2.2.2: Analyze Each Basic Element of Fascism
Characteristics and tactics

- Propaganda
- Blaming scapegoats
- Secret police
- Censorship of the press
- Banning other political parties

So how is fascism different from Soviet communism?
The difference

LEFT = COMMUNISM
- Demands state owns means of production
- Goal is economic equality
- USSR

RIGHT = FASCISM
- Supports private enterprise
- Economic competition and pursuit of wealth encouraged
- Appealed to radicals in Italy & Germany
Common Features of Totalitarian Governments

Examples of totalitarian governments include Italy under Mussolini, the Soviet Union under Stalin, and Germany under Hitler. These governments shared many common features.

**Political**
- The state is more important than individuals.
- The government is controlled by a single political party.
- A powerful dictator unites the people and symbolizes the government.

**Social**
- The government controls all aspects of daily life.
- Secret police use terror and violence to enforce government policies.
- Citizens are denied basic rights and liberties.

**Economic**
- The government controls businesses and directs the national economy.
- Labor and business are used to fulfill the objectives of the state.
2.2.2: Elements of Fascism

- Emphasis on power & strengthening the nation through:
  1. Dictatorship
  2. Extreme Nationalism
  3. Economic Self-sufficiency
  4. Military strength and war
Dictatorship

- Fascist leaders demand absolute obedience to their wishes.
- Citizens must swear loyalty to the leader of the country who represents the entire power of the nation.
Dictatorship

- Mussolini proclaimed himself IL Duce (The Duke)

- Hitler became Der Fuhrer (The Leader).
The Führer Principle required everyone in Nazi Germany to accept that Hitler had all the solutions to Germany’s problems and that whatever he said had to be right.

“Hitler is Germany and Germany is Hitler. Whatever he does is necessary. Whatever he does is successful. Clearly the Führer has divine blessing.”
Dictatorship: Fuhrer Principle
Fascist leaders demand unquestioning loyalty and service to the nation.

Speeches often whipped crowds into a fervor of Nationalistic sentiment.

Citizens should be prepared to sacrifice anything and everything for the good of the nation.
Linked closely to extreme nationalism is the idea of racial purity.

Many fascists believe that intermarriage and multiculturalism weaken a country and therefore promote separation of races.
The goal of fascist countries is to develop its resources and depend as little as possible on imports (self-sufficiency). As a result, fascist countries sought other regions for their resources.
The economy although still owned by private individuals, had to be directed by the government in the interests of the nation.
Military Strength & War

- Fascists believe pacifism is a weakness and aggressive behaviour a virtue.
- They view people who compromise as weak and lacking in courage.
- Success in war is the only true test of a nation's greatness.
They dislike the principles of democracy though they are willing to use democratic freedoms to win power.

However once in power fascists put an end to democratic structures.