

STAGES OF THE HOLOCAUST

educational material
for the Erasmus+ K2 WEBINAR

Gymnázium, Alejová1, Kosice, Slovakia



The Nazi rise to power in Germany

April 1933



**Potsdam, Germany, Hitler at a
Ceremony for Youth Day,
Before the War**



**Potsdam, Germany,
2.10.1932, Celebrations of
Youth Day**

The Nazi rise to power in Germany

April 1933

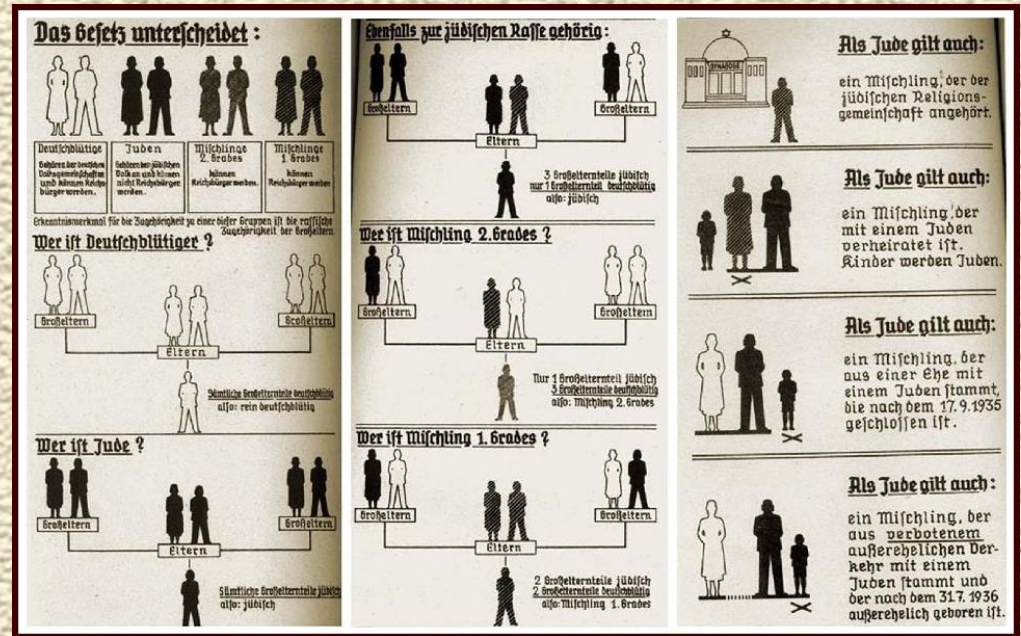
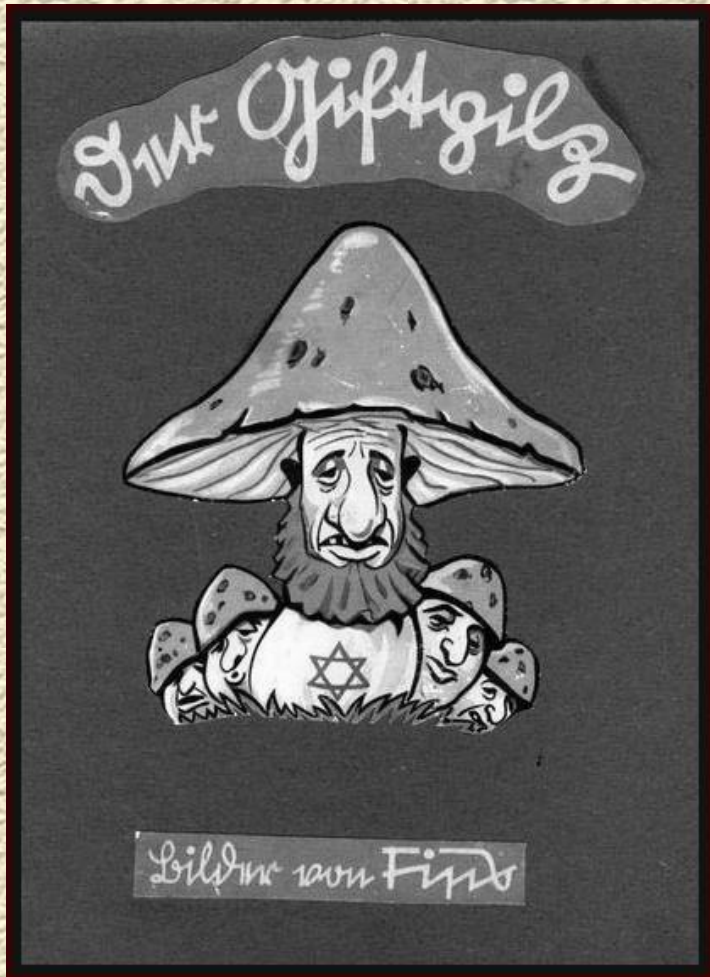
- The Nazi movement was one of several different anti-democratic movements that were active in Europe and in particular in Germany between the two world wars , some of these were antisemitic.
- Hitler's appointment as chancellor of Germany in January 1933 was followed by several months in which Germany went from being a parliamentary democracy to a totalitarian state.
- Center of activity in the quest for control was the use of organized terror against opponents and ideological enemies of the regime.
- This activity culminated in the establishment and operation of a network of concentration camps for political prisoners and others.

