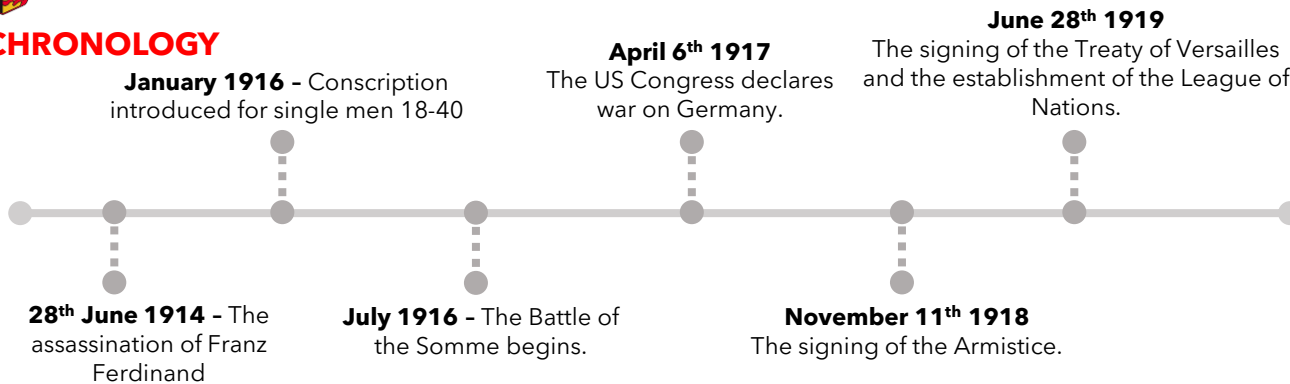




# 9.1 - World War I Did the world go to war by 'accident' or 'choice' in 1914?

## CORE CONTENT

### CHRONOLOGY



### KEY FIGURE

#### Kaiser Wilhelm II - Emperor of German

Kaiser Wilhelm II was the last German Emperor (Kaiser) and King of Prussia, ruling from 1888 to 1918.

He is known for his role in escalating tensions leading to World War I, particularly through his aggressive foreign policy and naval buildup.

This approach from the Kaiser led to strained tensions with other European powers such as Britain, France and Russia.



### TERMINOLOGY

#### Militarism

The belief or policy that a nation should maintain a strong military and be prepared to use it aggressively to achieve national goals.



#### Alliances

A network of agreements between countries, often promising military support to each other.



#### Imperialism

The policy of extending a country's power and influence through colonization, military force, or economic control over other territories.



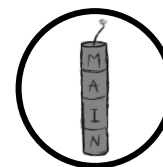
#### Nationalism

A strong feeling of pride in and devotion to one's country.



#### Assassination

The willful killing, by a sudden, secret, or planned attack, of a person—especially if prominent or important.



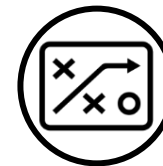
### What were the long-term causes of WWI?

The long-term causes of WWI, were nationalism, imperialism, militarism, and the alliance system. These factors created a volatile environment in Europe leading up to the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, which then triggered the war.



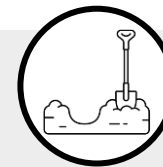
### The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand was a pivotal event that triggered World War I. A Serbian nationalist, Gavrilo Princip, shot and killed the Archduke. This act of violence, fueled by Serbian nationalist ambitions and tensions in the Balkans, led to a series of diplomatic crises and ultimately, the outbreak of the war.



### The Schlieffen Plan 1897

The Schlieffen Plan was Germany's pre-World War I military strategy to avoid a two-front war by quickly defeating France before turning their forces east to fight Russia.



### Trench Life

Trench life in World War I was characterised by extreme hardship and squalor. Soldiers lived in muddy, rat-infested trenches for extended periods, facing constant threats from enemy fire, disease, and the elements. Conditions were exacerbated by the lack of hygiene, leading to widespread illnesses like trench foot and infections.



### Conscription during WWI

During World War I, conscription, or mandatory military service, was introduced in Britain due to the high number of casualties and the decline in voluntary enlistment. The Military Service Act of 1916 initially applied to single men aged 18-41 and was later extended to include married men and older age groups.



