



THE HOLOCAUST

1933-1945

WHAT WAS THE HOLOCAUST?

- The Holocaust was the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators. *Holocaust* is a word of Greek origin meaning “sacrifice by fire.” The Nazis, who came to power in Germany in January 1933, believed that Germans were “racially superior” and that the Jews, deemed “inferior,” were an alien threat to the so-called German racial community.

- Hitler used the Jews as scapegoats on his rise to power. It only got worse once he became Chancellor and the *Führer*.
- The hatred of the Jews by Hitler and the Nazis is known as Anti-Semitism.

GENOCIDE

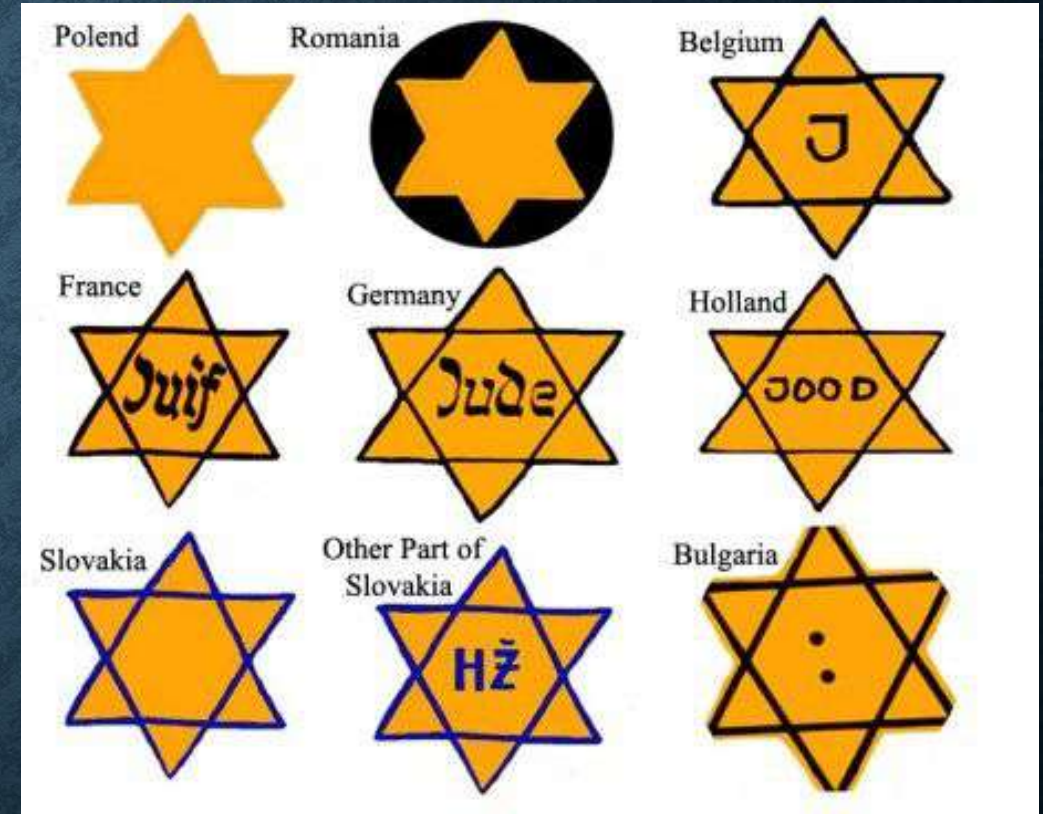
- The term "genocide" did not exist before 1944. It is a very specific term, referring to violent crimes committed against groups with the intent to destroy the existence of the group.
- *[G]enocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:*
 - (a) Killing members of the group;*
 - (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;*
 - (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;*
 - (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;*
 - (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.*

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

- January 30, 1933- Adolf Hitler is appointed Chancellor of Germany and the Nazi party takes control of the country.
- March 22, 1933- Dachau Concentration Camp established. This is the first German concentration camp used for political prisoners.
- April 1, 1933- Nazi Boycott of Jewish-owned businesses.
- April 25, 1933- Laws passed to limit the number of Jews attending public schools and universities.
- August 1934- Hitler becomes president of Germany and starts calling himself *Führer*.



STAR OF DAVID



- Jews are forced to wear a yellow Star of David on their clothing as a way to quickly be identified

KRISTALLNACHT (1938)

“THE NIGHT OF BROKEN GLASS”

- On November 9, 1938, Nazi troops as well as mobs of civilians, attacked Jewish homes, synagogues, and businesses. Over 100 Jews were killed.



THE GHETTOS





The
Warsaw
Ghetto in
Warsaw,
Poland.

At one
point over
400,000
Jews were
living in
the
Warsaw
ghetto.

Leaving the ghettos



When the Jews were made to leave the ghettos, they were forcefully made to load on train cars and transported to the different concentration camps.

CONCENTRATION CAMPS

The term *concentration camp* refers to a camp in which people are detained or confined, usually under harsh conditions and without regard to legal norms of arrest and imprisonment that are acceptable in a constitutional democracy.





