



CLASS IX
HISTORY
UNIT I
CHAPTER 3 - THE RISE OF NAZISM

SOLUTIONS

TEXTUAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

A. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Explain the crisis in Germany during the post-World War I period.

Ans: The crisis in Germany during the post-World War I period:

- (i) After the defeat of Germany in the First World War and abdication of its emperor, the **Weimer Republic** was established in Germany. But people did not welcome the Weimer Republic as crisis after crisis plagued the republic since its birth in 1919.
- (ii) The war had a devastating effect on Germany as she lost her army, lost her colonies and rich provinces. She was forced to pay huge amount of war indemnity. The new Republic carried the burden of war guilt and National humiliation.
- (iii) The birth of the Weimer Republic coincided with **the uprising of the Spartacist** on the pattern of **Bolshevik Revolution in the Russia** but they failed. **The Spartacist founded the Communist Party of Germany** and they never reconciled with the Socialist in future.
- (iv) After the **Economic Crisis in 1923**, Germany refused to pay the war reparation. **France occupied its leading Industrial Area, Ruhr**. She retaliated with **printing of paper currency** recklessly. The prices of goods sky rocketed and there was **hyperinflation**. The Great Economic Depression also badly affected the German economy. There was **political instability in Germany**. Coalition was the only means of running the Government. The Republic had twenty cabinets during the period of 1920-1930. All these problems really paved the way to the **Rise of Hitler** to power.

Q2. Describe the problems faced by the Weimer Republic.

Ans: The problems faced by the Weimer Republic are as follows:

- (i) The **Treaty of Versailles** signed after the First World War had a devastating effect on Germany as she lost her army, lost her colonies and rich provinces. She was forced to pay huge amount of war indemnity. The new Republic carried the burden of war guilt and National humiliation.
- (ii) **The birth of the Weimer Republic** coincided with **the Uprising of the Spartacist** on the pattern of Bolshevik Revolution in the Russia but they failed. **The Spartacist founded the Communist Party of Germany** and they never reconciled with the socialist in future.



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- (iii) After the **Economic Crisis in 1923**, Germany refused to pay the war reparation. France occupied its leading industrial area, Ruhr. She retaliated with printing of paper currency recklessly. The prices of goods sky rocketed and there was hyperinflation.
- (iv) **The Great Economic Depression** badly affected the German economy. The workers lost their jobs, unemployment increased and the middle class including the salaried persons and businessman suffered. The peasants also suffered due to the fall of prices of their agricultural products.
- (v) There was **political instability in Germany**. Coalition was the only means of running the government. The Republic had twenty cabinets during the period of 1920-1930.

Q3. What were the features of the ideology of Nazism?

Ans: The features of the **Ideology of Nazism** were:

- (i) The primary principle of Nazism was the blind faith in the racial superiority of the Nordic German Aryan over the other group of human race. Nazism believed that there was **no equality** among the mankind, but only **a racial hierarchy**. In this view, the **Nordic German Aryans** were located at the top of the hierarchy while the **Jews** were located at the lowest rung.
- (ii) The Nazis believed that the strongest race or the strongest community of **pure German blood** would survive and dominate over others. They considered the Aryan race was the purest people and they would rule over the world.
- (iii) Nazism believed in the concept of the extraordinary and exceptional individual who would guide and rule over the masses. **Hitler** was skillfully projected as **a messiah and as a savior of the Germans**.
- (iv) Nazism visualized a **Pan-German** expansion and territorial aggrandizement. The individuals were subordinated to the supreme authority of the Nazi party and the state.
- (v) Another feature of Nazism was related to the geopolitical concept of **“Lebensraum”** which means **living space**. This concept made Hitler to acquire new territories to acquire for settlement of German Aryans.

Q4. How did Hitler rise to power?

Ans: The crisis in the economy, polity and society of Germany after the First World War paved the way for Hitler to rise to power. The Treaty of Versailles made him furious and he joined the German Workers Party which later came to be known as **Nazi Party**. The Nazis could not effectively mobilize popular support till the early 1930s. But, during the Great Economic Depression, the Nazi propaganda provided hopes of a better future and as a result Nazism became a mass movement in future. In 1928, the Nazi got no more than 2.6 per cent votes in the Reichstag, the German parliament, but by 1932, it had become the largest party with 37 per cent votes. On 30 January, 1933, **President Hindenburg offered Chancellorship to Hitler**. Therefore, he established **Dictatorship in Germany** by passing the Fire Decree of 28 February, 1933 and Enabling Act of 23 March, 1933. In this way, Hitler came to power in Germany.



