

Benito Mussolini and the Rise of Fascism in Italy



IL DUCE--THE LEADER

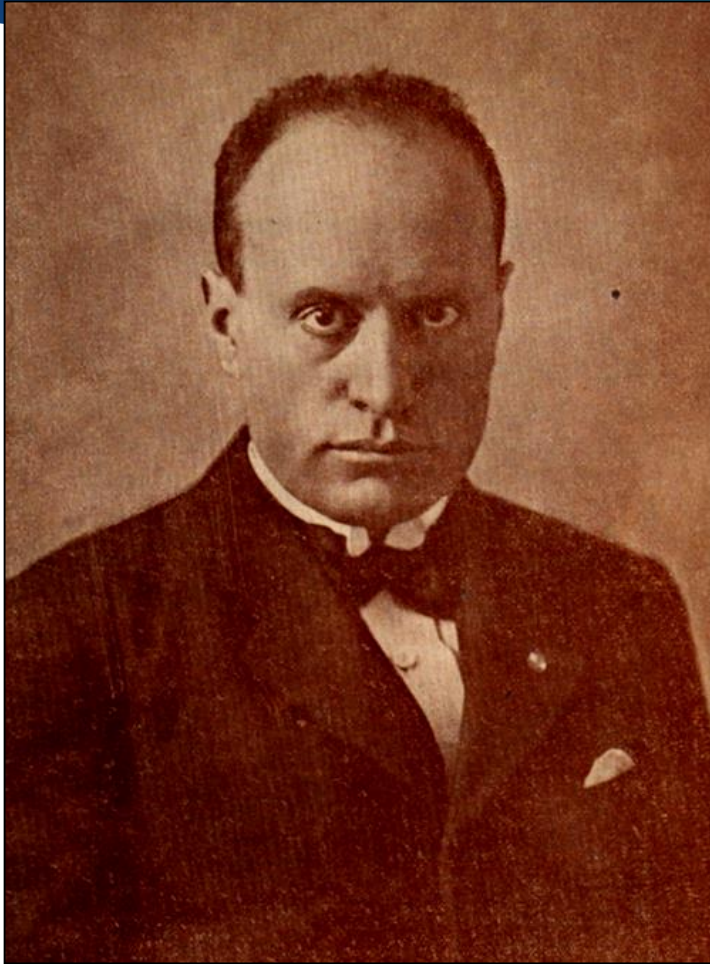
Entry Task

- ▶ Read the three sources on Mussolini
 - ▶ Answer the corresponding questions!
- ▶ Do this individually...
 - ▶ We will share as a class

Impact of WWI on Italy

- 460,000 soldiers killed
- Country in heavy debt
- In Treaty of Versailles, Britain and France did not give Italy the land they promised
- Governments were all coalitions that couldn't make decisions
- Rising unemployment led to unrest in cities

Benito Mussolini (1883-1945)



- Born July 29, 1883 in Northeastern Italy to a **working class family**
- **Originally a Marxist**
 - ▶ By 1909 he was convinced that a **national rather than an international revolution was necessary.**
 - ▶ **Edited the Italian Socialist Party newspaper.** *Avanti!* [Forward!].

Benito Mussolini (1883-1945)



- ▶ He became an interventionist.
- ▶ Founded the newspaper *Il Popolo d'Italia* [*The People of Italy*] to encourage Italy to join the war.

Benito Mussolini (1883-1945)



- ▶ His editorial positions:
 - ▶ The war was a turning point for Italy.
 - ▶ The returning combat soldiers would form a new elite and bring about a new type of state.
 - ▶ This new elite would transform Italian politics and society!
 - ▶ Way to overthrow capitalism

Mussolini continued...

- Comes back from war an anti-socialist,
 - Believes only an authoritarian government can “fix” Italy’s problems...
- Threatens a coup d'état & takes power!

Video

- ▶ Video

- ▶ Questions:

- ▶ How Mussolini gained power in Italy (Why did the people support him?)
- ▶ Examples that prove Mussolini was a totalitarian leader
- ▶ Why did he take over Ethiopia?
- ▶ What happened to Mussolini?

How does Mussolini Gain & Maintain Power?

- Reading: Mussolini & Fascism in Italy
- Directions:
 - ▶ Read the article & answer guiding questions
 - ▶ Can work quietly with one other person
 - ▶ Can listen to music
 - ▶ When finished, turn it in! (Due Tomorrow)

Mussolini: Italy's Nightmare

- ▶ As we watch the documentary, watch the video and take notes on the video guide!
- ▶ [Video](#)