

Year 9 The Rise of Dictators Knowledge Organiser

Rationale: The aim of this unit is to explore the reasons why dictators were able to rise to power in the USSR (causation) and Germany in the 1920s and 1930s and what it was like to live in a country that was controlled by a dictator. We will develop our understanding of whether this type of leadership benefited the people who lived in those countries (consequence).

Main key concept

1. Dictatorship A country ruled by one strong leader who has total power (a dictator). There are no elections and no opposition is allowed.

2. Totalitarian A form of government that attempts to assert total control over the lives of its citizens.

Stalin's Russia

Key concepts

3. Communism A system where all property and business is owned by the government. Each person contributes and receives according to need and ability.

4. Industrialisation Developing industry by building more factories and increasing production.

5. Collectivisation A system where peasants work together on large farms to increase production of crops.

Key events

6. 1924 Stalin became leader of the USSR.

7. Five Year Plans (1928 -) Plans to make industry in the more productive.

8. Great Terror (1936 - 38) Purging of the armed forces, teachers, engineers, factory managers and workers.

Key people/groups

9. NKVD The secret police; used to crush any opposition.

10. Gosplan Agency responsible for improving the economy of the USSR.

Key vocabulary

11. Peasant Poor farmers who worked for rich landowners.

12. Kulak Rich peasants; resented by poorer peasants.

13. Kolkhoz A collective farm. Almost all the crops they produced would be given to the government at low prices to feed industrial workers.

14. Dekulakisation The attempt to destroy the kulaks in the USSR. Millions were imprisoned or killed.

15. Purges Attempts to get rid of anyone who was a threat to Stalin's power.

16. Show trials Public trials of members of the Communist Party.

17. Gulag Forced labour camps in Siberia.

18. Propaganda Information used to make people believe an idea or support a leader; often misleading.

19. Cult of personality The use of propaganda to create a worshipful image of the leader.

Hitler's Germany

Key concepts

20. Fascism A form of government with one strong leader. Society is heavily controlled by the government. Violence is used to arrest or kill anyone it does not like. Usually believes that their country is better than others.

Key events

22. 1933 Hitler became Chancellor of Germany

22. 1934 Hitler became dictator.

Key people/groups

23. Gestapo The secret police; used to crush any opposition.

24. Hitler Youth A Nazi youth group to train boys for the army and teach them Nazi ideas.

25. National Labour Service (RAD) This provided jobs for young men between 18 and 25 years of age.

26. German Labour Front Organised the building of motorways (autobahns,) hospitals, schools, and other public buildings to create thousands of jobs.

Key vocabulary

27. Treaty An agreement between countries

28. Fuhrer. The German word for supreme leader.

29. Rearmament. The expansion of the armed forces.

30. Concentration camp A camp where people are held as prisoners, usually for their political beliefs.

31. Censorship Controlling what information people are allowed to see.

32. Persecution Unfair or cruel treatment over a period of time- usually because of race or religion.

33. Indoctrination To brainwash people with a set of ideas or beliefs.

34. Police state The government uses the police to control the people. And severely limit their freedom