

The Holocaust

The systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of over six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators.

How did the Holocaust begin in Germany?

Nazi's began to define "Jews" Biologically: People are defined by the religion of their grandparents.

The Nazi's then began to legislate against the Jews and in 1935 enact the NUREMBERG LAWS:

1) Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour:

2) Reich Citizenship Law



Nazi program of **EXPROPRIATION** deprives Jews of all **PROPERTY** and **WEALTH**.

Expropriation:

KRISTALLNACHT: "Night of Broken Glass" – Nationwide Pogrom in 1938

Jews are **SEGREGATED** and forced into **GHETTOS** and **CONCENTRATION CAMPS**.

Ghettos:

Concentration Camps:

Kristallnacht Order from SS-Gruppenführer Heydrich to all State Police Main Offices and Field Offices, Nov 10 1938

- Only such measures may be taken which do not jeopardize German life or property (for instance, burning of synagogues only if there is no danger of fires for the neighborhoods).
- Business establishments and homes of Jews may be destroyed but not looted. The police have been instructed to supervise the execution of these directives and to arrest looters.
- In Business streets special care is to be taken that non-Jewish establishments will be safeguarded at all cost against damage. As soon as the events of this night permit the use of the designated officers, as many Jews, particularly wealthy ones, as the local jails will hold, are to be arrested in all districts. Initially only healthy male Jews, not too old, are to be arrested. After the arrests have been carried out the appropriate concentration camp is to be contacted immediately...



Date	THE HOLOCAUST	Year
Jan 30 th	Hitler became Chancellor	1933
Mar 22 nd	1 st Concentration Camp opened at Dachau	1933
April 1 st	Boycott of Jewish businesses	1933
May 17 th	Jews prohibited from purchasing health insurance	1934
Sep 15 th	NUREMBERG LAWS	1935
Nov 9 th -10 th	KRISTALLNACHT	1938
Nov 23 rd	All Jews in Poland are forced to wear yellow star armbands	1939
May 20 th	Auschwitz opened	1940
Nov 16 th	Warsaw Ghetto is sealed with 400,000 Jews inside	1940
July 31 st	FINAL SOLUTION	1941
Dec 8 th	1 st Death Camp begins operation	1941
January	Mass gassing begins at Auschwitz	1942
Summer	Jews are brought to death camps	1942
Spring	Warsaw Ghetto Uprising	1943
Nov 20 th	NUREMBERG TRIALS	1945

Life in the Warsaw Ghetto

Smuggling began at the very moment that the Jewish area of residence was established; its inhabitants were forced to live on 180 grams of bread a day, 220 grams of sugar a month, 1 kg. of jam and 1 kg. of honey, etc. It was calculated that the officially supplied rations did not cover even 10 percent of the normal requirements. If one had wanted really to restrict oneself to the official rations then the entire population of the ghetto would have had to die of hunger in a very short time.... The German authorities did everything to seal off the ghetto hermetically and not to allow in a single gram of food. A wall was put up around the ghetto on all sides that did not leave a single millimeter of open space.... They fixed barbed wire and broken glass to the top of the wall. Source: **Emanuel Ringelblum** quoted in **Yad Vashem**.

Adolf Hitler's Final Solution - GENOCIDE

In 1941 Hitler's **FINAL SOLUTION** to the "**Jewish Question**" is to kill all Jews. **DEATH SQUADS** kill Jews as they close Ghettos or they send them to **EXTERMINATION CAMPS**. His goal was the create a **MASTER RACE** of Aryans.