### The Home Front in Britain

The British home front during WWI was the entire population's effort to support the war. It involved a massive shift in daily life, with many citizens, notably women working in industries to produce war supplies, facing potential dangers like bombing raids, and eventually enduring food rationing.



### The forgotten armies of WWI

During WWI, many soldiers from Africa, the Caribbean, and Asia, served in the British army, but their contributions were often overlooked or deliberately minimized due to racial and colonial biases. These "forgotten armies" played crucial roles in various capacities, from frontline combat to vital labor and support roles.



# 9.2 - The Russian Revolution

## How did Russia become the world's first Communist state?

### **CONTENT** What was Tsarist Russia?

Tsarist Russia was the autocratic monarchy that ruled Russia from the late 16th century until its collapse in 1917. The Tsars, members of the Romanov dynasty, held absolute power, believing they ruled by divine right.

### Tsarist Russia: Fertile for Revolution?

Russia's fertile ground for revolution stemmed from factors including discontent with the Tsarist regime, economic hardship, and social inequality. The country's involvement in WWI exacerbated these issues, leading to widespread suffering, military defeats, and ultimately, the collapse of the old order.

### How did the Bolsheviks seize power?

The Bolsheviks came to power in Russia through the October Revolution (also known as the Bolshevik Revolution) of 1917. Power was seized from the Provisional government of the time.

### How was the Soviet Union established?

The Russian civil war followed the revolution of 1917 and was fought between the Bolshevik 'Reds' and the anti-Bolshevik Whites. By 1922 the United Soviet of Socialist Republics was established.

### Vladimir Lenin

Lenin was the leader of the Bolsheviks and the 1917 revolution. His charisma and simple promise of 'Peace, Bread and Land' resulted in him securing considerable support throughout Russia.

### Leon Trotsky

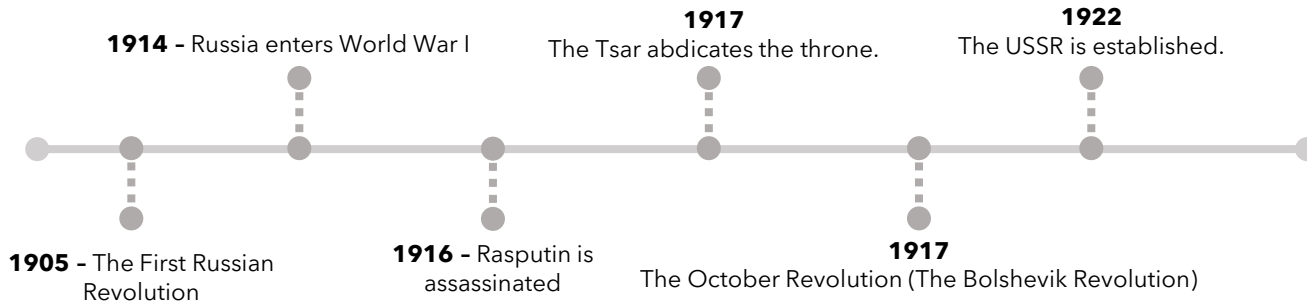
Trotsky aided Lenin in both the revolution and establishment of the USSR. He led the 'Red' army during the civil war. After Lenin's death, Trotsky was considered a dangerous rival by Stalin and was eventually exiled and assassinated.

### Stalin's Russia

Joseph Stalin's rule over the Soviet Union from 1924 until his death in 1953 was characterized by a centralized, command economy, rapid industrialization, and forced collectivization of agriculture, all while maintaining tight political control.



## CHRONOLOGY



### KEY FIGURE

## Joseph Stalin - General Secretary of the Communist Party

He rose to become the dictator of the Soviet Union, leading the country from 1924 until his death in 1953. Initially, he governed as part of a collective leadership, but by the 1930s, he had consolidated power and ruled as an absolute dictator.

After Vladimir Lenin's death, Stalin gradually eliminated his rivals and established himself as the sole leader of the Soviet Union. He implemented policies such as forced collectivization of agriculture and rapid industrialization.

