

A Comparative Study of the Contrasting Ideologies behind the Ethnic Cleansing of European Jews during World War II

Dissertation

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By

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Declaration

I, hereby, declare that the dissertation titled, “A Comparative Study of the Contrasting Ideologies Behind the Ethnic Cleansing of European Jews During World War II ” submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of M. A. in English is based on my original research conducted under the supervision of Dr Chetana Pokhriyal and that any work conducted by earlier researchers and referred in this study has been duly acknowledged on the relevant pages of the dissertation. I further declare that the work reported in this dissertation has not been submitted either in part or in full for the award of any other degree or diploma of this University or of any other University.

.....

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Certificate

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled “A Comparative Study of the Contrasting Ideologies behind the Ethnic Cleansing of European Jews during World War II.” by Mr Chitran Pande has been done under my supervision. It is also certified that the work in this Dissertation embodies the original research and hard work of the candidate. The assistance and support received during the investigation and all the sources of literature have been fully acknowledged.

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Abstract

This research paper explores the ideology of the fearsome dictator Hitler and his anti-Semitic policies. An investigation of the Holocaust and the horrors associated with it during the Second World War is also a feature of this research paper. This paper aims at studying the ideology of Hitler who ordered the persecution of the Jews in contrast to that of Mary Anne frank who was a Jewish teenager and a victim of Hitler's anti-Semitic policies. An insight into the mind of Hitler is provided through an explanation of his ideology in this research paper. The books used in the formation of this research paper are namely *Mein Kampf: My Struggle* by Adolf Hitler and *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Mary Anne Frank.

Keywords: Hitler, Holocaust, Mein Kampf, Anti- Semitism, Anne Frank, Jews

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Chapter I

An Introduction

The horrors of the Second World War are not unknown to anyone. The rise of a figure like Hitler who waged war against the allies and the methods through which he achieved and maintained his grip on power is a question that needs minimal answering. The holocaust which is also known as The Shoah was a mass murder of about 6 million Jews at the hands of Nazi Germany and its collaborators that spanned from 1941 to 1945. These murders were carried out in different forms whether it be mass shootings, asphyxiation in gas chambers or forced labour in concentration camps, Holocaust was and remains to this day the most horrible and atrocious act against any community.

Also known as the Nazi Bible, *Mein Kampf*, an autobiographical book written by Hitler in two volumes expresses his strong anti-Semitic views and his chauvinist outlook. The book is an autobiographical manifesto and describes the process through which anti-Semitism developed inside Hitler's mind and became the centre of his political ideology. It is also known as the Nazi Bible. The book had slow initial sales but became a bestseller in Germany after Hitler rose to power in 1933. It explores Hitler's experiences and provides an insight inside the mind of the man who later went on to become the most gruesome dictator in the world. This book is also a bible of National Socialism. The first volume focuses on Hitler's youth, the First World War and the "betrayal" of Germany's collapse in 1918. It also hints at

Hitler's racist ideology regarding considering the supremacy of the Aryans over the Jews. The second volume describes the political agenda that National Socialism must use, including terrorism, to achieve power and exercise in the new Germany.

Till 2016, *Mein Kampf* was banned in Germany and the state of Bavaria had the copyrights, but in 2016 the copyright expired and the book was republished. *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Mary Anne Frank was written from 1942 to 1944 during the hiding of the Frank family from the German forces who had occupied the Netherlands during the Second World War. The book is a documentation of Anne Frank's life while she was in hiding with her family. She was a German-born Dutch-Jewish. Her book was published posthumously. Her father got the diary published. The Frank family was arrested in 1944, and Anne Frank died of typhus in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1945.

Traces of Anti- Semitism in Europe before the Holocaust

During the middle ages in Europe, hatred towards the Jews was harboured due to the Christian belief that the community was jointly accountable for the death of Jesus Christ through the apparent “blood curse” of “Pontius Pilate” which has been mentioned in the Gospels. During the Bubonic plague epidemic, many Jews were persecuted on the allegation of poisoning the wells. Even though a considerable portion of the continent had undergone major governmental reorganization, the Renaissance, Enlightenment, and imperialist eras gave rise to a series of more racist and non-religious displays of anti-Semitic fears and indignations. Jews' freedom in Western Europe was generally constrained by local royals, particularly as a result of the emergent dread of Jewish merchants' potential rivalry with local businessmen.

