Interwar: Rise of Totalitarianism
Joseph Stalin

- **U.S.S.R. during the Interwar Period**
  - Entrenchment of communism
  - Use of totalitarianism to create a powerful communist state
  - Stalin’s policies (command economy)
    - *five-year plans*: rapid industrial growth; steel, coal, oil and electricity; military preparedness
    - *collectivization of farms*: large government farms; many people resisted
    - *state industrialization*: fell short of goal but strengthened USSR industry in world standing
  - *secret police*: force that went after dissenters of Stalin’s policies
  - Great Purge
    - a campaign of terror. It was directed at eliminating anyone who threatened his power
Adolf Hitler

- **Germany during the Interwar Period**
  - Inflation and depression
    - Failing economy due to WWI and Treaty of Versailles
  - Democratic government weakened (Weimer Republic)
    - Attempt at a democracy; members were blamed for war issues
  - Anti-Semitism
    - Derived from the fact that the earliest Jews were Semites; anti Jewish
  - Extreme nationalism
  - National Socialism (Nazism) & (Fascism)
    - National Socialist German Workers’ Party, called Nazi for short
    - supported by people in the middle and lower middle classes
  - German occupation of nearby countries
    - Rhineland (1936)
    - Austria (1938)
    - Czechoslovakia (1938 – 1939)
Benito Mussolini

- **Italy during the Interwar Period**
  - Rise of fascism
    - militant political movement; emphasized loyalty to the state and obedience to its leader
  - to restore the glory of Rome
    - dreamed of building a colonial empire in Africa like England and France
  - Invasion of Ethiopia
    - ordered a massive invasion of Ethiopia in October 1935
Emperor Hirohito and General Hideki Tojo

- **Japan during the Interwar Period**
  - Militarism
    - Civilian government blamed for depression; Military leaders gained support and soon won control of the country
  - Industrialization of Japan, leading to drive for raw materials
    - Raw materials in Manchuria; oil in China
  - Invasion of Korea, Manchuria, and the rest of China
    - Seized Korea in 1907
    - Seized Manchuria in 1931
    - Seized China in 1937