

Latin → Fascis = bundle
(Politics) group (Extreme Right)

revolutionary potential, which would best be mobilized through the leadership of nationalist intellectuals. In his last and greatest work, *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961), Fanon warned that while active struggle might topple an unjust system, sociopolitical transformation and relief from oppression could prove fleeting in the postcolonial order. As the revolution is institutionalized, the new government, in the interests of securing and maintaining power, is in danger of adopting the same anti-DEMOCRATIC procedures and oppressive structures as the system it was supposed to replace.

See also POSTCOLONIAL THEORY.

fascism

Political IDEOLOGY stressing NATIONALISM, militarism, centrally regulated private enterprise, the subordination of the individual to the state, and single-party TOTALITARIAN government, usually under the dictatorial rule of a charismatic leader. The term derives from the Latin *fascis*, an ancient Roman emblem of authority consisting of a bundle of rods with a protruding ax. The symbol and the name were adopted by the Italian fascist movement founded by Benito Mussolini in 1919. Nazi Germany under Adolf Hitler is also generally considered a fascist state, though Nazism is not technically synonymous with fascism. The term has also been applied, especially since World War II, to other repressive, authoritarian regimes, such as Francisco Franco's in Spain (1936-75) and Augusto Pinochet's in Chile (1973-90).

The ideological foundations of fascism are found in late-19th-century reactions against CAPITALISM and LIBERAL DEMOCRACY, on the one hand, and against MARXIST MATERIALISM, on the other. The theorists who inspired fascist doctrine represented a wide ideological spectrum, but they tended to share a belief in the nation as a sacred entity in which individual interests must yield to national goals. They included the French syndicalist Georges Sorel, who advocated violence to achieve revolutionary change and the use of national "myths" to unify the populace; Charles Maurras, leader of the French nationalist movement Action Française, who espoused a monarchical nationalism; and Giovanni Gentile, theorist of the Italian "corporate state," in which economic activity was regulated by business and workers' groups under Fascist Party control. Fascist thought was also influenced by SOCIAL DARWINISM, with its implication that the strongest are most fit to survive, and by the theory of political ELITES propounded by the Italian sociologists Vilfredo Pareto and Gaetano Mosca. In the fascist state, the individual is seen as subordinate to the community; rigid discipline and unquestioning acceptance of the state's authority become an ethic of self-sacrifice and patriotic loyalty.

Hitler and the Nazis appropriated Richard Wagner's romantic nationalism, the fiction of an Aryan "master race" (see RACE AND RACISM), and NIETZSCHE's concept of the *Übermensch*—a superior being who represents a new, higher stage of civilization—to assert Germany's divine mission to lead and dominate the world. While most fascist movements have espoused an extreme nationalism, German fascism was distinguished by racist ideals that transcended national boundaries, although pan-German sentiments helped inspire the invasions of Germany's neighbors early in the war.

In postwar European and other industrialized countries, fascist and neo-Nazi organizations have sprung up on the fringes of the political system, often in reaction to nonwhite immigration. Capitalizing on economic insecurity and political ALIENATION in the working class, especially among young men, these groups' ideologies generally envision the replacement of the present system with an orderly, racially homogeneous, divinely sanctioned nation.

fauvism

Primarily French avant-garde movement in painting in the first years of the 20th century, an important precursor of CUBISM and ABSTRACTION and a direct influence on EXPRESSIONISM. Fauvism was characterized by the use of vivid, contrasting, unnatural colors to express intense emotion and create startling effects. Led by Henri Matisse, the loose-knit group also included Raoul Dufy, Georges Braque, Georges Rouault, André Derain, and the Dutchman Kees van Dongen, among others. The *fauves* shunned (and were shunned by) the French art establishment, exhibiting their scandalizing work at independent "salons." The group's name was coined at the first of these, in 1905, when the art critic Louis Vauxcelles saw some of their paintings displayed in a room that also contained a Renaissance-style sculpture and exclaimed, "Donatello parmi les fauves!" (Donatello among the beasts). The movement was short-lived—for most of its members, a way station en route to their more mature styles—but exerted a lasting influence on the use of color in modern art.

"There is a road to freedom. Its milestones are Obedience, Endeavor, Honesty, Order, Cleanliness, Sobriety, Truthfulness, Sacrifice, and love of the Fatherland."

—Adolf Hitler, attributed (sign at concentration camps)