

FASCISM

Elements conducive to Fascism:

- Fascist governments are likely to gain power in nations that have.
 - undergone a brief but unsuccessful period of democracy and
 - a pre-existing industrial capacity
- both Italy and Germany support this example
- this pattern is opposite that of communism which often takes hold in countries which have no previous democratic tradition and lack industrialization

Historic Fascist Documents

- unlike Communism, Fascism has no single definitive Manifesto; as an extremely national ideology, different countries tend to have their own unique ideas on how to implement and maintain Fascist principles
- in 1932 Mussolini wrote The Doctrine Of Fascism which outlined the basic tenets of Italian Fascism
- Hitler wrote Mein Kampf over the course of his imprisonment in 1925-26. It described the ideology and values which the German Nazi party eventually adopted
- there are, however, 7 principle elements which are shared by all Fascist Regimes:

1. Distrust of Reason
2. Denial of basic Human Equality
3. Code of Behaviour based on bias and violence
4. Government by elite
5. Totalitarianism
6. Racism and Imperialism
7. Opposition to International Law and Order

National Permutations of Fascism

- after fascism was adopted in Italy several other countries have attempted to adopt a Fascist doctrine that suited their country the best
- National Socialism (Nazism) was outlined by Hitler
- economically similar to Fascism, Nazism adopted a more racist attitude
- there was a clear racial hierarchy in Nazi Germany:
 - The Aryan Race (nordic peoples) were considered perfect
 - Other western Europeans and North Americans
 - South and Central Americans
 - Arabs and Blacks
 - Slavs
 - Jews and Gypsies
 - no clear stand on Orientals

Japanese Fascism

- Also adopted a very racist stand
- believed the Japanese were the only pure Orientals
- all others were suitable only for subjugation and slavery
- Japanese fascism also did not radically change the government; the Emperor maintained both power and godlike status

Argentine Fascism (Peronism)

- adopted most of the policies of Italian Fascism but kept the electoral process to present a semblance of democracy
- in reality, opposition was tortured and subjected to terror led by government controlled mobs
- although Peron won all the elections, he lost power through a revolution in 1955