Racial anti-Semitism had started to emerge in Europe through the close of the 19th century, as a novel form of anti-Semitism. It began as a component of a larger racist worldview and the idea that the "white race" was superior to other "races," during a time when prejudicial beliefs were upheld by spurious scientific ideas like social Darwinism. The period from 1899 to 1939 witnessed a high point in anti-Semitism in western countries. Numerous theories were given by Holocaust scholars attributing to the reasons behind the rise of Anti-Semitism in the European countries, particularly the west.

A completely different theory of the emergence of anti-Semitism and the variance in anti-Semitism among countries is presented by Pierre Birnbaum in 1992. Birnbaum explains the growth of contemporary anti-Semitism as a result of opposition to the powerful state. Anti-Semitism is more prevalent in societies where a powerful state is thought to have forced the emancipation of Jews on the populace (for example, Germany and France). Prominent anti-Semitism, on the other hand, implemented religious, economic, racial, and political prejudice. Because of their perceived racial characteristics, considerable economic behaviour assumed leadership roles in subversive political and social movements, and supposed economic power,

Jews were therefore despised and feared. Because there were many different types of popular anti-Semitism, it may be easier to understand why Jews were frequently targeted during times of national and international difficulty rather than other minorities. (Brustein and King 38)

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Factors leading to the manifesto's birth

The end of World War I saw Hitler becoming a dogmatic Nationalist. Under the commandment of Hitler, there was a steady growth in the number of members of the Nazi party in Bavaria, where it was based. The rallies and meetings were protected by organizing strong-arm groups. Sturmabteilung was the name of the organization that brought together members of these groups from paramilitary and groups for veterans (SA). Hitler and his supporters decided they had enough people to stage the Beer Hall Putsch in 1923. This failed attempt to overthrow the Bavarian state government was intended to catalyze a larger uprising against the Weimar Republic. After the failure, Hitler was detained for the majority of 1924, and the Nazi Party was temporarily outlawed.

During the economic crisis of Germany in the 1920s and 1930s, Hitler saw the Jews taking advantage of the situation. He viewed the Jews as solely responsible for the dubious business practices that led to the degradation of the economy of the country in those decades. Hitler harboured a belief that the different races were competing against each other for their survival. He also considered that the Aryan Race was the creator of human culture for which it was above every other race and deserved a special place in the world.

Literature Review

The field of holocaust studies has a very wide spectrum. A countless number of researches have been published in this field. Before delving into the contrasting analysis of the ideology behind Anti-Semitism and that of the Holocaust victims it is essential to look at some of the important contributions to the field of Holocaust research.

William I Brustein and Ryan D. King talk about the pre-existing anti-Semitic beliefs in the European society preceding the Holocaust in their essay *Anti-Semitism in Europe before the Holocaust*. There have been numerous theories given by Holocaust scholars attributing to what the driving force behind the anti-Semitism in Europe. William and Ryan say that the systematic and empirically supported national comparison of popular anti-Semitism before 1945 is made difficult by the fact that academic research on anti-Semitism frequently focuses on anti-Semitism within a single country. To get the answers, they also pose some questions, such as how anti-Semitism differs from other types of bigotry based on race, religion, or ethnicity. Or how and why did common Germans embrace anti-Semitism differently than other Europeans? Theories explaining the rise of anti-Semitism are particularly common and include those related to modernization, relative deprivation, ethnic rivalry, scapegoating, and frustration-aggression.

Research Gaps

While a plethora of work has been done in the field of Holocaust studies, my thesis aims to look at the contrast between the ideology of the persecutor and the persecuted. I would use the widely available data on the sociopolitical situation during the time of the publication of the books and various Anti-Semitic theories given by critics.

Objective

To study and compare the contrasting ideologies of the Jew persecutors and the Jews during the Holocaust based on *Mein Kampf* by Adolf Hitler and *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Mary Anne Frank.

