



# Why was the 20<sup>th</sup> Century the 'Era of Dictators'? **Knowledge Organiser**

| Key Word               | Definition  |
|------------------------|---|
| Democracy              | A system of government in which the people choose their leaders.  |
| Dictatorship           | A system of government in which power is held by a single person or group, with no democratic elections.                                  |
| Fascist                | Far-right ideology, typically a one-party dictatorship.   |
| Communist              | Far-left ideology, all property is owned by the community, and each person contributed and receives according to their ability and needs. |
| Totalitarian           | A centralised and dictatorial government, requiring total obedience to the state.   |
| Authoritarian          | Strict obedience to authority at the expense of personal freedom.   |
| Conservative           | Holding traditional values.   |
| Radical                | Wanting complete, far-reaching change. Representing the extreme section of a political party.   |
| Propaganda             | Information (usually biased or misleading), used to promote a political cause or point of view.   |
| Cult of<br>Personality | When the leader is deliberately presented to the people of a country as a great person who should be admired and loved.                   |

Joseph Stalin **USSR** 1929-1953

Francisco Franco Spain 1939-1975

Left Wing leader Right Wing leader

Adolf Hitler Benito Mussolini Mao Zedong Italy Germany China 1934-1945 1922-1945 1949-1976

Clear Ideology (set of beliefs) • Fascism: Hitler, Mussolini

Communism: Stalin, Mao

 Conservative authoritarian/ Francoism: Franco

## Technology/ Modernity

 Radio: Mussolini, Stalin, Franco

Events: Hitler and the Nazis showed off modernity at Berlin Olympics 1936

Economy: Stalin (industrialisation). Franco (1960s 'miracle')

Social reform: Mao

### Factors leading to dictatorship

and its

maintenance

## Propaganda

- Radio: Mussolini, Hitler, Franco
- Newsreels: Mussolini, Hitler, Franco (No-Do)
- Newspapers: Stalin, Franco, Mao
- Films: Stalin, Hitler
- Slogans: Stalin, Mao, Hitler
- Government incentives (e.g. leisure activities): Mussolini, Hitler
- Youth organisations: Stalin, Hitler
- Public speaking: Mussolini, Hitler
- Control of education: Mussolini, Hitler
- Recreating empire: Mussolini
- Pride in work: Stalin, Hitler
- Censorship: all regimes.

#### Circumstances

- War: WW1 (Mussolini, Hitler), Sino- Japanese War (Mao)
- Great Depression: Hitler
- Civil War: Franco, Mao
- Political system: Stalin (power vacuum in USSR)

#### Cult of Personality

- The dictator's image was EVERYWHERE
- Mussolini: 'Il Duce'
- Stalin: Volgograd renamed Stalingrad
- Hitler: 'Führer'
- Franco: 'Caudillo'
- Mao: 'Great Leader Chairman Mao', 'Little Red Book'

#### Terror

- Secret police: Mussolini (OVRA), Stalin (OGPU/NKVD), Hitler (Gestapo)
- Military: Franco (Civil Gaurd). Hitler (loyalty oath), Mao (Red Guards)
- Labour camps: Stalin (gulags), Hitler (concentration/ death camps), Franco (concentration camps until 1947), Mao (Laogai)
- Violence to win elections: Mussolini, Hitler
- Intense periods of terror: Stalin ('Great Purge'), Franco ('White Terror'), Hitler (Holocaust)

