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Revision Notes for Leaving Cert 2011

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**History**  
**Leaving Cert**  
**Dictatorship & Democracy**  
**Essay Notes**

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## 1.0 Essay Plans (Dictatorship & Democracy)

### 1.1 Mussolini's Downfall

- Intro-North Tyrol, Fiume, 2m unemployment, 500% inflation
- Rise to Power-March to Rome, Acerbo Law
- Church State Relations-Latern Treaty (1929)
- Economy-Stefani and 4 Battles
- Corporate State-No Unions
- Other Reforms-Transport etc
- Foreign Policy-Alliances
- Spanish Civil War
- Expansion
- WWII
- Conclusion

### 1.2 Rise to Power

- Italian nationalists not happy with Paris Peace Conference after World War I and they **failed to receive North Tyrol, Dalmatia or Fiume** as promised. They also failed to receive an African colony as compensation.
- The economy of Italy was in depression-**2m unemployed**, 500% inflation. There was also tension between the Church and State as well as the failure to develop a stable democracy.
- Strikes and riots took place in cities and people feared Communism would take over.
- The government were weak and could not solve the problems.
- **Benito Mussolini**-Father was Socialist. Worked in journalism and was editor of Socialist newspaper 'Avanti' in 1912. Expelled from Socialists after advocating Italy to enter the war in 1914. After the war he called for a dictator in the country and in 1919 formed the **Fascio di Combattimento (Blackshirts)**.
- **Characteristics of Fascists**-Ultra-nationalism (colonies), totalitarianism(one party government/good of state over individual), cult of the leader (propaganda), racism, anti-communism (gained capitalist support).
- **1919**-They won **0 seats** in the general election and so Mussolini then disowned Socialism. He also conducted marches against communism and socialism. He also dropped the taxes he was going to implement and the confiscation of land off the rich-**gradual shift to the right**.
- There was also the formation of the **Squadristi**-an anti-communist force. As a result, companies such as Fiat and the banks began to support him.
- By 1922 they had won **35 seats and they had 320,000 members**.
- We then saw the **Socialist General Strike** which the Squadristi prevented a Communist takeover. The fascists were seen as the sole protectors.

- **PM De Facta** asks for Martial Law to stop the fascists but **King Victor Emmanuel II** refuses and he resigns. Mussolini then refuses to co-operate with the government until he is made PM. Emmanuel then asked him to **form a government and he become Prime Minister**.
- Mussolini then organised the **March on Rome** to celebrate in October 1922 (in which he didn't actually march and arrived by train).

### 1.3 Establishing Dictatorship

- He got off to a slow **start** with only 4 Fascist Ministers which reassured the Liberals.
- He passed the **Acerbo Law in 1923** which said the party with the most votes in the next election would get two thirds of parliament seats (a stable government) and then used violence to ensure that this was won by him. **Totalitarianism**
- He then began to put his men in **key roles** such as Minister of the Interior and Foreign Minister.
- After Socialist leader-**Matteoti** was murdered the Socialists withdrew from parliament, giving Mussolini more power.
- Mussolini set up his secret police (**OVRA**) who arrested political opponents.
- Mussolini converted the Blackshirts into a national militia.
- Mussolini then in 1926 got the right to **rule by decree**-issued over 100,000.
- Mussolini engaged in a lot of **propaganda** and controlled the media. There was a lot on Censorship and Special Courts set up to prosecute enemies. There were also **Penal Colonies** (concentration camps) set up.
- He developed a cult of personality (**Il Duce**) as propaganda. He was compared to Caesar and was never made to seem wrong.
- He used education to support his fascist regime and got the youth involved by forming the Balila.
- However, he never had full power over the king or church.

### 1.4 Church-State Relations

- Relations had been poor since 1870 and Mussolini aimed to improve this by:
- Bringing in compulsory religious education, allowing crucifixes in classrooms, introducing measures against abortion and baptising his children.
- **Pope Pius XI** now withdrew support from Catholic Popular party and backed the Fascists.
- The **Lateran Treaty** was signed in 1929 in which the pope recognised the Italian State and Italy recognised the Vatican City. Italy also paid the pope £30m in compensation for taking Rome and Catholicism was recognised as the State-religion.
- This was often seen as Mussolini's greatest success. "*Brought God to Italy and Italy to God*"
- However, friction remained when the group Catholic Action became out of control of government (**fail of a totalitarian state**) and also when the Pope condemned Mussolini for his anti-semitic legislation.

## 1.5 Corporate State

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## 1.6 The Economy

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## 1.7 Foreign Policy

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### 1.8 World War II

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## 2.0 Hitler's Rise to Power

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## 2.1 Hitler's Rise to Power

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## 2.2 Hitler Establishes Dictatorship

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## 2.3 Hitler's Economic Policies

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### 3.0 Hitler's Foreign Policy

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### 3.1 Hitler's Foreign Policy

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## 4.0 Church State Relations

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### 4.1 Italian Church-State Relations

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### 4.2 German Church-State Relations

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## 5.0 Moscow Show Trials

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### 5.1 Moscow Show Trials (Case study)

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## 6.0 Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust

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