Research Methodology

Holocaust study is a wide field with numerous theories and plausible explanations for the occurrence of the event. This research work is qualitative in the study. This paper will specifically focus on the aspect of changes that were induced in the German society during the Third Reich and how Anti-Semitism grew during that period while also looking at the discrimination and victimization that the Jews were subjected to. My primary source will include the books *Mein Kampf* and *The Diary of a Young Girl*.

Chapter 1 deals with the introduction part of the entire thesis, laying extreme emphasis on the preexisting presence of Anti-Semitism in Europe and its strengthening during the Third Reich. It also provides a brief insight into the birth of The Nazi Bible. The chapter is divided into various parts with the first three sub-divisions covering the aspect of adaptation along with its major proponents.

Chapter 2 deals with a basic introduction to the life of Hitler before rising to power. It also explores the various factors that affected his ideology and shaped his understanding of the world around him. A careful analysis of the sociopolitical conditions during Hitler's childhood leading up to his youth is a major feature of this chapter and talks about the beliefs that he started holding regarding the Jews. This chapter also discusses the story of Mary Anne Frank whose journal talks about the discrimination that the Jews were subjected to during the Nazi regime.

Chapter 3 discusses the socio-political conditions which were prevalent in Europe

from 1899 to 1945.

Chapter 4 explores the difference in the mindsets of the Nazi Germans and the Jews.

Chapter 5 contains the conclusion of the research paper and further scope for research in this field.

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Chapter II

Insight into Hitler's early life

“People of the same blood should be in the same Reich.” (Hitler 16)

These were the words of Hitler and the very basis of his Nationalist ideology. Reich is a German word which roughly translates to empire.

Branau-on-the-Inn was Hitler's birthplace. A monument erected to a Nurnberg bookseller Johannes Phillip Palm on the site of execution in Hitler's birthplace was among the first public things that had a lasting effect on him as a young boy. Palm was executed by Napoleon for circulating a pamphlet called Germany's deepest Humiliation.

On the long way home from school, Hitler spent a lot of time running around in the open. Throughout the more or less heated arguments he used to have with his brothers in arms, a natural talent for speaking started to emerge. He was an avid reader and came across a publication on the history of the 1870-71 Franco-German war. He became more and more enthusiastic about everything related to military affairs or war. At a young age, certain questions arose in Hitler's mind the major one of them being: Is there a difference between the Germans who served in the war and the other Germans, and if so, what is it? Why didn't Austria partake too though? Why didn't my father and the other individuals fight in that conflict? Do we not share commonalities with other Germans? Do we not all have a place here?

After both of his parents had passed away, Hitler moved to Vienna which was a part of Germany but under the Habsburg Empire. Hitler's time in Vienna is when he came in contact with Jews, Socialists, Social democrats, and the working class. Hitler wanted to be a painter but he was not accepted in the art school. For being accepted in the course of architectural drawing he did not have a Middle school certificate. In Vienna, he was forced to earn his own bread.

Hitler's Beliefs

During the economic crisis of Germany in the 1920s and 1930s, Hitler saw the Jews taking advantage of the situation. He viewed the Jews as solely responsible for the dubious business practices that led to the degradation of the economy of the country in those decades. Hitler harboured a belief that the different races were competing against each other for their survival. He also considered that the Aryan Race was the creator of human culture for which it was above every other race and deserved a special place in the world.

There was a steady rise in unemployment owing to the Great Depression in Germany. From 1929 to 1932 the party increased its members and voters by conducting campaigns and organizing speeches. The Nazi Party exploited the millions of dissatisfied jobless voters for its advantage. They won the confidence of the people. The party saw an increase in the vote in the German Parliament elections from 8 hundred thousand votes in 1928 to an estimated 14 hundred thousand votes in July 1932, making it the largest voting bloc in the Reichstag with 230 members.

He was extremely nationalistic and considered that Germany was the best nation on earth. He believed that Germany had a legal right to use force to eliminate both internal and external enemies. He deemed Jews, Communists, Socialists, and Homosexuals as his enemies. Hitler frequently professed to be a Christian in public. Additionally, he asserted that Jesus had led a battle against Jews which justified Hitler's ethnic cleansing. But according to a variety of sources, he held a harsh opinion of Christianity in private. In many of his speeches, he did identify himself as a Christian, but this could have been done to appease the audience rather than as a genuine statement of his own beliefs. Hitler was a great orator.