Anti-Jewish measures



- Anti-Jewish boycotts
- Segregations of the Jews
- Dispossession of their property
- Concentration camps
- Evacuation
- The „Final Solution“

Anti-Jewish measures



A Racial Chart Taken From a Nazi Propaganda Booklet: 'Who Has German Blood? Who Belongs to the Jewish Race? Who is of Mixed Race?'

Anti-Jewish measures

Nazi ideology used elements of traditional Christian antisemitism although, it mainly centered on racist antisemitism, which portrayed the Jews as an inferior and destructive race. Hitler's views of the Jews were portrayed in his book Mein Kampf. He interpreted Germany's situation and the German people's need for "living space" (lebensraum) in terms of a "new order" worldview.

This ideology fueled the Jews as archenemies in a racial life-and-death struggle that had to be won. When the Nazis took control, they immediately began implementing their racist views in Germany, and during the war their policy was implemented throughout the rest of Europe.

Nazi propaganda



An Antisemitic Propaganda
Poster from France



A Nazi Propaganda
Poster Calling
Workers to Vote for Hitler



What were contents and the means that the Nazis used to achieve their educational goals? Try to imagine and describe the position of a Jewish child in school in those days

Nazi propaganda

- **The Nazis took over total control of the mass media and used them extensively to disseminate their ideology through a special government ministry for propaganda.**
- **The German educational system was used as a tool to teach Nazi ideological messages; schools and youth groups conveyed the ideas of Nazism to the young generation.**
- **The Nazis recruited the cultural and art centers in Germany and used them to portray the Nazi imagery and symbolism.**

Refugees



1.The girl in the picture is lucky. Why?

2.Why her luck is not expressed on her face?

Refugees



Vienna, Austria, Jewish Refugees Who Stayed at Rothschild House



- **Southampton, England, 1939, Refugees on the St. Louis**

Refugees

During the very first year of Nazi rule tens of thousands of Jews left Germany, most of them of their own initiative and not through any organization. The gradual exacerbating situation of German Jewry produced increasing pressure to emigrate and, as a result, the Jewish organizations offered extensive help for the emigrants. Material was gathered on possible destinations of emigration, courses were taught in various languages, and vocational training was provided in preparation for emigration.

Toward the end of the 1930s, and especially from the latter half of 1938, massive Jewish emigration from Germany and Austria became an explicit objective of Nazi policy. However, rather than being emigrants who chose to leave Germany of their own volition and decide on their destination, the Jews became refugees expelled from their birth-land.

