

Hitler and the Nazi Party (the NSDAP)

- ❖ Adolf Hitler joined a far-right political party called the German Workers' Party. It was quite insignificant in 1919 and a few years after as they weren't known well.

When Adolf Hitler became leader, he changed the name to National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP for short).

- ❖ Due to the 1923 hyperinflation crisis, the Nazi party began to become popular. They released a "25-point manifesto". It appeared to offer Germans a better future, however the wording of their manifesto was clever. It had hidden the dark, inhuman beliefs of the Nazis.

The Nazis believed that the Germany should expanded and become powerful. They believed they should be one person (a Führer) in control. They believed that the Aryan race was superior over every other race and that Jews were "subhuman". They believed Germany was in danger from Communism and the Jews, who "had to be destroyed".

They attracted all sorts of people.

They attracted socialists. They told the people that farmers should keep their land and pensions should improve. They also said public industries should be owned by the State.

They attracted nationalists. The Nazis believed that all German-speaking people should live in one country and there should be "special laws" for foreigners.

They attracted racists. Nazis believed that Jews should not be German citizens.

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They attracted fascists. Fascists and the Nazis believed that there should be a strong central government and control of the media.

However, they weren't popular with communists and intellectuals (students and university professors).