"I know that men are won over less by the written than by the spoken word, that every great movement on this earth owes its growth to great orators and not to great writers," Hitler wrote in the preface for *Mein Kampf* expressing his belief in the power of the spoken word.

Hitler claimed that assembling and preserving the most valuable racial component and elevating them to the dominant position was "the sacred mission" of the German people.

“All who are not of a good race are chaff,” he wrote. It was important for Germans to “occupy themselves not merely with the breeding of dogs, horses, and cats but also with care for the purity of their own blood.” Hitler assigned international essence to the annihilation of Jews, which “must necessarily be a bloody process,” he wrote.

“The adulteration of the blood and racial deterioration conditioned thereby are the only causes that account for the decline of ancient civilizations; for it is never by a war that nations are ruined but by the loss of their powers of resistance, which are exclusively a characteristic of pure racial blood. In this world, everything that is not of sound racial stock is like chaff. Every historical event in the world is nothing more or less than a manifestation of the instinct of racial self-preservation, whether for weal or woe.”(Hitler 246)

Hitler reinforced the belief that Jews are a wicked race aiming for global hegemony in *Mein Kampf*. Religious and anti-political anti-Semitism were the foundations of Nazi anti-Semitism. Racially charged Anti-Semitism was a new tenet that the Nazis added to the already established Semitism. The Jews were presumed Untermenschen (German for "subhuman" in Nazi racial ideology). The Nazis portrayed Jews as a race rather than a particular religion. Anti-Semitism also helped Hitler in attaining power in Germany. He convinced the people of Germany that the Jews were the nemesis of the world. He instilled a sense of national chauvinism inside his listeners. Most of the Nazi bible is repetitive and spirals into discussing the hatred toward the Jews.

“The frailest woman will become a heroine when the life of her child is at stake. And only the will to save the race and native land or the State, which offers protection to the race,

has in all ages been the urge which has forced men to face the weapons of their enemies.” (Hitler 133)

This enemy that he repetitively talks about in his book is the Jews. Hitler’s perception of the world was based on two concepts, which were territorial expansion or a greater living space for the German people, and racial supremacy. Post World War I the Allies did not allow Germany to set up any colonies in the continent of Africa, so Hitler set out the expansion of German territory and the security of food and resources— which was in shortage during the First World War in Europe beforehand. Hitler perceived Jews as pollution to the German race. He considered them to be cancer for the world. Hitler vehemently fought against Jews because of the values they introduced to the world. His view regarding the natural order in which the powerful exercised unchecked power was thwarted by social justice and sympathetic aid to the weak. In Hitler’s view, such obstruction on the exercise of power would inexorably bring about the debilitation, possibly the conquest, of the master race.

Harun Yahya talks about the Nazi ideology in his paper and says that to brainwash the German people with hatred and animosity toward Jews, the Nazis initially targeted the Jews with ideological propaganda. In his 1926 book *Mein Kampf*, Adolf Hitler asserted that "propaganda attempts to force a doctrine on the entire people." To incite hatred toward Jews and other minority groups, he favoured the use of propaganda. Hitler formed a Reich Ministry of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda in 1933, under the leadership of Joseph Goebbels. The purpose of this "black propaganda machine" was to incite hatred against the targeted minorities, the Jews and other "undesirables," throughout Germany. (Yahya 4)

“Only the Jew knew that by an able and persistent use of propaganda heaven itself can be presented to the people as if it were hell and, vice versa, the most miserable kind of life can be presented as if it were paradise. The Jew knew this and acted

accordingly. But the German, or rather his Government, did not have the slightest suspicion of it. During the War, the heaviest of penalties had to be paid for that ignorance.” (Hitler 250)

Hitler articulates his stance on the grasp of the Jews over civilization and confers that the Jews have used propaganda to establish themselves.

Hitler likened the Jews to germs in August 1920. He specified that maladies cannot be kept under check unless you terminate their origins. The impact of the Jews would never vanish without eliminating its source, the Jew, from our centre, he said. These deep-seated ideas served as a roadway for the annihilation of the Jews in the 1940s. According to Hitler, the Jews were scheduling for authority over the world and they would not hesitate in resorting to any means conceivable, including capitalism. In this way, Hitler took benefit of the existing preconception that shackled the Jews to fiscal power and economical gain. He used his extraordinary oratory skills to spread his ideology.

