

# The social, political and economical factors behind it

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Many social, economical and political factors played a major role in Hitler's incredible rise to power. These included Germany's economic and political instability, increasing violence, and a need for an authoritarian leader.

The Great Depression, faulty political procedure, disillusioned voters, the weakness of the Weimar Republic, Nazi tactics and Hitler's excellent leadership skills also influenced Hitler's rise to power. The weakness in the running of the government was one of the most important political factors that aided Hitler's rise to power.

The first five years of the Weimar Republic were full of difficulties. It all started when the new government was forced to sign a harsh peace Treaty. The humiliation of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles was just the start of many of the government's faults. The treaty had the effect of humiliating the German nation and this led to a desire in many Germans, including Hitler, to see their nation once again take its place in the world through a strong nationalist government.

To prove he could be the one to do this, Hitler made it clear to Germans in his appealing speeches that the Treaty was the cause of many of Germany's economical problems. He also explained that he would fix this by tearing up the Treaty of Versailles. In 1923, the Weimar Republic made another huge fault. Due to economic fragility, the German government didn't keep up with its reparations. This led to a problem called hyperinflation and the savings of the German people became worthless overnight. The inflation was staggering and the economy was ruined.

Germans had lost their trust in the Weimar Republic. This helped Hitler to gain support as Germans had begun to hate the Weimar Republic. With the Weimar out of the way, Hitler could take power more easily. Also, there was a growing debt and as prices fell, rural Germany became a source of support for Hitler. In November 1923, Hitler and the Nazi party held a putsch, in Munich, in an attempt to seize the government. However, the putsch failed badly and Hitler was arrested. Although the putsch was unsuccessful in seizing the government, it was in fact a massive turning point for the Nazi party.

Firstly, Hitler learnt through his mistakes that power could not be achieved by force. Secondly, the events in Munich gave Hitler and his party instant publicity and he moved from being a relatively unknown politician to a national figure. Finally, it became clear to Hitler that he could never hold power without the support of the army. In 1929, Germany entered a deep economic depression. The nation was isolated and the economy was in crisis. Germans blamed the government for yet another decline in their economy and when elections came, they voted for extremist parties, including Hitler, who claimed they knew how to fix these terrible problems. The rise in unemployment and economic instability caused by the depression gave Hitler's speeches and ideas more importance. Hitler's message had an appeal to the disillusioned middle class, who suffered badly in the depression. Thus, people were again interested in the views of the Nazi party. Hitler's amazing oratorical personality and leadership skills also helped

him rise into power. He was magnificent at building up anticipation and expectation.

In his enchanting speeches, Hitler offered the Germans what they needed most, encouragement. It captured the imagination of a disillusioned population and gave them fresh hope. An image had been created of a powerful party with strong leadership. Through the use of political exploitation, extraordinary use of propaganda, Hitler's oratorical skills and immense charisma, and the Weimar Republic's own created faults, Hitler and his Nazi party were able to seize power in a country shattered by failure of democracy, and a huge national crisis.