

# Fascism

## Background

Fascism evolved from the thinking of Benito Mussolini in Italy.

After its success in Italy, it was exported to Adolf Hitler in Germany and General Franco in Spain.

Fascism as an ideology represented a denial of the intellectual principles of the European Enlightenment.

Enlightenment concepts such as universal human rights were firmly rejected by Fascism.

Fascism offered a package deal . . .

- A) Pragmatism
- B) Nationalism
- C) Opposition to Communism
- D) Imperialism

Some historians consider Fascism to be a radical break from the development of Western Civilization.

Others consider Fascism to be a continuation of thought from before the Enlightenment.

This is a pointless debate!

It is more important to think about the historical context of Fascism.

Fascism is rooted in the social and political disillusionment of the First World War.

Fascism gains support in countries without a long history of constitutional democracy, and it strikes when these countries that are facing real economic troubles.

## Assignment

1) Define . . . ideology.

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2) What is a *fascis*?

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3) What is the significance of the *fascis* as a symbol of Fascism? (Critical Thinking)

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4) Complete the following charts on the principles of Fascism.

Pragmatism	<i>Definition:</i>
	<i>Possible impact on society:</i>

Nationalism	<i>Definition:</i>
	<i>Examples:</i>

Obedience to the State	<i>Significance:</i>
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Imperialism <i>(Pg. 48 / 54-55)</i>	<i>What was different about this sort of imperialism:</i>
	<i>Examples:</i>

Anti-Communism	<i>Why:</i>
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