



b) Germany.

German nationalism was perhaps the primary function of failure in Democratic Germany 1918-1934. Nationalism ingrained with social-dislocation, militaristic influence, and as a key source of Nazi sentiment led to widespread Bourgeois disillusionment thus becoming a key factor in driving an anti-democratic forces.

The inherent nature of political revolution is to disrupt, and dislocate social political and economic forces within a state. This was no different for a fledgling Weimar democracy.

Memorilised by the defeat of World War One, Nationalistic forces expelled blame, placing it solely on the 'November Criminals' the socialist which would ~~take~~ proceed to take power. This hatred of democratic forces, promulgated by the 'stab in the back' legend, was bred amongst



the ultra-nationalistic 'volkish' groups which began to form. These pagan like hordes worked under a sense of 'blood and soil' mysticism of Germanic master races. By 1920, around 600 of the groups existed in Weimar Germany. The ideals of master race, Lebensraum (living room) or social darwinism and Führer ideals were to form the basis of future Nazi support and ideology, thus a vital factor in the downfall of democracy.

Such groups thrived on conflictive circumstances, their presence of their nationalist ideals never more obvious than in the armed forces. During the Kapp Putsch of 1920 was a direct result of nationalist revolt. Disgruntled army officials, enraged by the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles displayed the way in which nationalism led to a push for revolution. And yet the first socialist government had allowed

factionalist nationalism to continue in the army through the 1918 'Ebert-Groener' pact, and its fate was set when a 'Red Army' was suppressed by Groener's forces in the Rhin. Nationalists in the army had a lasting influence, even in politics, as ~~Schliecher Von Seecelt~~ was allowed access to cabinet meetings, and the president, without association to the Reichstag, this was to prove a vital entrance for nationalistic forces.

The most vital function of nationalism was to feed the ideology of Hitler and the Nazi party. The middle-class dislocation caused by hyper-inflation is presented as a vital spur for nationalism, this fragmented socio-economic fragmentation meant that the most powerful form of political propaganda was the proposal of a united, strengthened state of nationalism, a virtual mirror of 'Mein Kampf' and Nazi ideology. The desire for stability

lebensraum, and a powerful autocratic ruler was encircled in the society. E. Kalt, a structuralist points out that even within the apparent years of stability there was "no real stabilisation". In add it was thus that Nazi ideals appealed to dislocated middle-class. M. Broszat describes Nazi ideology as mirroring "the sentiments and resentments... of German nationalist Bourgeoisie". It was thus that a lack of the democratic forces was made, eventually leading to the collapse of Democratic Weimar.

Nationalism was often the greatest support for the Nazi party, which eventually enacted the downfall of Democracy in Germany. In the 1923 Beerhall putsch, Hitlers and his co-accused were not only given lenient sentencing, but praised by the judiciary. The entire legal case provided a forum

for Hitler to put forward his nationalist ideology, which as mentioned earlier appealed greatly to the embattled bourgeoisie of 1923 Hyperinflation. Hitler's alliance with nationalist Hindenburg in the 'Harburg front' provided the first legal attempt to oppose democracy. This was based on a cause of nationalism as the front opposed the 'Young Plan' as it did not reverse the nationalist outrage of Versailles.

The ascendance of Nazism to power, coupled the fall of German democracy, coupled with the ascendance of Ultra-nationalistic Nazis, was often placed as the direct result of nationalist forces.

The constitution, described by Kroll as a "fateful mixture of presidential and parliamentary" allowed the interference of democratic processes by church nationalist forces. Hindenburg, and



his 'cabinet of barons', were the political remnants of nationalistic 'old guard'. Greatly influenced by the highly nationalist army, in Schleicher and von Seekt, Hindenburg and his fellow conservative nationalists were to enact the downfall of Democracy, through the induction of Nazism.

As Bruning failed to pass his economic reforms through the Reichstag, he implored Hindenburg to pass it by the use of Article 48. This was the end of parliamentary democracy, and the beginning of a flawed nationalist presidential rule, which Kalt describes as a "political miscalcation". Bruning was unable to hold power, and Schleicher, a militaristic nationalist, suggested Franz von Papen. Papen was similarly unsuccessful, as the Social Democrats refused to enter government.

In this state of economic and

Social dismemberment of the great depression, such political ~~fail~~ failure lead the nationalist Bourgeoisie to support the National Socialist. As their rates grew to near majority, Hindenburg had no choice but to allow Hitler to become chancellor <sup>in 1933</sup> of the Reichstag. It was the beginning of a swathe of nationalistic fascism, as Gleichschaltung began.

The wider support of the working class and middle-class, which had become an amalgamation of disenchanted nationalists, who ~~ever~~ helped carry through the coordination of the states, and by brought support for National socialism. The act for 'Protection of people and state' ensured 12 years of legal dictatorship, and yet the over-riding force of nationalism blinded popular concern to the



teror and repression it may face.

The March 1934 enabling Act ensured the democracy was fully destroyed, as a Nationalistic Strom Abetted maintained anti-republican justice.

American Nationalism was no doubt the driving force for support of Hitler and the Nazis in the socio-economic shambles of the Weimar Republic.

The ever-increasing popularity of the party was carried by the political miscalculations of Nationalist, in power, influenced by the Germanic Army military, led to the fall of democracy, and the rise of dictatorship of the back of widespread Baugruen dissension and anti-democracy.