an uprising against the Weimar Republic but failed. The political atmosphere in Berlin was charged with demands for Soviet-style governance.
- There was deep economic crisis in Germany. When Germany refused to pay the allies in gold, France occupied its leading industrial area. To meet the economic crisis, the Government printed too much of German currency (Mark). The value of German currency declined considerably, and the prices of essential goods and commodities rose.
- Eventually, the Americans intervened and bailed Germany out of the crisis by introducing the Dawes Plan. It redrew the terms of reparation to ease the financial burden on the country.

Germany and the Great Depression of 1929

- German investments and industrial recovery were totally dependent on short-term loans, largely from the USA.
- However, the world plunged into the Great Depression in 1929 when American stock market 'Wall Street Exchange' crashed.
- The Great Depression of 1929 further added to the miseries of Germany.



- After America withdrew the loans which it gave to Germany. By 1932, the industrial production on Germany declined to 40%. Millions of people became unemployed. This also led to increase in poverty.
- The economic crisis instilled fears among middle class Germans. They also feared the rise of socialism in Germany.
- Small businessmen, the self-employed and retailers suffered as their businesses were ruined.
- Big business was in crisis and the large mass of peasantry was affected by a sharp fall in agricultural prices.
- Politically, the Weimer Constitution was vulnerable to dictatorship. Article 48 gave wide powers to the President. He could impose emergency and suspend the civil rights of the citizens.
- Further, there was also political instability in the country. Within its short life, the Weimar Republic saw twenty different cabinets lasting on an average 239 days.

The above circumstances favoured the rise of Hitler in Germany.

