

## Chronology of Events

**Note:** By no means is this chronology meant to be a definitive list of events of the Holocaust. Feel free to add additional items during your study.

### 1933

### 1937

- January 30     Adolf Hitler is appointed Reich's Chancellor (Prime Minister) by President Hindenburg.
- March 20     Establishment of the first German concentration camp at Dachau.
- April 1        Boycott of Jewish shops and businesses.
- May 10        Public burning of books written by Jews and opponents of Nazism.
- Spring/  
Summer       Jewish professors are expelled from the universities, and Jewish writers and artists are prohibited from pursuing their work.
- July            Law passes that revokes citizenship of German Jews naturalized since 1918.
- October 4     Editor-Law excludes all Jewish editors from work.

- January        Aryanization of the economy begins as Jewish business people are forced to sell, usually at a severe loss.
- July 16        Concentration camp at Buchenwald is opened.

### 1938

- March         Persecution of Austrian Jews following the annexation of Austria.
- June 15        All "previously convicted" Jews are arrested and sent to concentration camps.
- July 28        Medical certification of Jewish physicians is revoked.
- September 12 Jews are prohibited from attending public cultural events.
- September 27 Jewish attorneys have their licenses cancelled.
- October 5     Jewish passports are recalled and marked with a "J."
- