Road to World War II

The Rise of Dictators
Rise of Dictators

- **Italy** - Benito Mussolini
  1922 Fascist Party.

- **Russia** - Josef Stalin
  1922 - communist party

- **Germany** - Adolf Hitler
  1933 National Socialist German Worker’s Party (a.k.a. Nazi)
He played on the fears of economic collapse and communism. In this way, he won the support of many discontented Italians.

- unemployment and inflation produced bitter strikes, some communist-led.
Mussolini brought the economy under **state control**

Capitalism remained

All were expected to obey Mussolini.

Authority was enforced by the **Black Shirts** appointed by Mussolini.

Fascist ideas were spread through the youth = a nation of warriors.
Conditions In Soviet Union

- civil war, the result was the creation of a communist state
- Depression and Unemployment
- Infrastructure (buildings) collapsing
- Poor living conditions
Life Under Josef Stalin

- Total control of all media
- Stalin’s self-image was glorified. Painting portrayed him as a kind and gentle uncle figure.
- Children were taught how to become good socialists/communists.
- The state paid families a child allowance if they were a married couple.
Life Under Josef Stalin

- Millions died due to government taking over all aspects of peoples lives
- Many of Russia’s most talented people were murdered during the Purges of 1930.
- Anyone with talent was viewed as a threat to Stalin.
Germany was expected to pay off huge war debts, demilitarize, give up land, and industry while dealing with widespread poverty.

The Great Depression helped the Nazis come to power.
Life Under Adolf Hitler

- **Hitler Youth** - It was an additional education for students as a way of continuing Nazi Germany.

- **SS/Gestapo** - Maintained security, fought alongside the army and took control of concentration camps.

“Every girl belongs to us.”
Life Under Adolf Hitler

- Hitler used **propaganda** as a way of aiming at people’s emotions.
- Nazi members had full control of what they wanted the German people to see and hear.
  - Jazz music was banned.
  - Films were controlled.
  - Telling jokes about Hitler was banned.
Japan

- **Leader (Prime Minister):** Hideki Tojo
- **Form of Government:**
  - Military Rule of Government
- **Goals:**
  - Japan to dominate all the Pacific & Eastern Asia
  - Need for resources to support Japanese industrialization / empire
Fascism refers to any centralized, authoritarian government that is not communist whose policies glorify the state over the individual and are destructive to human rights.

Fascism often takes nationalism to an extreme form.
**Totalitarianism**

- **Definition:** when the state, usually under the control of a single political organization, faction, or group, has no limits to its authority and attempts to regulate every aspect of public and private life.

- Basically, *total power* is held by one party and its totalitarian leader.
Authoritarian

- Root word: Authority
- The government reaches a level of power where it strictly enforces obedience to its rules. Peoples’ personal freedoms are usually restricted.
End