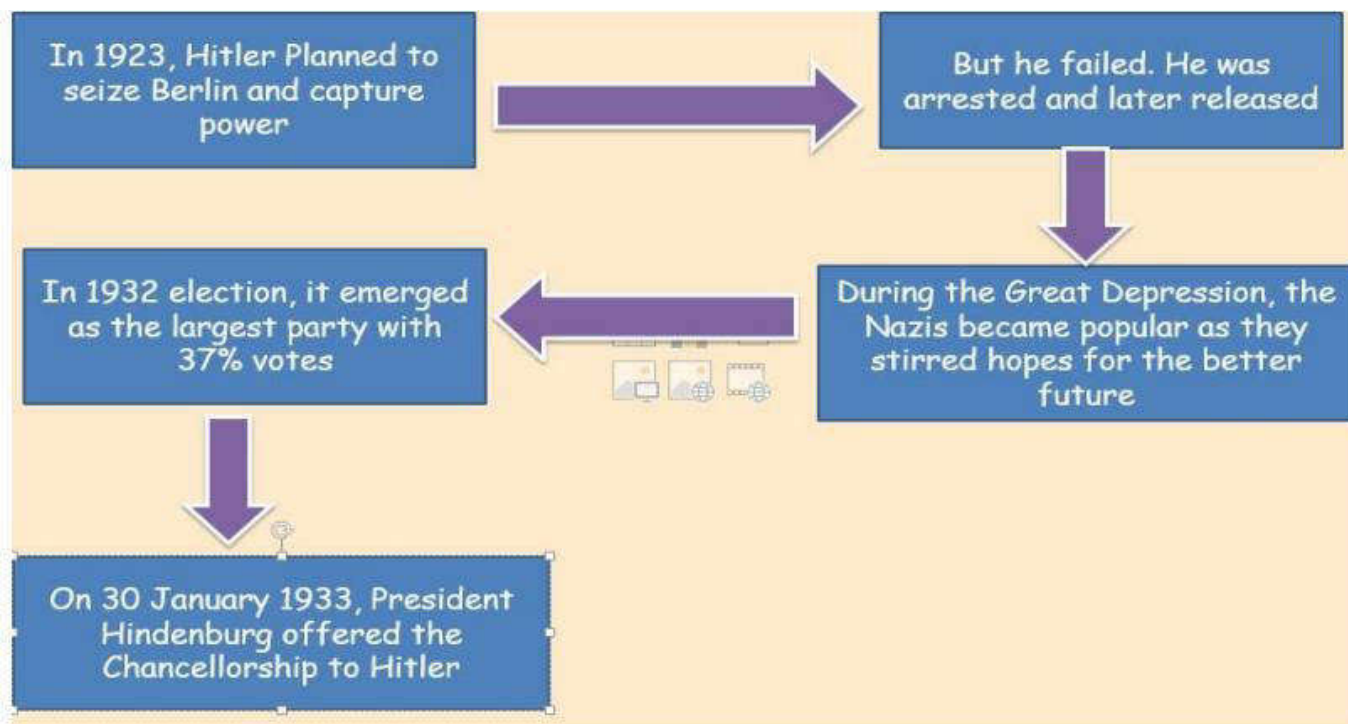
Rise of Hitler

- Hitler was shattered by the German defeat in the First World War.
- He fought for Germany in the 1st World War and earned medals for bravery
- He joined the German Workers Party. Later, he became the leader of the party and renamed it the Nationalist Socialist German Workers Party. This party came to be known as the Nazi Party.
- Hitler was an excellent orator. His speeches moved the people. He promised employment, economic recovery of Germany, to undo the injustices of the Treaty of Versailles and to restore the dignity of the German people.
- He devised a new style of politics. Massive rallies and public meetings were held by the Nazis to display the strength of the party. Nazi propaganda also skillfully projected Hitler as a messiah who could deliver people from their distress. He captured the imagination of the Germans.



Hitler's excellent oratory skills won him the support of the people

Hitler Captures Power



- Hitler after becoming the chancellor of Germany issued the Fire decree of 1933. It suspended freedom of speech, press and assemble
- He then passed the Enabling Act in 1933. This Act established dictatorship in Germany.
- Communists were sent to concentration camps by Hitler. All political parties and trade unions were banned except for the Nazi Party. The state had full control over the executive, legislature, judiciary and media.
- A secret state police called the Gestapo was formed. It had the authority to detain any person

without any trial. Detained people were sent to concentration camps and torture chambers. The police and the state under Hitler gained the reputation of the most dreaded criminal state.

Economic Recovery under Hitler

- Hjalmar Schacht was given the responsibility of devising an economic recovery plan of Germany. He aimed at creating full employment through state-sponsored work creation programmes.
- This project resulted in the building of various German superhighways and the Volkswagen. However, when Schacht advised Hitler against rearmament of the state, he was asked to leave.
- Hitler then planned economic recovery through the expansion of territories.

Hitler's Foreign Policy

- Hitler's foreign policy was successful in the initial years. He withdrew from the League of Nations in 1933, reoccupied the Rhineland and integrated Austria with Germany. He also annexed Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia.
- In 1939, Germany invaded Poland bringing it into war with France and Britain. In 1940, Hitler signed a Tripartite Treaty with Italy and Japan. Hitler at this time was at the pinnacle of his power.
- Hitler attacked the Soviet Union in July 1941. Hitler's forces however were defeated and were driven out of Eastern Europe.
- It was after the USA entered the Second World War that the war took a decisive turn, and Germany was defeated in the war. Hitler committed suicide in 1945.

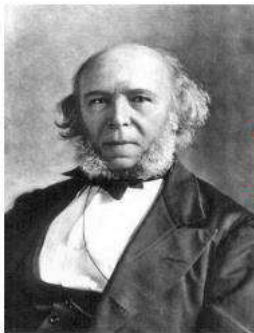


German armies captured Poland
in September 1939

The Nazi Ideology

Theory of Racial Supremacy

- Hitler believed in the racial supremacy of the Aryans. According to the theory of racial supremacy, only the Nordic German Aryans were supreme in society. The Jews were placed in the lowest strata of society. The Jews were regarded as the fiercest enemies of the German Aryans.
- The theory of Darwin was wrongfully used by Hitler to justify imperial rule over conquered territories. He believed in acquiring new settlements for expanding the power and might of Germany. He expanded his territories eastwards towards USSR.
- The Nazis after assuming power sought to eliminate the Jews and physically disabled Germans. Along with them, the Gypsies and the black Germans were also detained in concentration camps



Herbert Spencer

After Darwin the term, 'Survival of the fittest' was formulated by Herbert. He advocated the idea that only those species which can adapt themselves to the changing climatic conditions can survive on the earth.

