How did things change for Jews & Minorities during the war?



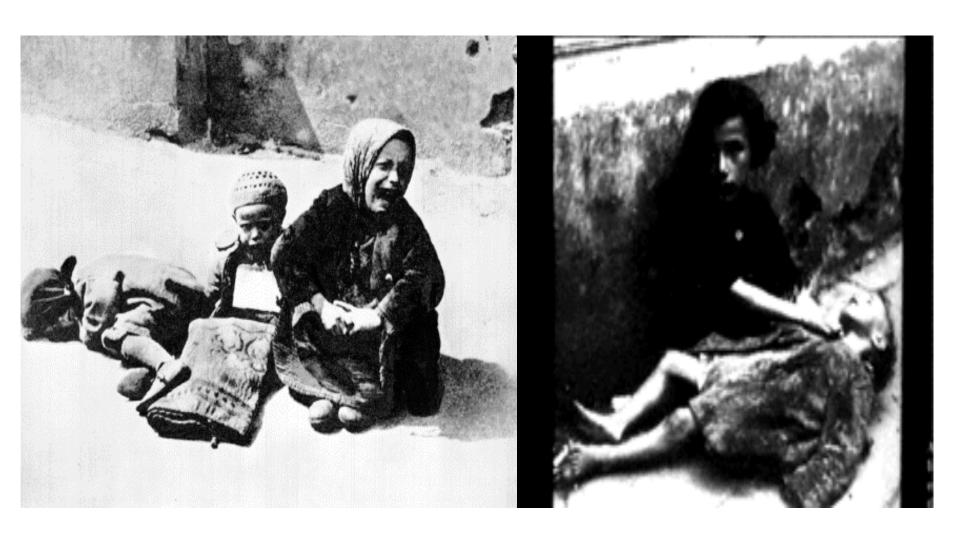


Following Kristallnacht in 1938, 500,000 Jews had fled escaping the worsening Nazi persecutions. The Jews who remained were soon rounded up and put into Ghettos where they would remain until the were sent to a death camp like Auschwitz.



The ghettos were shut off from the rest of the city and were very overcrowded. Food, water and power were cut off and hundreds of Jews died everyday







Who were the Einsatzgruppen?

Himmler sent four specially trained SS units called "Einsatzgruppen battalions" into German occupied territory and shot at least 1 million Jews.

Victims were taken to deserted areas where they were made to dig their own graves and shot.







What was the 'Final Solution'



Himmler: Leader of SS

In January 1942, Himmler decided to change tactics once again and called a special conference at Wannsee, in Berlin.

At this conference it was decided that the existing methods were too inefficient and that a new 'Final Solution' to the Jewish problem was necessary.





The solution was to exterminate all of Europe's Jews









Women, children, the old & the sick were to be sent for 'special treatment.'

The young and fit would go through a process called 'destruction through work.'

Shooting was too inefficient as the bullets were needed for the war effort

On arrival the Jews would go through a process called 'selection.'

How was the Final Solution going to be organised?

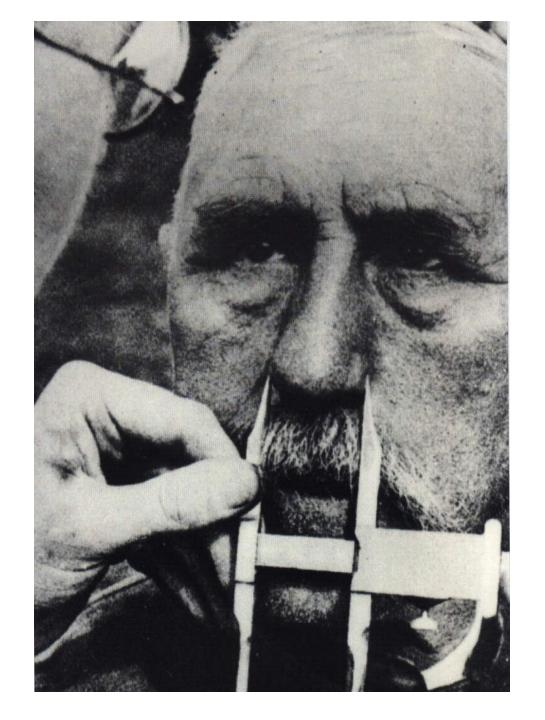
Jews were to be rounded up and put into transit camps called Ghettoes

The remaining Jews were to be shipped to 'resettlement areas' in the East.

Conditions in the Ghettos were designed to be so bad that many die whilst the rest would be willing to leave these areas in the hope of better conditions

The Jews living in these Ghettos were to be used as a cheap source of labour.





From Ghetto to camp:





The Jews were told that they were going to 'resettlement areas' in the East.

In some Ghettos the Jews had to purchase their own train tickets.

They were told to bring the tools of their trade and pots and pans.

New arrivals at the Death camps were given postcards to send to their friends.

Tactics

Terror

The SS publicly shot people for smuggling food or for any act of resistance

Starvation

The Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto were only fed a 1000 calories a day.

A Human being needs 2400 calories a day to maintain their weight

Hungry people are easier to control

Journey and ghetto clip