

Words

- **admire** = respect, like
- **appear** = to show for the first time
- **beliefs** = ideas
- **century** = a period of a hundred years
- **citizen** = a person who lives in a country and has rights there
- **claim** = say
- **destroy** = damage completely
- **disappointed** = sad
- **emerge** = come up, to become known as
- **execute** = kill
- **exercise** = to do sport to stay fit and be strong
- **expand** = to make bigger
- **experience** = know-how, practice
- **fittest** = strongest, the best
- **follower** = a person who believes in a system
- **freedom of speech** = the right to say what you want
- **head** = leader, number one person
- **law and order** = people respect the law and crime is controlled by the police
- **mainly** = mostly
- **obey** = to do what someone tells you to do
- **police force** = the official police organization in a country
- **pride** = respect, honour
- **punish** = to make someone suffer because they have done wrong things
- **regular** = normal
- **rise - rose** = come, emerge
- **rule** = govern
- **satisfied** = happy about something
- **state** = country, government
- **survive** = to live on
- **well-respected** = here: admired by many other countries

Fascism is a political system in which the **state** has all the power. All **citizens** must work for the country and the government. A dictator or another powerful person is the **head** of such a state. He uses a strong army and a **police force** to keep **law and order**. He is often a strong, authoritarian leader who is, at the beginning, **admired** by many people.

Fascism first **appeared** after World War I when Benito Mussolini came to power in Italy. In Germany of the 1930s Adolf Hitler's National Socialism **rose** to power. Fascism also appeared in Japan, Spain and Argentina.

LIFE IN A FASCIST REGIME

Fascist governments control the way people live. Those who criticize the government or do not **obey** are **punished**. They must leave the country, go to prison or are often **executed**.

Fascist leaders want to make their state strong and powerful. They **claim** that only the strongest and **fittest** in the population can **survive**. With the help of a strong army they go to war and **expand** their territory.

School teachers show children that only the state is important. Pupils must **exercise** to stay healthy. Young organizations are often created in which children **admire** the state and learn slogans and songs. They are trained to march and follow the **beliefs** of the ruling party.

Fascist governments try to give all people work, **mainly** in the industries they need. They build roads, hospitals and industries which help them **rise** to power. In fascist countries no other political parties are allowed. The government controls newspapers, radio and television. There is no **freedom of speech**.

RISE OF FASCISM

Fascism became a strong movement during the first part of the 20th **century** for many reasons. Most states had no **experience** with democracy because they were **ruled** by a king or queen. After World War I many people were **disappointed** and angry because the war **destroyed** a lot of their country or because some of their land was taken away from them.



Benito Mussolini

Italians were not **satisfied** with the way other countries treated them after World War I. Benito Mussolini **emerged** as a powerful leader who promised the people that he would bring back **pride** and make Italy a **well-respected** state again. He created his own private army with their own uniforms. Mussolini's **followers** were aggressive and started fights with other **citizens** and **regular** soldiers in the streets. Finally, in 1922 Mussolini became dictator of Italy.

Words

- **although** = while
- **anti-immigration** = against letting people from other countries into a state
- **civil war** = groups from the same country fight against each other
- **claim** = say
- **considered to be** = people thought that they were ...
- **decade** = a period of ten years
- **defeat** = to win against
- **destruction** = damage
- **dissolve** = break up, end
- **economy** = the system of producing goods and other products in a country
- **emerge** = come up, appear
- **expand** = to make bigger
- **foreigner** = a person from another country
- **get rid of** = here: kill
- **in the course of** = here: as the war went on
- **inferior** = not as good as ...
- **invade** = to enter a country with an army in order to take control of it
- **law** = rules in a country
- **law and order** = people respect the law and crime is controlled by the police
- **lead - led** = guide, show the way
- **military** = army
- **nationalist** = a group of people who want to get or keep political freedom for their people
- **neo fascist** = a right-wing movement in which people want to restore fascism and its ideas
- **occur** = happen
- **police force** = the official police organization in a country
- **relation** = connection or link between two people or countries
- **Romanies** = group of people who travel around and lead a nomadic life
- **similar** = alike, almost the same
- **society** = the people in general, the public
- **strict** = severe, exact
- **survive** = to live on
- **throughout** = in all of
- **value** = meaning
- **violence** = aggression, fighting
- **weapon** = something that you use to fight with, like a gun or a knife
- **wide-scale** = here: in many parts of a country

Germany was one of the big losers of World War I. It lost a lot of its land. The winners of the war made Germany give up most of its **weapons** and the government had pay for the **destruction** that **occurred** during the war. The country was poor, its **economy** was ruined.

In the 1920s and 30s a new party **emerged**: the National Socialist Workers' Party became powerful. By 1933 the Nazis were the strongest party in Germany. Their leader, Adolf Hitler, **dissolved** parliament, took over power and made Germany a fascist state. In the following years he built up a strong **police force** and the largest army in Europe.



Adolf Hitler

Hitler was called the *Fuehrer*. He **claimed** that the German people were better, stronger and more intelligent than any other people. Other groups, especially Jews and **Romanies** were **considered** to be **inferior**. Hitler believed that Germany could **survive** only if it **got rid of** these weak people. **In the course** of the war the Nazis killed over 6 million Jews and **invaded** most countries in Europe. When Germany was **defeated** in 1945 the fascist government fell apart.

The situation in Japan was **similar**. The economy was in bad condition and people had little to eat. Many Japanese wanted the **military** to take over the government and Japan to be a strong country again. In the 1930s Japan started **expanding** its power. It hated other Asian countries and wanted all of Asia under Japanese control.

FASCISM IN OTHER COUNTRIES

Spain was another fascist country in Europe. General Franco led a **nationalist** movement in the Spanish **Civil War**, in which he got help from Italy and Germany. After winning the war Franco became dictator of Spain and ruled the country until he died in 1975.

In Argentina Juan Peron **led** a fascist movement that lasted for a **decade** and in Chile a military group under the command of Augusto Pinochet held on to power for almost two **decades**.

NEO FASCISM

Although fascist parties were forbidden in many counties after World War II fascism wasn't completely dead.

Neo-fascist groups have emerged **throughout** the world. Their members have different views of the **values** of **society**.

- They want **strict anti-immigration laws**. **Foreigners** should leave the country.
- The police should have more rights. There should be more **law and order** in a country.
- Neo-fascists do not want **relations** with other countries.

Neo-fascist movements perform acts of **violence** and are sometimes involved in terrorist attacks but they are too small to start a **wide-scale** rebellion in a state.