

Multiple Choice Questions

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|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (b) | 3. (d) | 4. (a) | 5. (b) |
| 6. (a) | 7. (d) | 8. (c) | 9. (a) | 10. (b) |

Short-Answer Questions

1. Give any two features of dictatorship.

Ans. (a) Dictatorships were governments under the rule of one man or a small group of men and the masses had little role in the administration.

(b) Great importance was attached to national interests rather than to individual interests. Everybody lived for the state.

2. How did the Treaty of Versailles lead to the rise of dictatorship?

Ans. Germany was compelled to sign the Treaty of Versailles by which she had to pay a huge war-indemnity. This treaty was very harsh and humiliating. This created the feeling of dissatisfaction among the people of Germany. Germany wanted to establish her old prestige. When Hitler assured the Germans about the restoring their old prestige they became his followers and hence, rise of dictatorship took place in Germany.

3. Why was Italy dissatisfied after 1918?

Ans. Italy joined the First World War in the hope of gaining colonies. However, the peace treaties had failed to satisfy her ambitions. The Italians felt as if they had been deceived and thought that their right demands were ignored.

4. Which country lost the leadership of the world after the First World War?

Ans. Britain lost the leadership of the world after the First World War.

5. Which two countries became major powers after the First World War?

Ans. United States of America and USSR.

6. How did the failure of the League of Nations lead to the rise of dictatorship?

Ans. The League of Nations failed to establish peace in the world. When Hitler came to power in Germany, he refused to accept the Treaty of Versailles. The League of Nations could not do anything against Hitler.

7. In which country did Fascism take birth after the First World War?

Ans. Italy

8. Define Fascism.

Ans. The term 'Fascism' is of Italian origin. It was first used for the movement which started in Italy under the Leadership of Benito Mussolini. Under Fascism he organised armed gangs against socialists and communists.

9. Describe two principles of Fascism.

Ans. (i) Fascism glorified violence, war and external aggression to make the country powerful and strong.

(ii) Fascism supported rule by one party and one leader. Dictatorship was the best form of government in their view. There was no place for opposition of any kind.

10. Why did the Italians feel that they had been deceived by the Treaty of Versailles?

Ans. Italy participated in the First World War on behalf of Triple Entente. She thought that as a winning nation she would be given more and more colonies to rule further. But peace treaty concluded after the war did not provide any single colony to Italy to rule.

11. How did the economic crisis in Italy, after the First World War, create unrest there?

Ans. An economic crisis developed in Italy as a result of the loss of life and property in the war. Many people had been killed in the war. The national debt had increased a lot. The price of goods soared and the value of money had decreased. There was a great shortage of foodgrains in the country and unemployment was increasing day-by-day. The industries and trade were ruined. The condition of people became critical.

12. How did the weak government in Italy lead to the rise of Fascism there?

Ans. The liberal government of Italy was disinterested in solving the problems of the country and it was too weak to keep the situation under control. People were much distressed due to the weak policy and inefficiency of the government. They wanted to replace such a weak and inefficient government

with a powerful and bold government. This realisation of the people helped Fascism to flourish in Italy.

- 13.** How did the activities of the Socialists prove a potent cause of the rise of Fascism in Italy?

Ans. The socialists inflamed the revolutionary ideas. The peasants extorted the land of the landlords. The workmen organised strikes, broke machines and took hold of the factories. Strikes took place in the Post and Telegraph Departments. The socialists started making plans for capturing power by overthrowing the government. They wanted to create lawlessness and indiscipline by their subversive activities. People wanted a powerful party in the country which could establish peace and prosperity by ending the lawlessness and insecurity prevailing in the country. Such a state of affairs gave rise to Fascism.

- 14.** Who was Mussolini?

Ans. Mussolini was a fascist leader of Italy.

- 15.** How did the humiliating Treaty of Versailles lead to the rise of dictatorship in Germany?

Ans. Germany was compelled to sign the Treaty of Versailles by which she had to pay a huge war-indemnity. This treaty was very harsh and humiliating. This created the feeling of dissatisfaction among the people of Germany. They looked down upon the Weimar Republic which had signed such a disgraceful treaty. The Republic was regarded as a symbol of national disgrace. Germany wanted to establish her old prestige. When Hitler assured the Germans about restoring their old prestige, they became his followers.

- 16.** Why was there an economic crisis in Germany after the First World War?