Hitler used this idea to justify his dislike for the Jews and other races. He argued that the Aryans were the purest of all races, and thus they need to be stronger to dominate the world. He contended that all other weak races like that of the Jews would not be able to survive. It was on the pretext of this idea that he carried out the extermination of the Jews and Gypsies.

- Jews were treated as an anti-race, the archenemies of the Aryans
- The worst sufferers were the Jews. They were forced to live in miserable circumstances in the ghettos. In the early years of Nazi rule, Jews were forced to leave Germany. In the



Nazi propaganda poster against the disabled

later years of Hitler's rule, the Jews were rounded up in concentration camps and gas chambers.

- Marriages between Jews and Germans were forbidden. Extramarital relations between Jews and Germans became a crime. Jews were forbidden to fly the national flag
- Russians and Poles were also considered subhuman and captured civilians of Russia and Poland were forced to work as slave labour
- Much of north-western Poland was annexed by Germany. Polish intelligentsias were murdered in large numbers in order to keep the entire people intellectually and spiritually servile
- Polish children who looked like Aryans were forcibly snatched from their mothers. If they passed the race tests they were raised in German families and if not, they were deposited in orphanages to perished
- Many of them died simply through hard work starvation and extreme cold



Shoes taken away from prisoners before the 'Final Solution'

- The Polish were forced to leave behind their properties and homes for the Germans who came to settle in Poland. Most of the Polish were put into concentration camps. Many of them were murdered in large numbers.
- Hitler's ideology was also related to the geopolitical concept of Lebensraum or living space. He believed that new territories had to be acquired for settlement. This would enhance the area of the mother country, while enabling the settlers on new lands to retain an intimate link with the place of their origin. It would also enhance the material resources and power of the German nation.

Youth in Nazi Germany

- Hitler believed that by controlling education in schools, he will be able to spread Nazi ideologies in Germany. All Jewish teachers and children were dismissed from schools.
- School textbooks were rewritten. Racial sciences were used to
- justify Hitler's ideology of racial supremacy. Jews were painted as dishonest and untrustworthy in books.
- The Youth League of Nazis was founded in 1922 for educating German youths. Wars were glorified, democracy was condemned, and the Jews and disabled were hated in educational institutions

Apart from government-supported youth organisations, all other youth organisations were banned.

- After receiving physical training, the youth had to join the Labour Services at the age of 18 and had to serve in the army.



The Youth League of Nazis trained the youth in Nazi principles and ideologies. It also prepared them for the military.

Notions about Women in Nazi Ideologies

- The Nazis saw women as mothers whose main work was to become good mothers and rear pure- blooded Aryan children. They had to teach Nazi ideologies to their children.
- Girls were expected to maintain the purity of race and had to distance themselves from the Jews.
- All mothers were not equally treated in Nazi Germany. Those mothers who gave birth to undesirable, mental or physically unfit children were punished. Those who produced racially desirable children were awarded and honoured.
- Aryan children who deviated from the prescribed code of conduct were condemned and severely punished. Those who maintained relations with the Jews, Russians and Poles were paraded with shaved heads and were jailed.

The Art of Propaganda

- The Nazis used language and media carefully to propagate their ideologies. The words used to describe treatment to the Jews were deceptive. Nazis used words such as 'special treatment' and 'final solution' for mass killings of the Jews. 'Evacuation' was used for the mass deportation of people to gas chambers. Gas chambers were known as 'disinfection areas'.
- Media was used to popularise the support of the Government. Jews and those opposing the Nazis were stereotyped. Socialists and liberals were attacked as foreign agents.
- Many propaganda films were made to create hatred for the Jews. The Nazis worked on the minds of the people and turned the attention of the Germans towards people labelled as enemies of the Nazis.