His rule was marked by political repression, including the Great Purge, which involved mass arrests, executions, and imprisonment in labour camps (gulags). Millions of people died as a result of his policies.

### TERMINOLOGY

#### Communism

A political and economic ideology that advocates for a society where the means of production are owned by the community, rather than by individuals or private entities.

#### Soviet

An elected local, district, or national council in the former Soviet Union.

#### Tsar

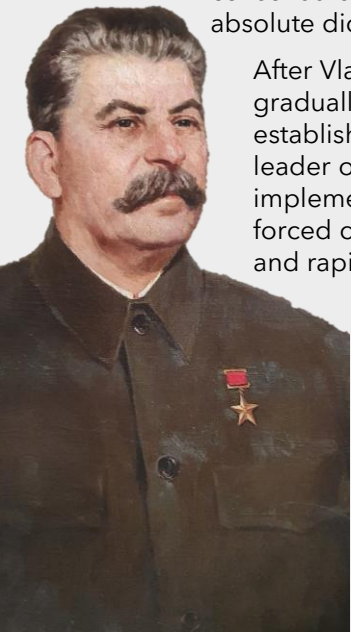
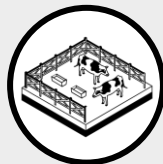
The title of the ruler of Russia, a monarch who held supreme power.

#### Russian Orthodox Church

A branch of Christianity that played a crucial role in maintaining the power of the Tsar within Russia.

#### Collectivisation

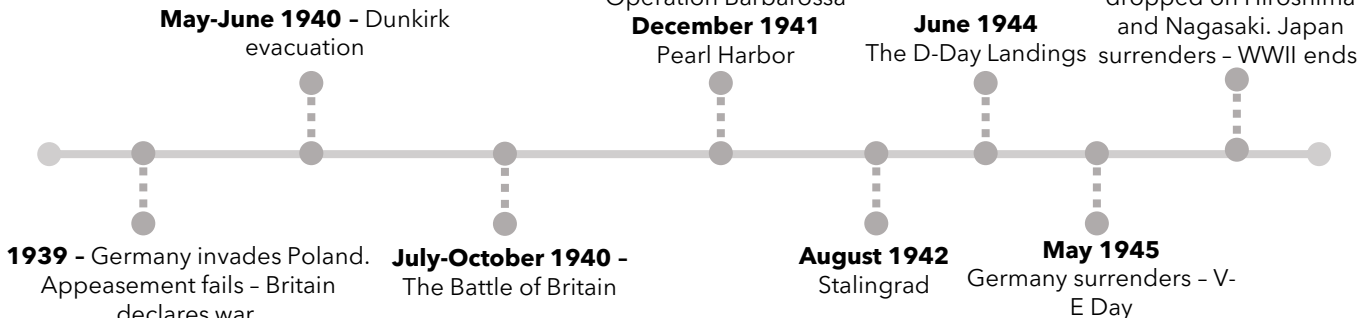
The process of consolidating small, privately owned farms into larger, state-controlled collective farms. This led to major famine and many deaths within the Soviet Union.





# 9.3 - World War II Why did Fascism flourish and then fall?

## CHRONOLOGY



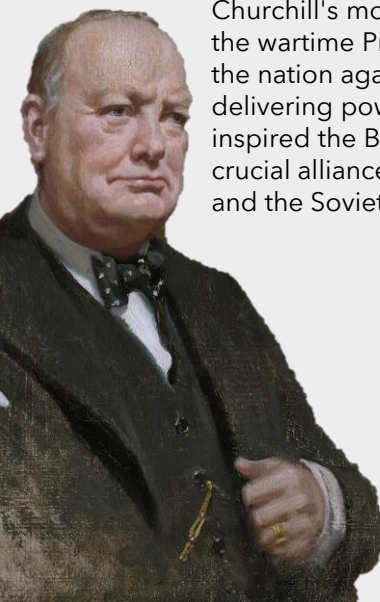
### KEY FIGURE

#### Sir Winston Churchill - Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Winston Churchill was a prominent British statesman, best known for his leadership as Prime Minister during World War II. He served as Prime Minister twice, first from 1940 to 1945, leading Britain through the darkest days of the war, and again from 1951 to 1955.