When describing his period in Vienna, where he meets social democrats at an early age, Hitler makes the following statement:

“In this way a few months sufficed for me to learn something which under other circumstances might have necessitated decades of study--namely, that under the cloak of social virtue and love of one's neighbour a veritable pestilence was spreading abroad and that if this pestilence is not stamped out of the world without delay it may eventually succeed in exterminating the human race” (Hitler 46)

The story of Mary Anne Frank

The events described in Mary Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl* take place between the time she turns thirteen and fairly soon after she turns fifteen. Due to German anti-Semitic laws that required Jews to attend separate schools, Anne and her older sister, Margot, attended the Jewish Learning Centre in Amsterdam. In the years preceding World War II, the Frank family escaped to the Netherlands to avoid condemnation at the hands of the Nazi regime. The Franks were compelled to go underground following the German invasion of the Netherlands in 1940. They moved in with the Van Daans family, Mister Dussel, and another family into a tiny hidden annex overhead Otto Frank's (Mary Anne's father) office. While the Franks were being hidden, Otto's employees helped by providing them with food, water, medicine, and knowledge of the outside world. When they were in hiding, the development of the war was learnt by the radio. Few pieces of news caught Anne's consideration and were inserted in her diary which provides a lifelike historical context for her thoughts. It was a time of turmoil as food was scarce during the war and the condition worsened after the siege. Robberies became quite often. Life became a living hell. The diary mentions her feelings of loneliness and isolation quite often. This was a result of the war and the dogmatic Nazi Anti-Semitic Ideology. The German Anti-Semitic policy did not discriminate between children and adults. It simply viewed Jews as a threat and practised the means necessary for their extermination. She had a turbulent relationship with the adults in the annex because the space was very limited.

Anne matures during the period of her writing and it is evident from how she talks about individuality and other human aspects rather than describing her daily basic activities. She struggles to comprehend why the Jews are being pulled out and victimized. This contrast between the ideology of the persecuted and the persecutor paints a very clear picture of how utterly devastating and despicable the scenario was.

“I don’t believe the war is simply the work of politicians and capitalists. Oh no, the common man is every bit as guilty; otherwise, people and nations would have rebelled long ago! There’s a destructive urge in people, the urge to rage, murder and kill. And until all of humanity, without exception, undergoes a metamorphosis, wars will continue to be waged, and everything that has been carefully built up, cultivated and grown will be cut down and destroyed, only to start all over again!”(Frank 223)

If we put a child’s perception of the war in comparison to that of an adult, we begin to discover the true horrors of the war-inflicted world. Violence and animosity are assets that are embedded in human beings and they cannot separate themselves from these. After examining the magnitude of the things described by a teenager we come to ascertain what actually war is capable of doing to an individual. Through her accounts, we learn how the Jews were distinguished. They had to wear a star on them at all times. They weren't allowed to go out after 8 p.m.

“I could spend hours telling you about the suffering the war has brought, but I’d only make myself more miserable. All we can do is wait, as calmly as possible, for it to end. Jews and Christians alike are waiting, the whole world is waiting, and many are waiting for death.”(Frank 73) This quote expresses how deeply the war has numbed the mind of a child. The discrimination that the Jews were subjected to has all been recorded in Frank’s journal. The deeply psychological trauma that the victims of the oppression during the Nazi regime underwent is unimaginable. In the diary, Mary confronted her own identity. Even though she was born a German and considered herself a German, her German citizenship was revoked. Even though she called Holland her home but countless of the Dutch had turned their backs on the Jews. This was the ugly side of the war and a result of the manifestation of the hatred and fear that the Germans inculcated in the minds of every European. Anne felt an immense sense of camaraderie with

her people in these times of turmoil but at the same time, she wanted to have an identity of her own and did not want to be seen as a member of a victimized group. Her diary documents the two years she spent in captivity and privation, as well as the challenging issues associated with growing up during the horrific Holocaust. Her journal details a battle to find her identity in this oppressive environment. On August 1, 1944, Anne's diary comes to an end without further explanation, capping off what appears to be a routine day and leaving us hoping for more on the following page. On August 4, 1944, the Frank family is betrayed, handed over to the Nazis, and placed under arrest. The diary ends abruptly and in silence.