Crimes against Humanity

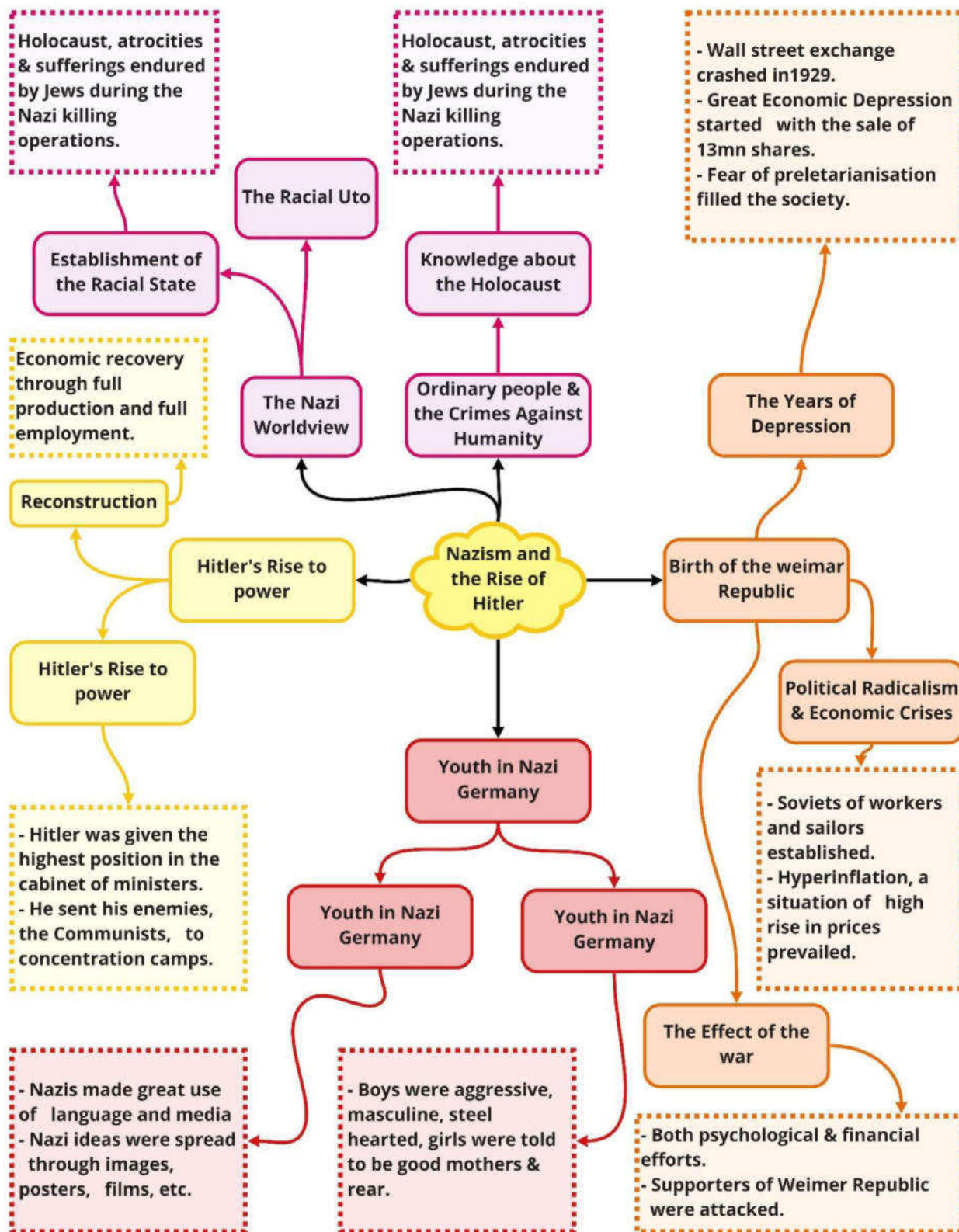
- The Nazis committed heinous crimes against humanity. Those people who raised their voices against the Nazi ideologies were beaten up by the police, jailed and sentenced to death.
- Many Germans remained silent to the crimes committed against humanity by the Nazis because of the fear of being jailed or losing their lives.
- About 6 million Jews were killed during Hitler's regime. About 1 million Polish civilians, 2,00,000 Gypsies and 70,000 mentally and physically ill Germans were killed.
- The greatest sufferings were endured by the Jews. Their elimination came to be known as the 'Holocaust'.
- The history and the memory of the Holocaust live on in memoirs, fiction, documentaries, poetry, memorials, and museums in many parts of the world today.



