

Paul Aguirre

World Civilization II

Professor O'Hara

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Communism

Communism is an economic/governmental system that is largely credited to Karl Marx.

Communism is more prominently known to have been adopted by the Soviet Union (USSR) and (later) China, to which the former collapsed and the latter underwent many changes resembling capitalist ideology. Communism promoted the ideology of a utopian world based solely on its people. In this concept, property is publicly owned and the government is considered to be all the people that live in a communist society. The idea of Communist is that everything in society must be shared in accordance with a person's needs. Everything is shared, and nothing is owned individually. In terms of a practical sense, communism never achieves the last step to being officially "government-free" per se. Despite the ideology being based in a government run by the entire society, the Soviet Union and Chinese Communist Party are run by a leader followed by their respective staff.

The concept of communism directly opposes liberal democracy, and this can be seen through the push for a classless society.

Fascism

Fascism is a concept/governmental system famous for its presence in two giant fascist leaders: Italy's Benito Mussolini and (later) Germany's Adolf Hitler. The word "fascism" comes from "fasces" which resembles "the bundle of rods symbolic of the might of the classical Roman army" (Morillo, 735) to which was formed to associate with the Italian fascist party symbol. Fascism is a concept deeply rooted in (extreme) nationalism, militarism, and the presence of a single leader that controls the entire government. Italy was the first European country to implement fascism under Mussolini. Mussolini was known for his speech style which captured his audience's attention. Mussolini was also known for the way he carried himself which seemed very energetic. His personality was crucial in creating a sense of nationalism to his audience. There are other examples of fascists such as Francisco Franco in Spain and Japan's military leaders. Fascism was known for its traditional values, common identity, and common enemy, which were all used to fuel a sense of nationalism in the society. This sense of nationalism was crucial in a time after World War I where there was a large sense of disappointment in some of the countries that would eventually become fascist.

The concept of fascism is in direct opposition to forms of government that have liberal democracies and most definitely is in opposition to marxism, liberalism, and democracy.