Q5. Explain the role of Nazi party in the success of Nazism in Germany.

Ans: The **National Socialist German Workers Party** - the **Nazi Party** was founded in **1920**. Its role in the success of Nazism was highly remarkable and commendable. Through Nazi party **Hitler came to power in Germany in 1934**. The Nazi party organized the mass agitation and propaganda against the failure of the government. The party adopted a new style of politics, use of Symbol, rituals for mobilization of the masses, the Nazi salute and Hitler was projected skillfully as a messiah and as a savior of the Germans. The party preached that the Germans were the superior race to rule over the mankind. The party believed that the superior individual who possessed superior knowledge and capacity would rule over the masses. The party gave importance to the training of youth to Nazi ideology and the Nazi cult of motherhood. The effective propaganda of Nazi Party and the personality of Hitler made the Nazism peculiar and special in Germany. The Nazis could not effectively mobilize popular support till the early 1930s. But, during the Great Economic Depression, the Nazi propaganda provided hopes of a better future as a result, Nazism became a mass movement in future.

Q6. Describe the growth and fall of the Social Democratic Party.

Ans: In Germany, the **Socialist Movement** was spread in the last part of the 19th century. The important leaders were **Ferdinand Lassalle** and **Edward Bernstein**. Ferdinand Lassalle founded the **Social Democratic Party** in 1875. The followers of the party came to be known as the **Social Democrats**. **Bismarck**, the Chancellor of Germany was opposed to socialism which was condemned as an Anarchy. He banned the party in 1883. Bismarck was dismissed in 1890 by **Emperor Kaiser William II**. William II revoked the ban in the Social Democratic Party. In the election of **Reichstag** in 1912, the party polled on third of the total votes. But the outbreak of the First World War stopped the political activities of the party. After the defeat of Germany, the Socialists resumed their activities. When the Enabling Acts established the dictatorship of Hitler in 1933 all the political parties were banned except the Nazi party. This led to the fall of the Social Democratic party.

Q7. Was Hitler a successful ruler? What was his legacy?

Ans: Hitler was a successful ruler of Germany. He built a strong German nation by undoing injustice of the Treaty of Versailles and restoring the dignity of the German people. He recovered all the German territories occupied by the Allies through the **Plebicite**. Under his leadership, the German state established complete control over the economy, media, army and judiciary. He was successful in establishing the Nazi state of Germany of which he was the head and the leader. Germany could achieve great success in both domestic and foreign policy.

Hitler achieved glory for himself and Germany. But, he left behind a legacy of terror, fortune and the **persecution of the Jews** and many Nations of Europe. He left a legacy of **crime against humanity**. His defeat in the Second World War showed the fallacy of the philosophy of Nazism. His theory of the superiority of the German nation was proved wrong. Nobody



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took seriously his theory of racial superiority of the German. It created suffering and anguish for many people including the German themselves.

B. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. What was the Weimar Republic?

Ans: After the defeat of Germany in the First World War, the Emperor abdicated the throne and the political parties such as the Social Democrats or Socialists, the Catholics and the liberal democrats convened a National Assembly at Weimar and established a republic of Germany. This new republic of Germany was called the **Weimar Republic**.

Q2. Briefly explain the Spartacist uprising.

Ans: The birth of the Weimar Republic was coincided with the **Uprising of the Spartacist** in 1919. The Spartacist league was formed by the communist, the extreme followers of Marxism under the leadership of **Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht**, they organised a revolution in Germany on the pattern of Bolshevik Revolution of Russia. The revolutionaries were arrested and the two leaders were killed in the prison. The Government suppressed the revolution with the help the “**Free Corp**” (**Freikorps**). Thus, the Spartacist uprising was a failure.

Q3. How did the Great Economic depression that started in the USA in 1929 affect Germany?

Ans: **The Great Economics Depression** affected Germany very badly. The workers lost their jobs, unemployment increased and the industrial production was reduced. The middle class including the salaried person and businessmen suffered due to the fall of price of their agricultural products.

Q4. Briefly explain the role of Hitler in the destruction of democracy in Germany.