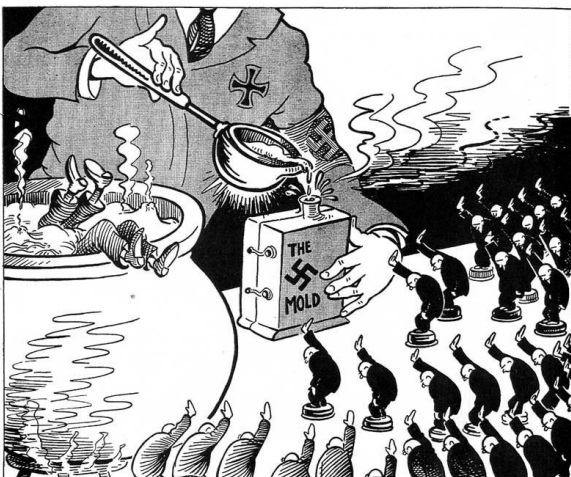
The Jewish Question:

Final Solution:

Death Squads or "Einsatzgruppen":

Extermination Camps:

Second Creation



Testimony of SS Erich Fuchs, **TREBLINKA** Concentration Camp:
 If my memory serves me right, about thirty to forty women were gassed in one gas chamber. The Jewish women were forced to undress in an open place close to the gas chamber, and were driven into the gas chamber by the above mentioned SS members and the Ukrainian auxiliaries. when the women were shut up in the gas chamber I and Bolender set the motor in motion. The motor functioned first in neutral. Both of us stood by the motor and switched from "Neutral" (Freiauspuff) to "Cell" so that the gas was conveyed to the chamber. At the suggestion of the chemist, I fixed the motor on a definite speed so that it was unnecessary henceforth to press on the gas. About ten minutes later the thirty to forty women were dead.

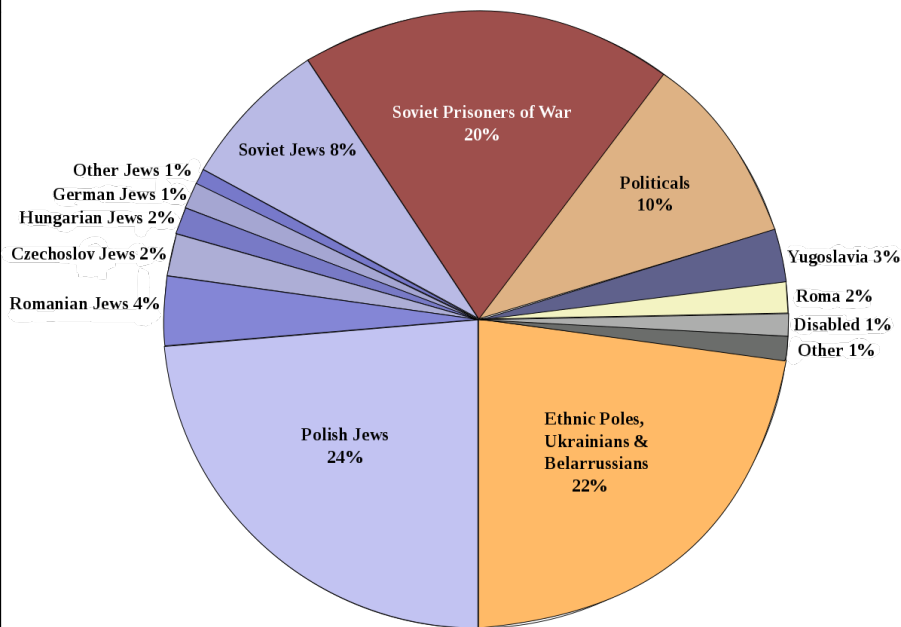
Holocaust Deaths

Jews: up to 6 million
Soviet civilians: around 7 million
Soviet prisoners of war: around 3 million
Non-Jewish Polish civilians: around 1.8 million
Serb civilians: 312,000
People with disabilities: up to 250,000
Roma (Gypsies): 196,000–220,000
Jehovah's Witnesses: around 1,900
Repeat criminal offenders: at least 70,000

Major Locations of Nazi Killings

Auschwitz: approximately 1 million
Treblinka: approximately 925,000
Belzec: 434,508
Sobibor: at least 167,000
Chelmno: 156,000–172,000
Shooting operations: at least 1.5 Million
Deaths in ghettos: at least 800,000
Other: at least 500,000

Holocaust Deaths



The Nuremberg Trials

Following WWII the Allies set up INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNALS to hold Nazi leaders accountable for the atrocities of the War. These are commonly known as the NUREMBERG TRIALS.

