Extremes of Nationalism

Hyper-Nationalism, Ethnic Cleansing, Genocide
Hyper-Nationalism

- Extreme nationalism, the belief in the superiority of one's nation and of the paramount importance of advancing it.
- Often used as an excuse to commit acts of "Ethnic Cleansing"
Ethnic Cleansing and Genocide

• Genocide – The attempt to eradicate all peoples of a racial, ethnic, or religious group
  – Has been criminalized in 1948 and requires action under international law

• Ethnic Cleansing – The aim of establishing cultural homogeneity
  – Does not necessarily use methods of mass killings
  – Linked by International Criminal Court as a “War Crime” or “Crime Against Humanity” and since 1998 is punishable
Genocide

• Term phrased in 1944 as a way to describe German actions against Jews in World War II
  – Created by the Greek words *Genos* “Race or Tribe” and *Cide* “To Kill”
  – Immediately applied to Turkish actions against Armenians in World War I
United Nations Definition of Genocide

• Any of a number of acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group.
  – Killing or causing serious bodily or mental harm
  – Inflicting conditions of life intended to cause demise of group
  – Imposing measures to prevent births
  – Forcible removing a groups children
Armenian Genocide

• Undertaken by Ottoman government during World War I in 1915
  – Led to death of estimated 1.5 million Armenian Christians (Roughly 66%)
    • Use of primitive gas chambers
    • Death Marches
  – Witnessed by German soldiers and used as justification for Genocide

• Those responsible not punished
The Holocaust

- Measures taken out by the Nazi government in German between 1933 and 1945 to eliminate “undesirables”
  - Jews – Almost 6 Million
  - Gypsies – Around 200,000
  - Homosexuals – Unknown - less than 10,000
  - Mentally/Physically Disabled – Around 200,000
  - Poles – Roughly 3 Million
  - Slavs – Between 2-3 Million
- Also caused the forced migration of countless others
Effects of the Holocaust

![Map of European Jewish Population Distribution Circa 1933](image-url)
Effects of the Holocaust
Nuremburg War Tribunals

• Military Trial established by Allies put high ranking officials of Nazi government on trial for holocaust
  – 24 Tried
    • 12 death sentences
    • 7 imprisoned
Cambodian Genocide

• Led by communist leader Pol Pot of the Khmer Rouge from 1975 to 1979
  – Tried creating classless society
  – 1.5 million died from starvation, overwork, and execution
    • Bodies buried in mass graves called “Killing fields”
    • Out of total population of 7-8 million

• Pol Pot and Khmer Rouge removed by Vietnamese
  – Few leaders of Khmer Rouge tried as war criminals
Rwandan Genocide

• Ethnic difference between Hutu and Tutsi
  – Tutsi were minority group placed in power by Belgians
  – Hutu used position to persecute Tutsi
    • Leading to 800,000 to 1 million dead
    • 2 Million Displaced

• International criminal tribunal established for trials
Ethnic Cleansing

• The act of removing “unwanted” ethnicities from an area to attempt to create a ethnically homogenous geographic area
  – Forced deportations
  – Displacement
  – Mass killings
Bosnia

- In 1992 Bosnia separated from Yugoslavia
  - Bosnia Serbs backed by Serbian and Yugoslavia military embarked on Ethnic cleansing mission
    - Targeting Bosniaks (Bosnian Muslims) and Croatians
    - Around 100,000 killed
  - Lasted until 1995
- NATO stepped in and ended hostilities
- International court placed leaders on trial
Kosovo

- In 1996 Kosovo attempted to gain independence from Yugoslavia
- Slobodan Milosevic ordered Serbian military in against Ethnic Albanians
  - Only lasted from 1998-1999
    - 10,000 Kosovar Albanians killed
    - 850,000 expelled from Kosovo
    - 600,000 Displaced
  - NATO responded quickly
  - Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic arrested and put on trial
Darfur

- Struggle between African Darfuri and Arabic Sudanese Government
  - Government using Janjaweed or “Devils on Horseback
  - To date over 400,000 killed and 2.7 million displaced
- Sudanese president indicted by ICC
  - Including other top officials
- Conflict is ongoing