

Fascism

The political organization known as Fascism began in Italy after World War I during the 1920's. Other fascist movements would develop in Western Europe, especially in Spain and Germany in the 1930's.

Fascism in Europe is best described as a form of totalitarianism that glorified the state and the individual.

In more detail it is a far-right authoritarian and ultranationalist political ideology and movement characterized by a dictatorial leader, a centralized autocracy (one person with absolute power).



Benito Mussolini, Italy



Francisco Franco, Spain



Adolf Hiter, Germany

This mass political movement emphasized extreme nationalism, militarism, and supremacy of the nation over the individual.

The strict use of the military forced any suppression of opposition. Fascism created a belief in a natural society hierarchy, forcing the individual interests of the people into a belief that it was for the good of the nation or race, achieved through a strong regimentation (disciplined) society and economy.

Since the end of World War II in 1945, fascism has been largely disgraced, and few parties have openly described themselves as fascist.