Ans: **The crisis in the economy, polity and society of Germany** after the First World War made Hitler furious and he joined the German Workers Party which later came to be known as Nazi Party. Under his leadership, the Nazi Party became the largest party with 37 per cent votes in the election to the Reichstag in 1932. On 30 January 1933, President Hindenburg offered chancellorship to Hitler. Thus, he established dictatorship in Germany by passing the Fire Decree of 28 February, 1933 and the Enabling Act of 23rd March, 1933. In this way, Hitler destroyed the democratic structure of Germany.



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Q5. Give a gist of Hitler's Foreign Policy.

Ans: Hitler followed an aggressive **Foreign Policy** to build up a great German Empire. His policy came into clash with the great powers of the western world. The clash of interest between the Allies and Axis power led to the outbreak of the **Second World War in 1939**. Germany was defeated once again by the Allies.

C. VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Who was Bismarck?

Ans: Bismarck was the great Chancellor of the United German Empire who was opposed to Socialism.

Q2. What was the German Parliament called?

Ans: The German Parliament was called **Reichstag**.

Q3. Why did the Germany refused to pay the war reparation?

Ans: Germany refused to pay the war reparation as the German exchequer was almost empty.

Q4. When did Hitler become the president of the National Socialist German Worker's party?

Ans: Hitler became the President of National Socialist German Worker's Party in July, 1921.

Q5. Who authored the "Mein Kampf"?

Ans: **Adolf Hitler** authored the 'Mein kampf'

Q6. When did the Reichstag adopt the Enabling Acts?

Ans: Reichstag adopted the Enabling Act on 23 March, 1933.

Q7. What is meant by the word 'Lebensraum'?

Ans: **Lebensraum** is a geo-political concept which means the 'living space for German'.

Q8. What was the Holocaust?

Ans: **Holocaust** was the persecution, torture and annihilation of the Jews by the Hitler and the Nazi state.



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EXTRA QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q1. What were the effects of First World War on Germany?

Ans: The First World War had a devastating effect on Germany as she lost her army, lost her colonies and rich provinces. She was forced to pay huge amount of war indemnity. She had to face economic crisis, political instability and national humiliation.

Q2. Why did the Weimar republic set up in Germany after the First World War become unpopular?

Ans: The Weimar republic become unpopular as it was held responsible for signing the Treaty of Versailles and accepting its harsh terms. It did not take any steps to improve the economic conditions of the people. Crisis after crisis plagued the republic since its birth in 1919.

Q3. What promises did Hitler make to the German when he came to power?

Ans: Hitler promised to build a strong nation and undo the injustice of the Treaty of Versailles and restore the dignity of the German people. He promised employment for those looking for work. He also promised to remove all foreign influences and resist all foreign conspiracies against Germany.

Q4. How did Nazis demonstrate support for Hitler?

Ans: Nazis held massive rallies and public meetings to demonstrate their support for Hitler. They adopted the Nazi salute and the ritualised rounds of applause after the speech of Hitler. Nazi propaganda skilfully projected Hitler as a messiah or as a savior for the Germans..

Q5. Who bailed Germany out from the situation of hyperinflation and how?

Ans: The Americans intervened and bailed Germany out of the crisis. America introduced the **Dawes Plan** according to which the terms of reparation were reworked to ease the financial burdens on Germans.

Q6. Which treaty was signed by the Germany after its defeat in the First World War?

Ans: The **Treaty of Versailles** was signed by Germany after its defeat in the First World War.

Q7. What do you mean by Free Corps?

Ans: The war veteran organisation through which the Weimar Republic suppressed the Spartacist uprising is called **Free Corps (Freikorps)**

Q8. Which was the purest race according to Hitler?

Ans: The Aryan race.



Q9. What was the most oppressed race in Germany?

Ans: The Jews.

Q10. Name the youth front of Nazi party.

Ans: The youth league of Nazis.

Q11. Write down three effects of Treaty of Versailles over Germany?

Ans: 1) Germany was forced to **pay heavy reparations.**

2) Germany **lost its colonies,** and

3) Germany was forced to **reduce its army.**

Q12. What does the term “Genocidal war” refer to?

Ans: The term **Genocidal war** refers to a **mass murder of innocent civilians** in Europe by Germany during the Second World War.

Q13. Explain why Nazi propaganda was effective in creating a hatred for Jews?

Ans: The primary principle of Nazism was the **blind faith in racial superiority of the Nordic German Aryans** over other groups of the human race. There was **no equality among mankind.** The **Germans were the superior race** to rule over mankind others were inferior race, the gypsies and the **Jews occupied the lowest position.**

