

Document 1
Benito Mussolini, *The Political and Social Doctrine of Fascism*, 1933

THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL DOCTRINE OF FASCISM

...Anti-individualistic, the Fascist conception of life stresses the importance of the State and accepts the individual only in so far as his interest coincide with those of the State...

The Fascist conception of the State is all-embracing; outside of it no human or spiritual values can exist. Thus understood, fascism is totalitarian, and the Fascist State interprets, develops, and potentiates [makes effective] the whole life of a people...

Fascism does not, generally speaking, believe in the possibility or utility of perpetual peace... War alone keys up all human energies to their maximum tension and sets the seal of nobility on those people who have the courage to face it...

[T]he Fascist State...is not reactionary, but revolutionary, in that it anticipates the solution of the universal political problems which elsewhere have to be settled in the political field by the rivalry of parties...

For Fascism, the growth of Empire, that is to say the expansion of the nation, is an essential manifestation of [strength]...Fascism is the doctrine best adapted to represent the tendencies and the aspirations of a people, like the people of Italy, who are rising again...

Document 2

Adolph Hitler, *Mein Kampf* (My Struggle), 1925-1926

NATION AND RACE

...If we pass all the causes of the German collapse [defeat in World War I] in review, the ultimate and most decisive remains the failure to recognize the racial problem and especially the Jewish menace...The lost purity of the blood alone destroys inner happiness forever, plunges man into the abyss for all time, and the consequences can never more be eliminated from body and spirit... All really significant symptoms of decay of the pre-War period can in the last analysis be reduced to racial causes.

THE STATE

The State is only a means to an end... Above all, it must preserve the existence of the race... We, as Aryans, can consider the State only as the living organism of a people, an organism which does not merely maintain the existence of a people, but functions in such a way as to lead its people to a position of supreme liberty by the progressive development of the intellectual and cultural faculties...

...As a State the German Reich shall include all Germans. Its task is not only to gather in and foster the most valuable sections of our people but to lead them slowly and surely to a dominant position in the world...It will be the task of the People's State to make the race the centre of the life of the community. It must make sure that the purity of the racial strain will be preserved... Those who are physically and mentally unhealthy and unfit must not perpetuate their own suffering in the bodies of their children...

EASTERN ORIENTATION OR EASTERN POLICY

[W]e National Socialists [Nazis] must hold unflinchingly to our aim in foreign policy, namely, to secure for the German people the land and soil to which they are entitled on this earth...

Document 3

Japan's Ministry of Education, *Cardinal Principles of the National Entity of Japan*, 1937

Paradoxical and extreme conceptions, such as socialism, anarchism, and communism, all are based, in the final analysis, on individualism, which is the root of modern Occidental ideologies and of which they are no more than varied manifestations. Yet even in the Occident, where individualism has formed the basis of their ideas, when it has come to Communism, they have found it unacceptable; so that now they are about to do away with their traditional individualism, and this has led to the rise of totalitarianism and nationalism and to the appearance of Fascism and Nazism. That is, it can be said that in both the Occident and our country, the deadlock of individualism has led alike to a season of ideological and social confusion and crisis.... This means that the present conflict in our people's ideas, the unrest of their modes of life, the confused state of their civilization, can be put right only by a thorough investigation by us of the intrinsic nature of Occidental ideologies and by an understanding of the true meaning of our national polity. Then, too, this should be done for the sake not only of our nation but also of the entire human race, which is struggling to find a way out of the deadlock with which individualism is faced.

...

Our Mission

Our present mission as a people is to construct a new Japanese culture by adopting and sublimating Western cultures with our national polity as the basis and to contribute spontaneously to the advancement of world culture. Our nation early saw the introduction of Chinese and Indian cultures and even succeeded in evolving original creations and developments. This was made possible, indeed, by the profound and boundless nature of our national polity, so that the mission of the people to whom it is bequeathed is truly great in its historical significance.