

From Chancellor to Führer

7 key events that led to Hitler's rise to power



27th Feb 1933

REICHSTAG FIRE

Hitler used the burning of German Parliament to persuade President Hindenburg to restrict personal liberties and imprison many communist leaders, preventing them from campaigning in the 1933 election.

Although the Nazis did not gain a majority in the election, after intimidating the other parties they were able to pass The Enabling Act; this gave Hitler the power to make laws without the Reichstag's approval for four years.

23rd March 1933

THE ENABLING ACT



7th April 1933 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & CIVIL SERVICE LAWS

New laws excluded Jews, political opponents and others (from the civil service, courts & education) that the Nazis considered undesirable, removing opposition in influential positions.

Trade unions were banned and leaders were attacked and imprisoned. German workers were expected to join the German Labour Front (DAF) which mandated compulsory leisure time.

2nd May 1933 DISSOLUTION OF TRADE UNIONS



14th July 1933 BANNING OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Other political parties were banned, creating a one party state and destroying democracy in Germany.

The SS, Hitler's personal bodyguards, murdered 400 members of the Nazi Storm Detachment and other key internal members, removing all internal opposition to Hitler within the Nazi Party.

30th June 1934

NIGHT OF THE LONG KNIVES



19th August 1934 FÜHRER

When Hindenburg died, Hitler declared himself jointly president, chancellor and head of the army, forcing members of the armed forces to swear allegiance to him.