Ans. Germany had to face an economic crisis after the First World War. She suffered heavy losses in life and property in the First World War. After the war thousands of soldiers became unemployed. Trade and commerce were also ruined. The workmen were thrown out of employment. During 1929-1932, great slump in Europe called the Great

Depression affected Germany also. Germany was in the grip of unemployment and starvation.

17. How did the spread of Communism lead to the rise of Nazism in Germany?

Ans. Being inspired by the Russian Revolution of 1917, the German Communists also tried to bring about a revolution in Germany. Hitler feared that Germany would become a slave of Russia if Communism spread there. He exposed the destructive results of Communism to his people. He roused the national feeling among the people and instigated them against Communism. Consequently, the workmen and the masses joined the Nazi Party in large numbers.

18. Who was Hitler?

Ans. Hitler was a dictator of Germany. He was also a leader of Nazism.

19. Give any two features of Nazism.

Ans. (i) State is above everyone else.
(ii) To end parliamentary institutions.

20. Give any two principles of Nazism.

Ans. (i) To root out Communism and Liberalism.
(ii) To denounce the degrading Treaty of Versailles.

Structured Essay-type Questions

1. With reference to rise of Dictatorship in Europe, explain the following :

- (a) Treaty of Versailles.
- (b) Failure of the League of Nations.
- (c) Slump or Economic Crisis of 1929.

Ans. (a) Germany was compelled to sign the Treaty of Versailles by which she had to pay a huge war indemnity. This treaty was very harsh and humiliating for Germany. On the other hand Italy was not given sufficient colonies to rule despite being the winning nation. This led to the rise of dictatorship in Europe.

- (b) League of Nations was established in 1920 to establish peace and to protect war among different nations of the world but very soon it proved to be an unsuccessful organisation since USA did not join it. The League did not have economic and military clout. As a result it could not stop the rise of dictatorship in Europe.
 - (c) The value of the money had decreased during the phase of economic crisis in Europe. There was great shortage of foodgrains and unemployment was increasing day-by-day in European countries specially in Germany and Italy. Such a deteriorated conditions created unrest in the European countries.
2. With reference to the Principles of Fascism, answer the following :
- (a) Attitude of Fascism towards democracy.
 - (b) Attitude of Fascism towards its leader.
 - (c) Attitude of Fascism towards the individual.

- Ans.**
- (a) Fascism was antithesis of Democracy. "In place of majorities and quantities, it sought to substitute the Leader.
 - (b) Fascism was the supporter of one party and one leader. The leader of the party was all in all in the country. None could challenge his authority. He was above law. He had all the military and civil rights and no body could criticise him.
 - (c) Fascism was against the individual. It preferred the state to the man or the individual because he gets all the rights from the state. Individuals did exist only for the state. Fascism led more stress on the duties of the individual and the rights of the state.
3. How did the following prove important causes of the Rise of Fascism in Italy?
- (a) Discontent in Italy after the Treaty of Versailles.
 - (b) Economic Crisis of 1929.
 - (c) Weak government of Italy.

Ans. (a) Italy joined the Allies in the First World War and by the Secret Treaty of London (1915) she hoped to gain Trentino, Trieste, Istria, Fiume, Coastal Regions of Dalmatia, Albania and some parts of Turkey and Germany. But during the Paris Conference her hopes were dashed to the ground by Wilson's opposition and so by the Treaty of Versailles she could get only Southern Tyrol and Trentino, and the Coastal Regions of Dalmatia. She could get no part of the German and Turkish colonial empire. It has been rightly said in this connection :

"Italy got nothing from the colonial dinner."

The Italians felt as if they had been deceived and thought that their right demands were ignored. Imperialist designs of Italy were completely ignored. This very fact helped in spreading Fascism in Italy.

- (b) An economic crisis developed in Italy as a result of the loss of life and money in the war. Many people had been killed in the war and millions of currency had been spent. The national debt had increased a lot. The price and the value of money had decreased. There was a great shortage of foodgrains in the country and unemployment was increasing day-by-day. The industries and trade were ruined. The condition of the middle class people, farmers and the working class became very critical. As a result of the war, Italy suffered a lot and her people became very poor. Such a deteriorated condition created unrest in the country.
- (c) A wave of unrest and anger spread in Italy as a result of the economic crisis, and the disappointment and dishonour caused by the Treaty of Versailles. Then the liberal government of Italy was disinterested in solving the problems of the country and it was too weak to keep the situation under control. People were much distressed due to the weak policy and inefficiency of the government. They wanted to replace such a

weak and inefficient government by a powerful and bold government. This feeling of the people helped Fascism to flourish in Italy. It had been rightly said: *“Bold leadership was wanted and it was supplied by the Fascists.”*

4. With reference to the Rise of Nazism in Germany, explain the following :
- (a) Humiliating Treaty of Versailles.
 - (b) Economic Crisis in Germany after the First World War.
 - (c) Personality of Hitler.

