

Two Dictators

	Benito Mussolini	Adolf Hitler
Dates	1922 – 1943	1933 – 1945
Country	Italy	Germany
Political Beliefs	Strong Nationalism, Fascist Party, called "IL Duce" (the leader)	Same as Italy, Nazi Party, Called "Der Fuhrer" The leader
Goal	Expand Italy's power to create a new Roman Empire	Unite all German-speaking peoples into the Third Reich of 1000 years of Aryan triumph
Support	Upper and middle classes, nationalists, militarists, big business, unemployed, anti-Communists	Working class groups, nationalists, militarists, unemployed, anti – Semites, anti - communists
Background	Son of a blacksmith, socialist until WW I when kicked out of the Party for being an ultranationalist	Born in Austria, son of a low-level govt. official, would be artist, wounded in WW I; angered by Versailles Treaty and Weimar Govt.
Racial Attitudes	Italian superiority; some anti – semitism after Hitler	Hatred of all non-Aryans particularly Jews, proposed a Final Solution
Personality	Emotional orator and leader	Powerful orator, artist by training, socially aloof in most relationships
Methods of Gaining Power	Black Shirts created to assault and eliminate opponents, promoted corporate state idea and military Appointed Premier by King in 1922 Had secret police	Jailed and wrote Mein Kampf, Brown Shirts used and then developed SS and Gestapo as spy groups and special killers. Appointed Chancellor (1933)
Enemies	Communists	Communists and non- Aryan elements that would pollute gene pool or limit Aryan accomplishments.
How kept power	Totalitarianism, War as a unifier, political parties outlawed, propaganda	Same but to a greater degree
Results of his rule	Reduced unemployment, Industry, agriculture improved, Pride increased, military raised to high status and power, education improved but not standard of living and treasury went broke	Economic recovery and pride, Extermination of "inferiors" begun, Super militarism and nationalism