“After May 1940 good times rapidly fled: first the war, then the capitulation, followed by the arrival of the Germans, which is when the sufferings of us Jews really began. Anti-Jewish decrees followed each other in quick succession. Jews must wear a yellow star, Jews must hand in their bicycles, and Jews are banned from trams and are forbidden to drive. Jews are only allowed to do their shopping between three and five o'clock and then only in shops which bear the placard “Jewish shop.” Jews must be indoors by eight o'clock and cannot even sit in their own gardens after that hour. Jews are forbidden to visit theatres, cinemas, and other places of entertainment. Jews may not take part in public sports. Swimming baths, tennis courts, hockey fields, and other sports grounds are all prohibited to them. Jews may not visit Christians. Jews must go to Jewish schools, and many more restrictions of a similar kind.” (Frank 17-18)

Recorded in Anne Frank's diary, this was the fear that the Jews lived in. It was not certain when and where they would be apprehended by the German forces and sent to concentration camps. They had to be vigilant all the time. After Germany started invading neighbouring countries, the Jewish families had to go into hiding to survive.

“Families are torn apart, the men, the women, and the children all being separated. Children coming home from school find that their parents have disappeared. Women return from shopping to find their homes shut up and their families gone.” (Frank 72) A never ending dread loomed over the Jews because there was no guarantee for the safety of one’s family. Everything had become fearful.

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Chapter III

Socio-Political Conditions from 1899-1945

After 1890, Germany's industrial development advanced at an astounding rate. The number of workers employed in developing machines doubled between the years 1895 and 1907, rising from slightly more than 500,000 to a good amount crossing a million. A rapid decline in emigration was a direct result of rising industrial employment, which fell from an average of 130,000 people per year in the 1880s to just 20,000 per year by the middle of the 1890s. The majority of the population was still leaving the eastern provinces of Prussia, however this time they were heading to the Ruhr and Berlin's quickly growing factories instead of the Americas. British concerns about German rivalry were now fully justified.

British steel output was twice that of German steel production in the early 1870s, but by 1893, German steel production had overtaken British levels, and by 1914, German steel production was more than double British levels. In addition, finished commodities made up just 33% of German exports in 1873; by 1913, this proportion had increased to 63%. All of the important Continental markets—all save France—came to be dominated by Germany. By 1900, urban industrialization became the primary concentration of both population and national income. From 67 percent at the beginning of the empire, only 40 percent of Germans still resided in rural areas in 1910. As opposed to one-twentieth at the time of unification, cities with more than 100,000 residents made up one-fifth of the population in 1914.

World War I (1914–1918), which resulted in enormous destruction and fatalities, led to a period of increased instability. Extremist movements like Communism, Fascism,

and National Socialism arose as a result of this unrest. The undignified terms of the Treaty of Versailles' peace provisions sparked fierce outrage throughout Germany and

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significantly weakened the country's fledgling democracy. The Communist Party of Germany (KPD) was established in December 1918, and in 1919 it attempted to topple the new republic but failed. The newly formed National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP), which failed in a coup in Munich in 1923, was put under Adolf Hitler's control in 1919. Building militant auxiliary units, both parties and groups that supported the republic fought increasingly bloody street battles. As the Great Depression severely hurt the economy and produced a large number of jobless men who presented themselves for the paramilitary units, electoral support for both parties rose after 1929. Germany was a republic with democratic institutions when Adolf Hitler came to power in January 1933. The equality of all people, including Jews, was recognized and safeguarded by its constitution. The Nazis erected a dictatorship with few fundamental liberties and rights. They promoted the idea of a "national community" made up of people who were "of German blood." Jews, Roma, people with physical and mental disabilities, and others who the Nazis perceived as being of the inferior race were excluded from this community and were seen as threats to it. By the time Hitler was in his youth, the Jews were majorly part of the affluent section of European society. Germany was in constant skirmishes with France. A sense of nationalism was gripping the younger sections of German society. The students would pay less attention to teachers who were not Germans. Vienna was under the Habsburg Empire which was problematic for German nationalists because the French were in league with the monarch of Austria. Austria which was a part of German land was not under the influence of Germany which was a cause of major upheaval. The Nazi regime

used significant military spending to resurrect economic prosperity and cease widespread unemployment while suppressing strikes and labour unions. With only slight, secluded, and ultimately futile cases of opposition during the Nazi Party's 12-year rule, the return of affluence gave the party enormous popularity.