- Ans**
- (a) Germany was compelled to sign the Treaty of Versailles by which she had to pay a huge war-indemnity. This treaty was very harsh and humiliating. This created the feeling of dissatisfaction among the people of Germany. They looked down upon the Weimer Republic which had signed such a disgraceful treaty. The Republic was regarded as a symbol of national disgrace. Germany wanted to establish her old prestige. When Hitler assured the Germans about restoring their old prestige they became his followers.
 - (b) Germany had to face an economic crisis after the First World War. She suffered heavy losses in life and property in the First World War. After the war many soldiers became unemployed. Trade and commerce were also ruined. The workmen were thrown out of employment. In 1929, there was, however, a great slump in Europe. It affected Germany also. Germany was in the grip of unemployment and starvation. The prices rose and value of money declined. The Republic failed to solve the economic crisis. Hitler took advantage of this situation. The Germans believed in Hitler and his promises.
 - (c) Hitler possessed a very influential and charming personality. He was a great orator. He was a resourceful person, a tireless worker and an able organiser. His

speeches were very effective and had great logic in them. Naturally, the people began to have a blind faith in him and they started thinking of him as a great leader. It has been rightly said, "*Of propaganda he was past master.*"

5. With reference to the Principles of Nazism, explain the following :

- (a) Attitude of Nazism towards the state.
- (b) Attitude of Nazism towards political parties.
- (c) Attitude of Nazism towards the Jews.

- Ans.** (a) The state is above all. All powers should be with the state and it should have hold on all the political, social and economic programmes. The belief was that – "People exist for the state rather than the state for the people.
- (b) Nazism was against all sorts of political parties. It believed in one party and one leader.
- (c) Nazism was against Jews. The Nazis considered Jews their enemy. Nazism opted to turn out the Jews from Germany, as they were a great cause of the economic hardship of the people of Germany.

6. With reference to the Rise of Fascism in Italy, explain the following :

- (a) What were the factors responsible for the rise of Fascism in Italy?
- (b) Describe a decisive action taken by Mussolini with the aim of making Italy a colonial power.

- Ans.** (a) Italy joined the Allies in the First World War and by the Secret Treaty of London (1915) she hoped to gain Trentino, Trieste, Istria, Fiume, Coastal Regions of Dalmatia, Albania and some parts of Turkey and Germany. But during the Paris Conference her hopes were dashed to the ground by Wilson's opposition and so by the Treaty of Versailles she could get only Southern Tyrol and Trentino, and the Coastal Regions of Dalmatia.

She could get no part of the German and Turkish colonial empire. It has been rightly said in this connection :

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- (b) In October, 1922, different groups of Fascist party attacked Rome from different sides under the leadership of Mussolini. Prime Minister Giolitti resigned. Emperor Victor Emmanuel III invited Mussolini to form a new government. He took all the powers into his own hands and started ruling like a dictator. He crushed his opponents very harshly. It resulted in the creation of one party in Italy. That party was the Fascist Party and its leader was Mussolini. Thus, Mussolini established a Fascist Government, a Fascist Party and Fascism in Italy with the aim of making Italy a colonial power.

7. With reference to the comparative study of Fascism and Nazi Ideologies explain the following :

- (a) Any three similarities between the Fascist and Nazi Ideologies.
- (b) Any three differences between the Fascist and Nazi Ideologies.

- Ans.** (a) (i) Both Fascism and Nazism were supporters of one party and one leader — Mussolini in Italy and Hitler in Germany.
- (ii) They were dictators through and through. No one could challenge the authority of the leader of the party. Both Mussolini and Hitler had all the military and civil powers in their grasp and no body could criticise them.
- (iii) Both Fascism and Nazism preferred the state as

compared to the individual. They believed the individual exists only for the society/state.

- (b) (i) The ideology of Fascism developed in Italy under the leadership of Mussolini while the ideology of Nazism flourished under the guidance of Hitler in Germany.
- (ii) Another difference between Fascism and Nazism was on the so-called concept of race. The Nazis felt proud that they were the descendants of the Aryan race but the Fascists were not so keen on such a concept of race.
- (iii) The Nazi party was dead against the Jews and considered them to be their enemies. They were even sent to the concentration camps to die. But the Italians were not so much against the Jews so long as they remained faithful to the state.

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