Churchill's most celebrated role was as the wartime Prime Minister. He rallied the nation against Nazi Germany, delivering powerful speeches that inspired the British people and secured crucial alliances with the United States and the Soviet Union.

Churchill remains a significant figure in British history, admired for his resilience, courage, and eloquent leadership during a time of national crisis. However, his legacy is also complex, with some aspects of his views, regarding colonialism and race, drawing criticism.



### TERMINOLOGY

#### Diktat

An order or decree imposed by someone in power without popular consent. This was the majority German view towards the Treaty of Versailles.



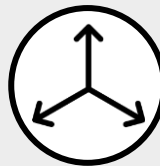
#### Appeasement

A diplomatic approach that often accepts aggressive actions to maintain peace and security.



#### Fascism

A far-right form of government/ideology that supports the ideas of national and ethnic supremacy.



#### Axis Powers

The Axis powers in World War II were primarily Germany, Italy, and Japan. These three nations formed the core of the alliance, with other countries later joining their cause.



#### The D-Day Landings

The D-Day landings were the Allied invasion of Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944, during World War II. This massive military operation, codenamed Operation Overlord, marked the beginning of the campaign to liberate Nazi-occupied Western Europe.



#### The end of WWII: Hiroshima and Nagasaki

The bombing of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, was a pivotal moment in the end of World War II in Asia. The atomic bombing of Hiroshima, followed by Nagasaki three days later, led to Japan's surrender, effectively ending the war.



### CORE CONTENT

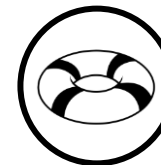
#### Treaty of Versailles

The Treaty of Versailles was a peace settlement signed after World War One. The treaty severely punished Germany by taking away territory and overseas colonies and forcing her to pay huge reparations that ultimately it could not afford.



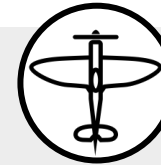
#### Neville Chamberlain: Appeasement

Neville Chamberlain, the British Prime Minister, was keen to avoid war. He believed this could be achieved through negotiation, agreements and diplomacy. His policy was to appease Hitler, which usually meant giving in to Hitler's territorial demands.



#### Evacuation of Dunkirk

The Dunkirk evacuation, also known as Operation Dynamo, was a large-scale operation to evacuate British and French troops from the beaches and harbor of Dunkirk, France, Facing overwhelming German forces, over 338,000 soldiers were rescued.



#### The Battle of Britain

The Battle of Britain was a crucial aerial campaign during World War II, fought between the Royal Air Force (RAF) and the German Luftwaffe from July to October 1940. It was the first major battle fought entirely in the air and a turning point in the war, as the RAF's victory prevented a German invasion of Britain.



#### The Eastern Front: Operation Barbarossa and Stalingrad

Operation Barbarossa was the surprise Nazi invasion of the USSR, subsequently came the siege of Stalingrad were the Soviet Union claimed victory and began to push the Germans back from the East.



#### USA entry to WWII: Pearl Harbor

The US entered World War II primarily due to the attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan on December 7, 1941. This surprise attack resulted in significant casualties and damage to the US Pacific Fleet, galvanizing public opinion and leading to a declaration of war against Japan.

