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**ASSIGNMENT**

Account for the rise of fascism

**ANSWER**

**History Of Fascism**

Fascism is a form of radical authoritarian nationalism that came to prominence in early 20th-century Europe, characterized by one-party totalitarian regimes run by charismatic dictators, glorification of violence, and racist ideology. Fascism, Philosophy of government that stresses the primacy and glory of the state, unquestioning obedience to its leader, subordination of the individual will to the state’s authority, and harsh suppression of dissent. Martial virtues are celebrated, while liberal and democratic values are disparaged. Fascism arose during the 1920s and ’30s partly out of fear of the rising power of the working classes; it differed from contemporary communism (as practiced under Joseph Stalin) by its protection of business and landowning elites and its preservation of class systems. The leaders of the fascist governments of Italy (1922–43), Germany (1933–45), and Spain (1939–75)—Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler, and Francisco Franco—were portrayed to their publics as embodiments of the strength and resolve necessary to rescue their nations from political and economic chaos. Japanese fascists (1936–45) fostered belief in the uniqueness of the Japanese spirit and taught subordination to the state and personal.

Fascism is a far-right political ideology that emerged in early 20th-century Europe, characterized by dictatorial power, extreme nationalism, suppression of opposition, and strong regimentation of society and the economy. The term is derived from the Italian word "fascio," meaning a bundle or group, symbolizing strength through unity.

The rise of fascism in the early to mid-20th century was a complex phenomenon influenced by a combination of historical, political, social, economic, and cultural factors. Understanding its emergence requires examining the specific context of each country where fascism gained prominence, notably Italy and Germany, but also other nations where fascist movements emerged.

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### Political Instability and Weak Governments

1. **Weak Democratic Institutions**: Fragile democratic institutions in many European countries struggled to address the challenges of the time. Political instability, frequent changes in government, and ineffective leadership eroded public confidence in democratic systems.
2. **Fear of Communism**: The Bolshevik Revolution in Russia and the spread of communist ideology across Europe instilled fear among conservative elites and middle-class citizens. Fascist movements portrayed themselves as bulwarks against the perceived threat of communism, capitalizing on anti-communist sentiment.

### Nationalism and Authoritarianism

1. **Cult of Nationalism**: Fascist movements exploited feelings of national pride and identity, promoting the idea of national superiority and scapegoating minority groups or outsiders for perceived national decline.
2. **Authoritarianism**: Authoritarian tendencies were prevalent in many European societies, where strong leaders were often seen as necessary to restore order and national greatness. Fascist leaders promised to restore law and order and revive national strength through authoritarian means.

### Charismatic Leadership and Propaganda

1. **Charismatic Leaders**: Fascist movements were often led by charismatic figures who captured the imagination of the masses with their powerful rhetoric and promises of national rejuvenation. Leaders like Mussolini and Hitler used their charisma to rally support and mobilize followers.
2. **Propaganda and Mass Mobilization**: Fascist regimes employed sophisticated propaganda techniques to manipulate public opinion and create a sense of unity and purpose. Mass rallies, controlled media, and indoctrination in schools and youth organizations were used to mobilize support and suppress dissent.

### Military and Paramilitary Support

1. **Paramilitary Groups**: Fascist movements often had the backing of paramilitary organizations that used violence and intimidation to suppress opposition and enforce fascist ideology.
2. **Military Support**: Some fascist movements received support from elements within the military who viewed fascism as a means to restore national pride and strength and to combat the perceived threat of communism.

### Cultural and Intellectual Trends

1. **Crisis of Modernity**: Fascism emerged during a period of profound cultural and intellectual crisis, marked by disillusionment with liberal democracy, rationalism, and Enlightenment ideals. Fascist ideologies offered a vision of national rebirth and regeneration that appealed to those disillusioned with the status quo.
2. **Anti-Intellectualism**: Fascist movements often rejected intellectualism and rationalism, favoring emotion, instinct, and myth. They targeted intellectuals and cultural elites, scapegoating them for societal problems and portraying them as enemies of the nation.

### Conclusion

The rise of fascism was a complex phenomenon driven by a combination of economic hardship, political instability, nationalism, authoritarianism, charismatic leadership, propaganda, and cultural trends. These factors converged to create an environment conducive to the emergence of extremist movements promising radical solutions to the challenges of the time.

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