“Kristallnacht” November 9-10, 1938

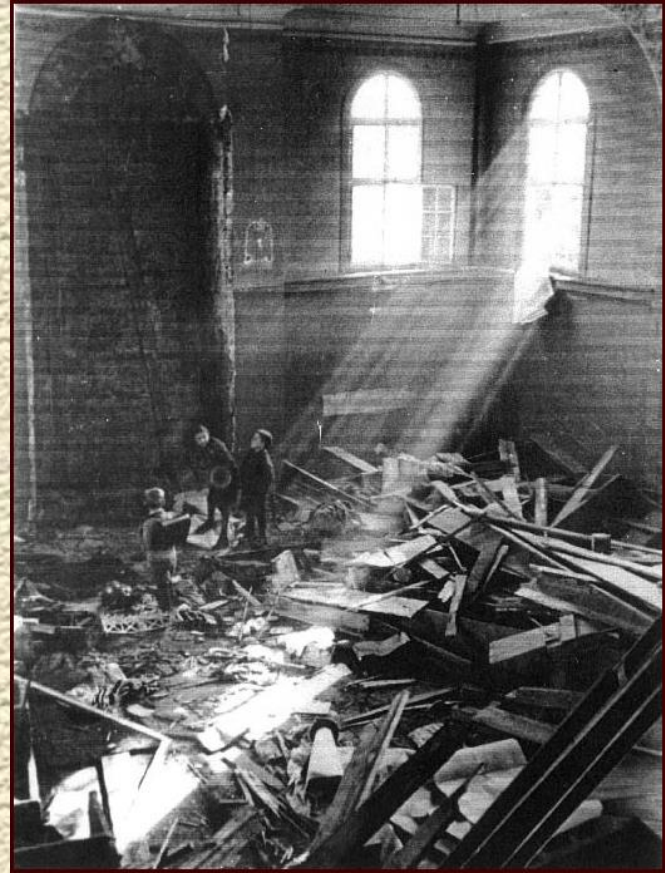


Burning of the synagogues and the shopwindows of Jewish-owned stores throughout Germany and Austria.

“Kristallnacht” November 9-10, 1938



**A Synagogue On Fire on
Kristallnacht, 10.11.1938,
Siegen, Germany**



**Koenigsbach, Germany, the
interior of a ruined synagogue
after the kristallnacht, 10/11/1938**

“Kristallnacht” November 9-10, 1938

- **The year 1938 saw a horrific radicalization of the anti-Jewish policy of the Nazi regime.**
- **In October 1938, about 17,000 Jews of Polish origin were deported from Germany.**
- **This chain of events culminated in an outburst of violence against Jews throughout the Reich in November 1938. This became known as the Kristallnacht Pogrom, in the course of which 99 Jews were murdered.**