Jews in concentration camps

Shiksha
CLASSES

Class : 9th Social Studies (History)
Chapter-3: Nazism and the Rise of Hitler



Important Questions

Multiple Choice Questions:

Question 1. Hitler pull his country out of the League of Nations in:

- (a) 1933
- (b) 1940
- (c) 1943
- (d) 1923

Question 2. Tripartite Pact was signed between:

- (a) Germany
- (b) Italy
- (c) France
- (d) Russia

Question 3. When was Tripartite Pact signed?

- (a) In 1940
- (b) In 1919
- (c) In 1924
- (d) In 1944

Question 4. Which act established dictatorship in Germany?

- (a) Act of 1933
- (b) Act of 1919
- (c) Act of 1927
- (d) Enalding Act

Question 5. App. how many people were killed in Genocidal War.

- (a) 6 million Jews, 2000000 Gypsies, 1 million Polish and 70,000 Germans.
- (b) 2000000 Gypsies, 6 million Polish, 70,000 Jews and 1 million Germans.
- (c) 8 million Jews, 2000000 Gypsies, 1 million Polish and 70,000 Germans.
- (d) 6 million Jews, 70,000 Gypsies, 2000000 Polish and 1 million Germans.

Question 6. How were Allies power strengthened?

- (a) By defeating Germany
- (b) By defeating Japan

- (c) By defeating Italy
- (d) With the entering of US in World War

Question 7. Where is Wall Street Exchange (The world's biggest stock exchange)?

- (a) In Germany
- (b) In UK
- (c) In France
- (d) In USA

Question 8. Where did Soviet Red Army inflict a crushing defeat on Germany?

- (a) At Stalingrad
- (b) At St. Petersburg
- (c) At Nuremberg
- (d) At Bavaria

Question 9. For what Auschwitz is known for?

- (a) For mass demonstration
- (b) For mass killing Centre
- (c) For entertainment Centre
- (d) For museum

Question 10. What is the name of Republic that was established in Germany after World War I?

- (a) Republic of German Federation
- (b) Republic of German Confederation
- (c) German Republic State
- (d) The Weimer Republic

Question 11. The name of German Parliament is:

- (a) Duma
- (b) Reichstang
- (c) Auschwitz
- (d) Weimer Republic

Question 12. The great economic depression began in:

- (a) 1929
- (b) 1930

(c) 1928

(d) 1919

Question 13. The term 'Proletarianisation' refers to:

(a) Impoverished to the level of the middle class.

(b) Imporverished to the level of the upper/ruling class.

(c) Impoverished to the level of the working class.

(d) Exploitation of the new emerging middle class.

Question 14. Which of the following is the name of German Parliament?

(a) Reichstag

(b) Duma

(c) Weimer

(d) German Republican

Question 15. Who was given the responsibility of economic recovery?

(a) Lenin

(b) Hitler

(c) Stalin

(d) Hjalmer School

Very Short Questions:

1. Who was Helmuth?

2. Who was Helmuth's father?

3. 'Nazism was a system.' Explain.

4. Who was Goebbels? How did Hitler and Goebbels meet their end?

5. Why was International Military Tribunal set up at Nuremberg, at the end of the war?

6. Name the countries which formed the Axis Powers during the Second World War.

7. Explain 'genocidal war'.

8. How did Nazis kill the innocent people?

9. What was the attitude of the Allied Powers at the Nuremberg Tribunal?

10. Name the countries which formed the Allied powers.

Short Questions:

1. State the verdict of the Nuremberg Tribunal. Why did the Allies avoid harsh punishment to Germany?

2. "The Treaty of Versailles was humiliating on the Germans." Give three examples in support of your statement.
3. 'The Weimar constitution had some inherent defects.' Explain.
4. State three ways in which Nazi state established total control over its people.
5. How did the Nazi state get the reputation as the most dreaded criminal state?
6. By the end of 1940, Hitler was at the pinnacle of his power.' Explain the statement with examples.
7. What was Hitler's aim in conquering Eastern Europe? What was its result?

Long Questions:

1. What was the impact of First World War on European and German society?
2. What was the economic crisis of 1923? How did it affect Germany?
3. Highlight the five events of 1933 that led to the destruction of democracy in Germany.
4. What was the foreign policy of Hitler?
5. How did the Nazis proceed to realize their murderous racial ideology by eliminating the 'undesirables'? Explain.