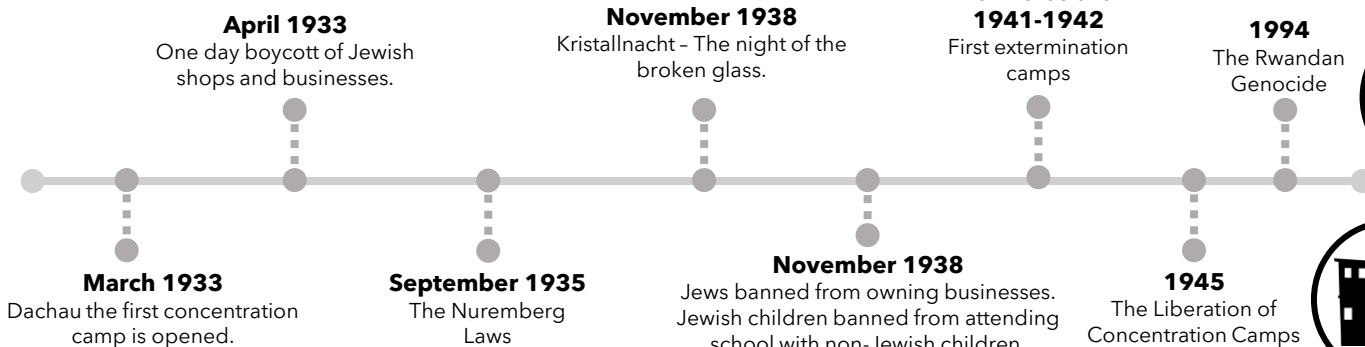


# 9.4 - The Holocaust

## CHRONOLOGY

### Reflective Investigation: The Holocaust

### CORE CONTENT



#### KEY FIGURE

#### Kitty Hart-Moxon - Holocaust Survivor

Kitty Hart-Moxon (1926–2024) was a Polish-British Holocaust survivor who, with her mother, was sent to Auschwitz in 1943 at age 16, surviving horrific conditions before liberation in 1945.

After emigrating to Birmingham, England, she became a dedicated radiographer and a prominent Holocaust educator, writing memoirs and frequently speaking to raise awareness about the Holocaust and its lessons. She was awarded an OBE in recognition of her lifelong work.



#### Concentration Camp

A place in which large numbers of people, especially political prisoners or members of persecuted minorities, are deliberately imprisoned in a relatively small area with inadequate facilities, sometimes to provide forced labour or to await mass execution.

#### Death Camp

In late 1941 and early 1942 the Nazis built camps in occupied Poland whose sole purpose was to kill people on an industrial scale. They were located in heavily wooded areas, away from population centres, but connected to the railway network.



#### TERMINOLOGY

##### Persecution

Persecution is cruel and unfair treatment of a person or group, especially because of their religious or political beliefs, or their race.



##### Nuremberg Laws

On 15 September 1935, the Nazis introduced the Nuremberg Race Laws. These racist laws were directed against the Jews in Germany and essentially stripped them of many civil rights.



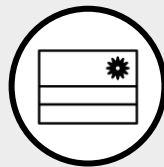
##### Kristallnacht

Kristallnacht, also known as the "Night of Broken Glass," was a coordinated series of violent anti-Jewish pogroms that took place in Nazi Germany on November 9-10, 1938.



##### The Final Solution

A plan to deliberately and systematically murder all European Jews.



##### The Rwandan Genocide

The Rwandan genocide, also known as the genocide against the Tutsi or the Tutsi genocide, occurred from 7 April to 19 July 1994 during the Rwandan Civil War. Over a span of around 100 days, members of the Tutsi ethnic group, as well as some moderate Hutu, were systematically killed by Hutu militias.



#### What is antisemitism?

Antisemitism is hostility, prejudice, or discrimination against Jewish people. Also known as Jew-hatred, it can manifest as negative sentiments towards Jews as a people or in relation to their religion, Judaism. This has originated since the medieval period, with Jews seen as a targetable minority.



#### What were the Ghettos?

Following the invasion of Poland in September 1939, roughly three million Jews fell under Nazi control. This presented a problem for the Nazis, who wanted their newly acquired land to be free of Jews. As a result of this, the Nazis separated the Jews from the rest of the population, and ghettos were set up to detain them.



#### Life in Concentration Camps

Jewish prisoners in the camps during the Holocaust suffered forced labor, starvation rations and the horrific daily lineups.



#### Resistance to the Nazis

Jewish resistance to the Nazis included armed struggles, such as the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, and partisan groups fighting in forests, but also a wide range of non-violent forms like smuggling, underground schools, and cultural preservation within ghettos and camps, all aimed at survival and defiance.



#### The Liberation of Camps

The liberation of Nazi concentration and extermination camps, such as Auschwitz in January 1945 by the Soviet Red Army, is a pivotal event in World War II, revealing the horrific scale of Nazi atrocities to the world.