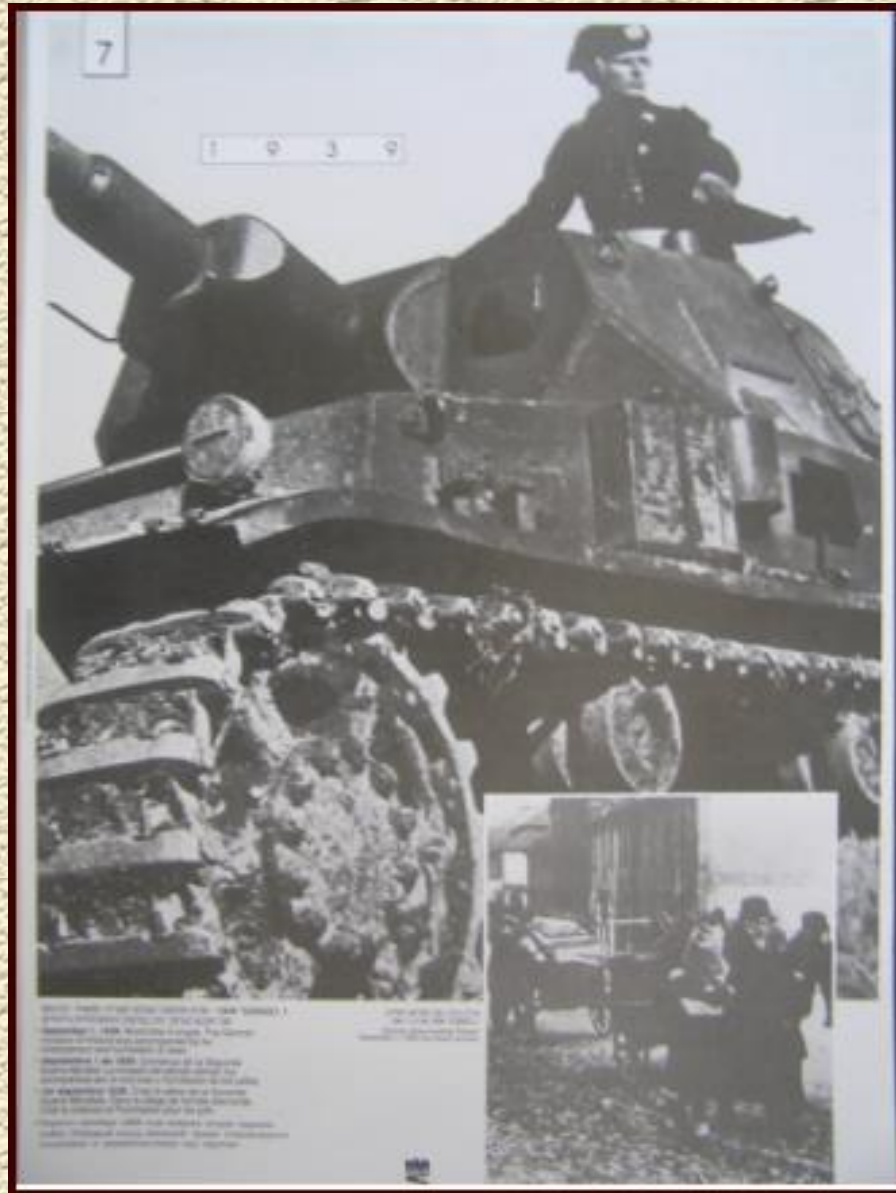
The beginning of WWII September 1939 German invasion of Poland



**Polish infantry during the
Polish September
Campaign, September
1939.**



**October 5, 1939:
Wehrmacht parade
down Warsaw's *Aleje
Ujazdowskie***



What repercussions could be expected after the conquest of Poland?

Isolation and Ghettoisation



A special decree confined Jews to enclosed ghettos





DEUTSCHER VOLKSBUND
VON DEUTSCHLAND
VEREINIGUNG DER DEUTSCHEN
WIRTSCHAFTS- UND BERUFSGRUPPEN
IN DER DEUTSCHEN ZONE
DER ZONE
DEUTSCHER VOLKSBUND

Isolation and Ghettoisation

The Jews of Central and Western Europe saw themselves as an integral part of society. Yet, the Nazi occupation created a reality where the Jews were cut off from society in their countries of residence, thus casting the initial acts of persecution upon the Jews.

Following the occupation, the Jews of France, the Netherlands, and other countries were subjected to discriminatory legislation that revoked their citizenship and banished them from economic life. Consequently, the Jews had to reorganize themselves separately in order to function as a self-sufficient group. In the course of time, the Jews in these countries, like those in Germany itself, were forced to wear the yellow star or the equivalent of such. Ultimately, Nazi policy became more extreme and Jews of Central and Western Europe were deported to death camps in Eastern Europe.