Assertion Reason Questions:

1. In the following questions, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Mark the correct choice as:

Assertion (A) : Nazi ideas were spread only through newspapers.

Reason (R) : The Nazis made equal efforts to appeal to all the different sections of the population.

- A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
 - B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
 - C) (A) is true, but (R) is false.
 - D) (A) is false, but (R) is true.
2. In the following questions, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Mark the correct choice as:

Assertion(A) : Germany retaliated with passive resistance and printed paper currency recklessly. With too much printed money in circulation, the value of the German Mark fell.

Reason (R) : The Americans intervened and bailed Germany out of the crisis by introducing the Dawes Plan, which reworked the terms of reparation to ease the

financial burden on Germans.

- A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- C) (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- D) (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Case Study Based Question:

1. Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:

In May 1945, Germany surrendered to the Allies. Anticipating what was coming, Hitler, his Propaganda Minister Goebbels and his entire family committed suicide collectively in his Berlin bunker in April. At the end of the war, an International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg was set up to prosecute Nazi War Criminals for Crimes against Peace, for War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity. Germany's conduct during the war, especially those actions which came to be called Crimes Against Humanity, raised serious moral and ethical questions and invited worldwide condemnation. What were these acts?

Under the shadow of the Second World War, Germany had waged a Genocidal war, which resulted in the mass murder of selected groups of innocent civilians of Europe. The number of people killed included 6 million Jews, 200,000 Gypsies, 1 million Polish Civilians, 70,000 Germans who were considered mentally and physically disabled, besides innumerable political opponents. Nazis devised an unprecedented means of killing people, that is, by gassing them in various killing centres like Auschwitz. The Nuremberg Tribunal sentenced only eleven leading Nazis to death. Many others were imprisoned for life. The retribution did come, yet the punishment of the Nazis was far short of the brutality and extent of their crimes. The Allies did not want to be as harsh on defeated Germany as they had been after the First World War.

- (1) When did Germany surrender to the Allies?

- A) In July 1945
- B) In May 1945
- C) In March 1945
- D) In June 1945

- (2) Killing on a large scale of people leading to destruction is called:

- A) Accidental War
- B) Suicidal War
- C) Genocidal War
- D) Artificial War

- (3) In 1941 Allied power of UK and France were also joined by the:

- A) USSR and Japan
- B) Japan and China
- C) Italy and Germany
- D) USSR and USA

(4) Which category of people were the biggest victim of Nazis?

- A) Gypsies
- B) Jews
- C) Polish Civilians
- D) Mentally and physically disabled Germans.

2. Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:

The crisis in the economy, policy and society formed the background to Hitler's rise to power. Born in 1889 in Austria, Hitler spent his youth in poverty. When the First World War broke out, he enrolled for the Army, acted as a Messenger in the front, became a corporal, and earned medals for bravery. The German defeat horrified him and the Versailles Treaty made him furious. In 1919; he joined a small group called the German Workers' Party. He subsequently took over the Organisation and renamed it the National Socialist German Workers' Party. This Party came to be known as the Nazi Party.

In 1923, Hitler planned to seize control of Bavaria, march to Berlin and capture power. He failed, was arrested, tried for treason, and later released. The Nazis could not effectively mobilise popular support till the early 1930s. It was during the Great Depression that Nazism became a mass movement. As we have seen, after 1929, banks collapsed and businesses shut down, workers lost their jobs and the middle classes were threatened with destitution. In such a situation Nazi Propaganda stirred hopes of a better future. In 1928, the Nazi Party got no more than 2.6 per cent votes in the Reichstag – The German Parliament. By 1932, it had become the largest Party with 37 per cent votes.

(1) When did Hitler enrol in the army?

- A) When the Second World War broke out.
- B) When the Second World War got over.
- C) When the First World War broke out.
- D) When the First World War ended.

(2) When did Hitler join the German Workers' Party?

- A) In 1914
- B) In 1919
- C) In 1916

D) In 1918

(3) Till the early, _____ the Nazis could not effectively mobilise popular support.

A) 1920's

B) 1930's

C) 1940's

D) 1950's

(4) What is the term used for the German Parliament?