The gates at Auschwitz and Dachau concentration camps.

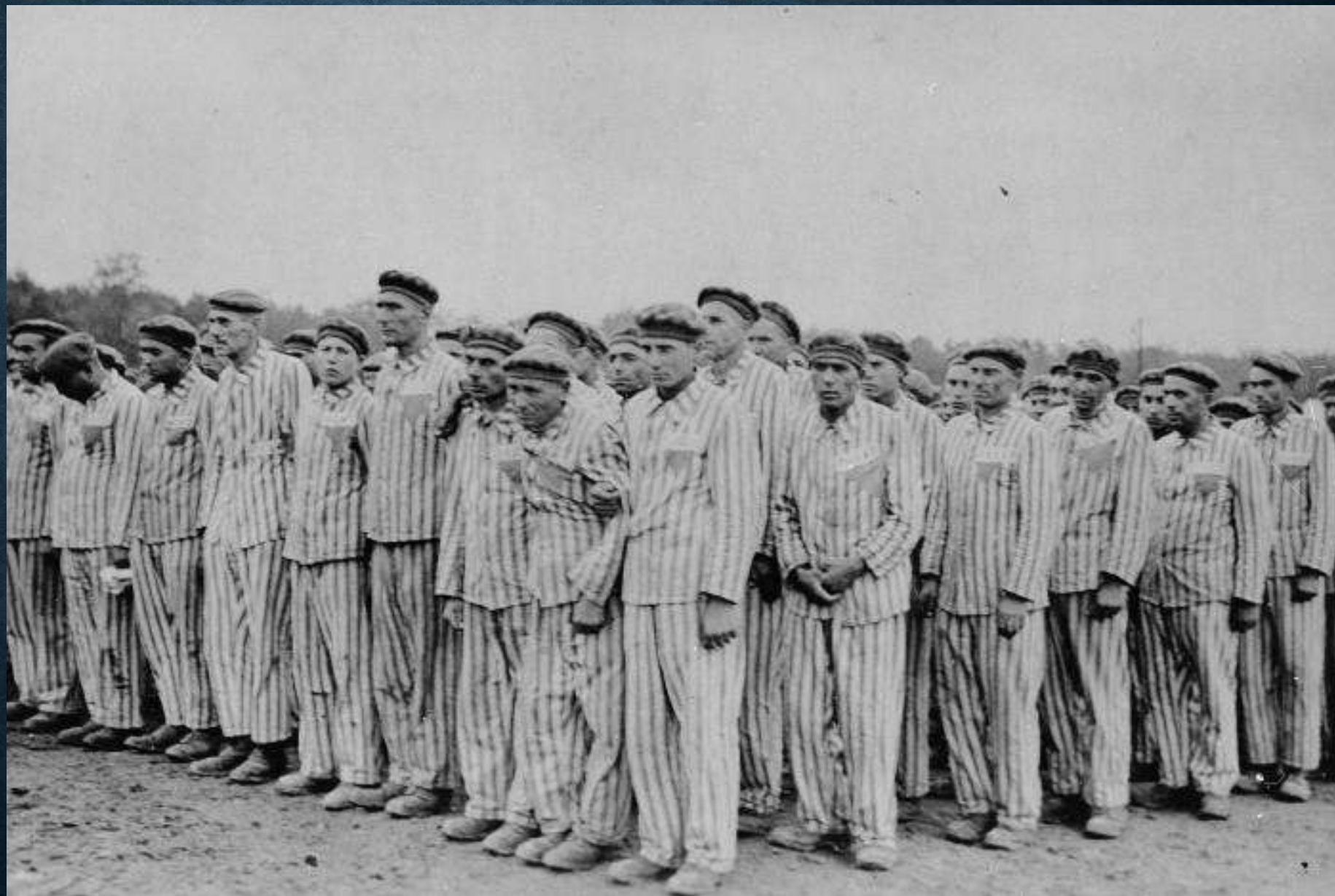


CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Hitler and the Nazis established numerous concentration camps from 1933-1945, most notably were Dachau, Buchenwald, Auschwitz, Lublin, and Treblinka.

The number of deaths are estimated to be between 1,885, 889 and 2, 045, 215. These numbers are based on records kept by the Nazis and may not be completely accurate.

Buchenwald
Concentration
Camp
prisoners
standing for
roll call.





Gas Chambers Disguised as Showers



LIFE IN THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS



The Jews in the concentration camps were stripped of all personal belongings. The Nazis would collect all gold including jewelry and fillings.

Liberation of the Camps





DEVASTATION OF THE HOLOCAUST

- It is estimated that more than 6 million Jews and approximately 5 million other non-combatants were killed by the Nazi government.
- The others killed by the Nazis include the physically disabled, Gypsies, people of color and political prisoners.



Israel



Following the end of WWII, the United Nations decided to create a place for all of the Jews to live if they desired.

Israel was created by dividing the country of Palestine into two separate countries.

Some Jews chose to immigrate to other countries, such as the United States.