Humiliating Jews



SS Members Subjecting an Elderly Jewish Man to Humiliation by Cutting off his Beard

Humiliating Jews



Germany, A Photograph from a Newspaper: A Jewish Man and a Christian Woman Being Humiliated after Having Confessed to Sexual Intercourse



Germany, Two Jewish Students Being Humiliated in Front of Their Classmates

The WW2 and children



A german boy in SA uniform



A jewish boy in the Warsaw Ghetto

The WW2 and children



Warsaw, Poland- Children Sitting on the Pavement Soliciting Alms



Warsaw, Poland, 19.09.1941, A Child Lying on the Pavement in the Ghetto



Kovna, Lithuania- Children on the Street in the Ghetto

Humiliating Jews

In the aftermath of the occupation and partition of Poland the political infrastructures in Poland collapsed and chaos reigned. Hundreds of thousands left their homes, including many Jews who managed to flee eastward into Soviet territory. In the wake of German occupation, Polish Jewry was subjected to vicious acts of humiliation, violent physical attacks and even murder.

Due to the absence of a clear and directed Nazi policy, these attacks were arbitrary, but their vast number stripped the Jews of all personal security and made them feel uncertain about their future.

Mass murder



The “Final Solution“ called for the murder of the Jews of Europe by gassing, shooting, and other means

Up to 6 million Jews lost their lives-two thirds of the jews living in Europe in 1939

Mass murder



Vinnista, Ukraine, An Execution by Gun Shot, carried out by an S.D. Soldier, 1942



Lvov, Poland, Seven Judenrat Members Executed by Hanging

Mass murder

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Transports

The process of annihilating European Jewry in extermination camps began with the deportation from their homes in late 1941. The deportation operations encompassed several stages: first, arrests were made in Aktionen or Razzien, i.e., manhunts. Then they were concentrated at transit points. From there, thousands of Jews were transported to extermination camps. Sometimes, they were brought to an interim stage, such as ghettos or transit camps. In Eastern Europe, hundreds or even thousands of Jews were indiscriminately rounded up in each Aktion from the ghettos, to fill the quota of deportees set by the Nazis and were deported on freight trains. The train journey sometimes lasted several days under harsh conditions without water, food, or sanitary facilities and many Jews perished during the course of the journey.

The deportation of the Jews of the Reich, and subsequently the Jews of Western and Southern Europe, to the ghettos and camps in the East somewhat differed. In some cases deportees received arrest orders instructing them to report personally. Occasionally they traveled in passenger trains and even had to buy their own tickets.

Slaves and Masters



1. What is the purpose of the orchestra that accompanies the prisoners in the concentration camp?
2. The musical instruments were brought from home by the prisoners. What can we learn from this fact?

Slaves and Masters

Beginning in the mid - 1930s, the Nazis started economically exploiting the prisoners in the camps. The SS authorities hired out its human resource - the labor of the camp inmates - to various German companies in order to make a profit. German control of large parts of Europe presented a wide range of possibilities for continued economic exploitation of what they considered racially inferior populations.

Consequently, hundreds of camps were established for forced labor. The harsh working conditions caused the deaths of a substantial number of prisoners. The SS authorities even developed the concept of "extermination through labor," which was implemented with regard to some of the prisoners, especially the Jews

Jewish resistance



**Jewish uprising in
Warsaw Ghetto**



Jewish partisans

Jewish resistance



**Yugoslav Partisans,
Among Them Viktor Mesulam**



Jewish Partisans, Among them Jacob Takis

Jewish resistance

- **Underground groups were formed, initially engaging in resisting the Nazis by operating illegal schools, printing presses and other clandestine activities.**
- **Only as they became aware of the Nazi plans for extermination, which was already in progress, did these groups start to organize armed resistance.**
- **The most famous was the uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto.**

The Holocaust survivors



The Holocaust survivors

- **Even after the liberation of Europe and the end of World War II, tens of thousands of Jewish survivors remained in concentration camps and in hiding. Some returned to their countries of origin; others felt that they could no longer remain on European soil.**
- **Survivors were gathered in the Displaced Persons Camps (DP camps) in Germany, Austria, and Italy. Gradually, they were joined by many of the 200,000 Polish Jews who had found refuge in the USSR during the war and subsequently returned to Europe.**
- **Most of the camp residents developed a firm Zionist worldview, and the vast majority declared their intention of moving to Palestine.**

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