

Chapter 34: An Age of Anxiety

Chapter Outline

I. Probing cultural frontiers

- A. Postwar pessimism
 - 1. The "lost generation"
 - 2. Religious thought reflected uncertainty and pessimism
 - 3. Attacks on the ideal of progress
- B. Revolutions in physics and psychology
 - 1. Albert Einstein's theory of relativity, 1906
 - 2. Werner Heisenberg's uncertainty principle, 1927
 - 3. Freud's psychoanalytic theory, 1896
- C. Experimentation in art and architecture
 - 1. Modern painting: when photography can reproduce nature, why should painting?
 - 2. Modern architecture: the Bauhaus school started in Germany, 1920

II. Global depression

- A. The Great Depression
 - 1. The weaknesses of global economy
 - 2. The crash of 1929
 - 3. Economic contraction in U.S. economy and the world
 - 4. Industrial economies felt banking crisis, unemployment
 - 5. Primary producing economies especially vulnerable
 - 6. Economic nationalism favored over international cooperation
- B. Despair and government action
 - 1. Government policies to reduce female employment, especially of married women
 - 2. Great Depression caused enormous personal suffering
- C. Economic experimentation
 - 1. John M. Keynes challenged classical economic theory
 - 2. The New Deal of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt anticipated Keynes's ideas

III. Challenges to the liberal order

- A. Communism in Russia
 - 1. Civil war, 1918-1920, between Bolsheviks and anticommunist forces, or the Whites
 - 2. Lenin's "war communism" transformed economy
 - 3. Lenin's New Economic Policy (NEP), 1921
 - 4. Joseph Stalin (1879-1953)
 - 5. First Five-Year Plan, 1928-1932, replaced Lenin's NEP
 - 6. Collectivization of agriculture
 - 7. As an alternative to capitalism during the depression, Soviet Union offered full employment and cheap housing and food, but few luxuries or consumer goods
 - 8. The Great Purge, 1935-1938
- B. The fascist alternative
 - 1. Fascism: new political ideology of 1920s

2. Emphasized an extreme form of nationalism, often expressed as racism
- C. Italian fascism
 1. Benito Mussolini, founder of Italian fascism, 1919
 2. The fascist state in Italy
- D. Germany's national socialism
 1. Adolf Hitler (1889-1945)
 2. The emergence of the Nazi party
 3. The struggle for power after 1929
 4. Rapid consolidation of power, 1933-1935
 5. Nazi ideology emphasized purity of race
 6. Nazi eugenics: deliberate policies to improve the quality of the German "race"
 7. Anti-Semitism central to Nazi ideology

IV. **Struggles for national identity in Asia**

- A. India's quest for independence
 1. Indian National Congress and Muslim League
 2. Mohandas K. Gandhi (1869-1948), leader of Indian nationalism
 3. The India Act of 1937
- B. China's search for order
 1. The republic, after 1911
 2. Growth of Chinese nationalism
 3. CCP (Chinese Communist Party) and *Guomindang* (The Nationalist Party)
 4. Civil war after death of Sun Yat-sen, 1925
 5. Mao emerged as the leader of CCP, developed Maoist ideology
- C. Imperial Japan
 1. Japan emerged from Great War as a world power
 2. Japanese economy boosted by war: sold munitions to Allies
 3. Political conflict emerged between internationalists, supporters of western-style capitalism, and nationalists, hostile to foreign influences
 4. The Mukden incident, 1931, in Manchuria
 5. Military, acting without civilian authority, took all Manchuria by 1932