U.S. Chief Prosecutor, Robert Jackson, "That four great nations, flushed with victory and stung with injury, stay the hand of vengeance and voluntarily submit their captive enemies to the judgment of the law is one of the most significant tributes that Power has ever paid to Reason."

The following acts were charged against Nazi Leadership

(a) CRIMES AGAINST PEACE:

(b) WAR CRIMES:

(c) CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

The Nazi Officers used the defense that they were "Just Following Orders" - Excerpt of Adolf Eichmann
"I cannot recognize the verdict of guilty. . . . It was my misfortune to become entangled in these atrocities. But these misdeeds did not happen according to my wishes. It was not my wish to slay people. . . . Once again I would stress that I am guilty of having been obedient, having subordinated myself to my official duties and the obligations of war service and my oath of allegiance and my oath of office, and in addition, once the war started, there was also martial law. . . . I did not persecute Jews with avidity and passion. That is what the government did. . . . At that time obedience was demanded, just as in the future it will also be demanded of the subordinate."

The IMT struck down the "Superior Orders Defense": *"The fact that a person acted pursuant to order of his Government or of a superior does not relieve him from responsibility under international law, provided a moral choice was in fact possible to him."*

Of the nineteen that were convicted, 12 (11 of whom were present) were sentenced to death by hanging. The other seven defendants were given prison sentences ranging from ten years to life in prison.

Why are the Nuremberg Trials considered a Turning Point in World History?

Chief Prosecutor Robert H. Jackson at the International Military Tribunal given on November 21, 1945.

Germany became one vast torture chamber. Cries of its victims were heard round the world and brought shudders to civilized people everywhere. I am one who received during this war most atrocity tales with suspicion and skepticism [doubt]. But the proof here will be so overwhelming that I venture to predict not one word I have spoken will be denied. These defendants will only deny personal responsibility or knowledge. Under the clutch of the most intricate web of espionage and intrigue that any modern state has endured, and persecution and torture of a kind that has not been visited upon the world in many centuries, the elements of the German population which were both decent and courageous were annihilated [reduced to nothing]. Those, which were decent but weak, were intimidated. Open resistance, which had never been more than feeble and irresolute, disappeared. But resistance, I am happy to say, always remained, although it was manifest in only such events as the abortive effort to assassinate Hitler on July 20, 1944. With resistance driven underground, the Nazi had the German State in his own hands. But the Nazis not only silenced discordant voices. They created positive controls as effective as their negative ones. Propaganda organs, on a scale never before known, stimulated the Party and Party formations with a permanent enthusiasm and abandon such as we, democratic people, can work up only for a few days before a general election. They inculcated [impressed upon] and practiced the Führerprinzip [leadership principle] which centralized control of the Party and of the Party-controlled State over the lives and thought of the German people, who are accustomed to look upon the German State, by whomever controlled, with a mysticism [a power to believe] that is incomprehensible to my people [the United States public]. . . .

Anne Frank - Diary Excerpt, On Her Old Country: Dussel has told us a lot about the outside world, which we have missed for so long now. He had very sad news. Countless friends and acquaintances have gone to a terrible fate. Evening after evening the green and grey Lorries trundle past. The Germans ring at every door to enquire if there are any Jews living in the house. If there are, then the whole family has to go at once. If they don't find any, they go on to the next house. No one has a chance of evading them unless one goes into hiding. Often they go round with lists, and only ring when they can get a good haul. In the evenings, when it's dark, I often see rows of good, innocent people accompanied by crying children, walking on and on, bullied and knocked about until they almost drop. No one is spared - old people, babies, expectant mothers, the sick - each and all join in the march of death.

“Of course the people don’t want war. But after all, it’s the leaders of the country who determine the policy, and it’s always a simple matter to drag the people along whether it’s a democracy, a fascist dictatorship, or a parliament, or a communist dictatorship. Voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism, and exposing the country to greater danger.” — **Herman Goering at the Nuremberg trials**

A Jewish State

BALFOUR DECLARATION

November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,
I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Yours sincerely,
Arthur James Balfour

Nov. 29, 1947 | U.N. Partitions Palestine, Allowing for Creation of Israel