Under Heinrich Himmler's leadership, the Gestapo (secret police) devastated the partisan

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resistance and victimized Jews, attempting to outcast them and steal their possessions.

After the Nazi party's rule there was economic growth in the society and the Jews were excluded from the affluent portion of the society.

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Chapter IV

Difference in Mindset

When studied in contrast, the mentality that Hitler and Nazi Germany had towards Jews and other races, which were a proclaimed threat to the integrity and security of their nation, against the constant fear of apprehension that the Jews were subjected to, we can witness the power of propaganda. Hitler used the love that the Germans had for their country and presented the Jews as the enemy of the sovereignty of their motherland. This was not only achieved by the means of repression but also by the propagation of ideology through books, newspapers, pamphlets and radio broadcasts. The Jews were being hunted by the Nazi Germans and had to live in constant fear.

Terrorization of minds was achieved through Hitler's strict regime and Anti-Semitic policies. Nazi officials regarded propaganda as a crucial tool for fostering unity among the "sound" German citizens. Goebbels believed that through propaganda, the country would enthusiastically come together behind the national revolution. Suppression of criticism and the eradication of information that did not support the dominant ideologies were necessary for effective propaganda. When the war started, propaganda not only encouraged hatred of the enemy (and encouraged Germany's military adversaries to associate themselves with the Jews), but it also served to shield the country from the impact of war. Hitler and Goebbels presumed that the collapse of public morale was as much to blame for Germany's loss in the First World War as the schemes of Jews and Marxists.

Whereas an average German citizen was free to roam about the streets at any point in the day, there were restrictions on Jews. Many of the Jews fled to other European

countries and those who could not; had to endure the tyranny of the Third Reich. The Holocaust was not a single event and the period over which it spanned was a time of

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terror among the Jews in Europe. During Second World War Nationalism was the catalyst that fuelled Anti-Semitic beliefs inside the Germans. While the Jews were being hunted like a game it is only unimaginable to assume the trauma that they underwent. While civilians were being dragged from their houses and dumped into concentration camps, there were also quite several Jewish uprisings against the German dictatorship. The sturdiest form of Jewish opposition to Nazi dogmas in German-occupied Europe was organized equipped struggle. In more than a hundred barrios in occupied Poland and the Soviet Union, Jewish civilians engaged in armed resistance. But the majority of the Jews resisted only passively.

The Germans saw the Jews as an abomination and Anti-Semitism clutched Europe. Germany was invading neighbouring countries and Jews were being slaughtered. While there was a sense of nationalism among the Jews for the country that they were born in, Hitler's ideology had corrupted even the civilians who would hand over these Jews to the German soldiers. The lives of one's family members and one's own life were in danger if one tried to hide a Jew. Jews who tried to hide were executed or put in prison if discovered. The ability to remain hidden during the war was rare among Jews.

“When the Zionists try to make the rest of the World believe that the national consciousness of the Jew finds its satisfaction in the creation of a Palestinian state, the Jews again slyly dupe the dumb Goyim. It doesn't even enter their heads to build up a Jewish state in Palestine for the purpose of living there; all they want is a central organization for their international world swindler, endowed with its own sovereign rights and removed from the intervention of other states: a haven for convicted scoundrels and a university for budding crooks. It is a sign of their rising confidence and sense of security that at a time when one section is still

playing the German, French-man, or Englishman, the other with open effrontery comes out as the Jewish race.” (Hitler 295)

Hitler says in *Mein Kampf* while describing his view on the Jews and his belief that they were involved in a facade which was planning for global domination.