A) House of Laws

B) Reichstag

C) White House

D) Parliament of Germany

Answer Key:

MCQ:

1. (d) 1933

2. (c) France

3. (a) In 1940

4. (d) Enabling Act

5. (a) 6 million Jews, 2000000 Gypsies, 1 million Polish and 70,000 Germans.

6. (b) By defeating Japan

7. (d) In USA

8. (a) At Stalingrad

9. (b) For mass killing centre

10.(d) The Weimer Republic

11.(b) Reichstang

12.(a) 1929

13.(c) Impoverished to the level of the working class.

14.(a) Reichstag

15.(b) Hitler

Very Short Answer:

1. Helmuth, was an eleven-year-old German boy who overheard his parent's discussion on whether the entire family should be killed or only his father should commit suicide.

2. Helmuth's father was a Nazi and supporter of Adolf Hitler.
3. Nazism did not consist of few isolated acts. It was a structure of ideas about the world and politics
4. Goebbels was the propaganda minister of Hitler. They, along with Goebbels' family committed suicide collectively in Hitler's Berlin bunker in April 1945.
5. The International Military Tribunal was set up at Nuremberg by the Allies to prosecute Nazi war criminals for Crimes against Peace, for War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity.
6. Germany, Italy and Japan formed the Axis Powers.
7. Genocidal war means killing on large scale, leading to elimination of large section of people
8. They devised an unprecedented means of killing people, i.e., by gassing them in numerous killing centers like Auschwitz
9. The Nuremberg Tribunal sentenced only eleven leading Nazis to death. Many were imprisoned for life. The Allies had a lenient attitude towards Germany. The Allies did not want to be harsh on Germany, as they were after the First World War.
10. At the beginning of the second world war, Allied powers were led by U.K. and France. In 1941 they were joined by USSR and USA.

Short Answer:

Ans: 1. The Nuremberg Tribunal convicted Germany and dubbed its conduct during war as crime against humanity. The allies avoided harsh punishment to Germany because of the following reasons. (a) They did not want to repeat the mistakes done after First World War by being harsh to Germany

that gave rise to the ideology of Nazism under Hitler.

(b) They were conscious about another destructive war that could erase humanity.

Ans: 2. The Treaty of Versailles was humiliating on the Germans in the following ways.

(a) The War Guilt clause held Germany responsible for the war and damages, the Allied countries suffered.

(b) Germany was forced to pay compensation amounting to £ 6 billion.

(c) Germany lost her overseas possessions, 13 percent of her territories, 75 per cent of its iron and 26 per cent of its coal to France, Poland, Denmark and Lithuania.

Ans: 3. The Weimar constitution had some inherent defects, which made the government weak and unstable and vulnerable to dictatorship. The defects were:

(a) Proportional representation: It became impossible for any one political party to achieve a majority, leading to coalition government.

(b) Article 48: It gave the President the powers to impose emergency, suspend civil rights and rule by decree.

Within a short period Weimar Republic saw twenty different cabinets lasting 239 days on an average. People no longer had faith in the democratic parliamentary system.

Ans: 4. The Nazi state established total control over its people by the following ways.

- (a) The Enabling Act 1933 established dictatorship in Germany. All trade unions and political parties were banned except for the Nazi Party.
- (b) The state established total control over the economy, media, army and judiciary.
- (c) Special surveillance and security forces were created to control society in the ways that Nazis Wanted.

Ans: 5. Special surveillance and security forces were created to keep a close watch on the activities of the people and to control and order society in the ways that Nazi wanted. Apart from regular police force and SA or the Storm Troopers, there was the Gestapo (secret state police), the SS (the protection squads), the criminal police and the Security Service (SD) the new organised forces enjoyed extra-constitutional powers. These dreaded organisation and their workings gave the Nazi state the reputation of the most dreaded criminal state. People could be detained in torture chambers and sent to concentration camps or arrested and detained without any legal procedures.

Ans: 6. (a) In foreign policy, Hitler acquired quick successes. He left the League of Nations, reoccupied Rhineland, annexed Austria, took German-speaking Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia and finally the whole country.

(b) In September 1939, Germany invaded Poland. It started the war with England and France. Puppet governments who supported Hitler were set up in many parts of Europe.