The homicides were carried out in exterminations and mass shootings. (Berenbaum 1) A policy which promised annihilation by carrying out work in concentration camps was opted; and in gas chambers and gas vans in German execution encampments, essentially Auschwitz, Belżec, Chełmno, Majdanek, Sobibór, and Treblinka in occupied Poland. The Jews were tracked down and killed and if not killed, were made to labour in these camps and gas chambers which was a slow but gradual death. This inhumane act was a part of the Nazi scheme and became a global terror in the years to come. The Jews and other races that the Nazi party considered a threat to their strong nationalistic ideology were brutally exterminated during this period. The horrors that the people were exposed to during this period are immensely tragic. The unspeakable methods and cruelty implemented against the Jews are an abomination. Hitler said that no deliverance was possible until the carrier of dissolution, the Jew, had been immobilized to harm.

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Chapter V

Conclusion

Discussion and Results

The paper discusses the contrasting ideologies of the persecutor and the persecuted during the Jewish Holocaust. The hatred that Hitler harboured against the Jews was irrational even though the amount of times Hitler tries to scapegoat the Jews for being responsible for the downfall of Germany is countless, and is somewhat an amalgamation of the product of his rough childhood and his tenuous relationship with his father. Upon reading the manifesto, one can ascertain that Hitler was not the source from where the hatred of Jews originated. Jews in Europe had been subject to discernment based on religious purposes since the middle ages. The Jewish faith was viewed as an outlier by Christians that needed to be eliminated. Jews were occasionally made to convert or prohibited from practising particular professions. The role of religion in the nineteenth century was less significant. Theories that discussed the contrasts between races and peoples took their place. For example, there was a misconception that Jews belonged to a different people than Germans. Even Jews who had become Christians nevertheless were considered "different" because of their ancestry. In his book *Mein Kampf*, he described his development into an anti-Semite as the result of a long, personal struggle.

It is a conjecture that his aversion to Jewish things became prominent after his experience of working and living as a painter in Vienna (1908-1913). It is however very unclear from his manifesto what exactly the reasons for his strong hatred towards the Jews were. There are many speculations from numerous historians about this theory. Many historians believe that Hitler came in connexion with anti-Semitic concepts at a very young age; some say that he was partly ashamed of his Jewish roots. Samuel Morgenstern, a Jew in Vienna, was one of his most devoted art customers. This information presents us with the idea that whatever anti-Semitic ideology Hitler had at that time, it wasn't fully

developed at that time. Many historians find it very hard to believe the contents of the Nazi Bible. It presents arguments that were a result of strong prejudice against the Jews.

What is certain is that Hitler's views were significantly influenced by two Austrian leaders. German patriot Georg Ritter von Schönerer, who lived from 1842 to 1921, was the first. His belief was to add the German-speaking areas of Austria-Hungary to the German empire. He believed that the Jews were incapable of ever becoming true German citizens.

Hitler learned how anti-Semitism and social changes may be successful from the second, the Austrian mayor Karl Lueger (1844–1910). Hitler referred to Lueger as "the greatest German mayor of all time" in *Mein Kampf*. (Hitler 61)

When he came to office in 1933, he implemented similar principles. To sum up it can be said that the Nazi ideology was prejudiced about the Jews and used anti-Semitic beliefs as a means of rising to power. War is an ugly scheme and the aftermath of it is devastating and painful. Based on the above-mentioned observations, the argument that Hitler used Anti-Semitism as a benefactor to rise in power seems to be viable for a concrete fact. There is no justification for murder. The plots and schemes that Hitler employed were in fact for his gain of rising to power. The seed of hatred that he sowed against the Jews stemmed from his own experiences. His troubled childhood and his duration of stay in Vienna cannot be held solely responsible for this toxic ideology of his.

Any justification for this ideology seems disposable.

Further Scope and Limitations

The field of Holocaust studies is widely researched. Since there is a lot of subjectivity concerning the subject, one can only skim through the surface by the means of a research work limited to a few texts. This research paper is constrained to two major texts and does not cover

the ideology of the Jewish resistance groups. It aims at looking at the ideology of a victimized ethnic group and has countless limitations and research gaps. It does not speak for the entire Jewish community but addresses the difference between the hostility displayed by Nazi Germans and the passive resistance offered by the Jewish population.

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