(c) In September 1940, Hitler signed a Tripartite pact with Italy and Japan to strengthen his claim to international power.

Ans: 7. Hitler wanted to conquer Eastern Europe because he wanted to ensure food supplies and living space for the Germans. He attacked Soviet Union in June 1941. The Red Army inflicted a humiliating defeat on Germany. It was a historic blunder on the part of Germany. Her western frontiers were exposed to British aerial bombing and eastern frontier to the soviet army. The soviet army established its control over the entire Eastern Europe.

Long Answer:

Ans: 1. The First World War left a deep impact on European and German society and polity.

- (a) Financially, Europe which was a continent of creditors turned into one of debtors.
- (b) Soldiers were placed above civilians. Politicians and publicists wanted men to be aggressive, strong and masculine. Aggressive propaganda was carried out.
- (c) Democracy which was a new idea could not survive during interwar Europe.
- (d) The Weimar Republic, formed in Germany after the war, had to accept war guilt and

national humiliation. It had to make reparation payments which made Germany financially crippled.

(e) Media glorified trench life against the truth in which soldiers were leading a miserable life.

Ans: 2. (a) Germany had fought the war largely on loans and had to make reparation payments in gold. This depleted gold reserves and resources were scarce.

(b) In 1923 Germany refused to pay, and the French retaliated by occupying the Ruhr, to claim their coal.

Germany protested and printed paper currency. With too much money in circulation, the value of German mark fell. In April, the US dollar was equal to 24000 marks, in July 353,000 marks, in August 4621,000 marks. By December figure had run into trillion. As the value of the mark declined the prices of goods started rising. This crisis came to be known as hyperinflation.

Ans: 3. The events of 1933 that led to the destruction of democracy in Germany are as follows.

(a) On 30 January 1933 President Hindenburg gave the Chancellorship, the highest position in cabinet to Hitler. Hitler now tried to dismantle the structure of democratic rule.

(b) A mysterious fire broke out in German Parliament which facilitated his move.

(c) The Fire Decree of 27 February 1933 indefinitely suspended civic rights like freedom of speech, press and assembly that had been granted by the Weimar republic.

(d) Communists, who were the enemies of Hitler were sent to the concentration camps.

(e) On 3 March, Enabling Act was passed. It established dictatorship in Germany. Hitler could rule without the consent of the parliament. All political parties and trade unions were banned except the Nazi Party. The state had full control over media, army and judiciary.

Ans: 4. The events of 1933 that led to the destruction of democracy in Germany are as follows.

(a) On 30 January 1933 President Hindenburg gave the Chancellorship, the highest position in cabinet to Hitler. Hitler now tried to dismantle the structure of democratic rule.

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(e) On 3 March, Enabling Act was passed. It established dictatorship in Germany. Hitler could rule without the consent of the parliament. All political parties and trade unions were banned except the Nazi Party. The state had full control over media, army and judiciary.

Ans: 5. The Nazis proceeded to realise their murderous racial ideology by eliminating the

undesirables in the following manner.

(a) Jews remained the worst sufferers in Nazi Germany. From 1933-1938 Jewish business was boycotted, they were expelled from government services and their property was confiscated. From 1939-1945 the Jews were kept in ghettos, in extreme poverty and misery and eventually they were killed in gas chambers.

(b) Germany occupied the north-western Poland. Poles were forced to leave their homes and property, to be occupied by ethnic Germans. Poles were then sent to the final destination of the 'undesirables'.

(c) Members of Polish intelligentsia were murdered in large number in order to keep the entire people intellectually servile.

(d) Polish children who looked like Aryans were forcibly snatched and examined by race experts. If they passed the test, they were raised in German families and if not, they were sent to orphanages, most of them died.

(e) Poland had some of the largest ghettos and gas chambers where Jews were killed.

Assertion Reason Answer:

1. A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
2. B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Case Study Answer:

1. Answer:

- (1) B) In May 1945
- (2) C) Genocidal War
- (3) D) USSR and USA
- (4) B) Jews

2. Answer:

- (1) C) When the First World War broke out.
- (2) B) In 1919
- (3) B) 1930's
- (4) B) Reichstag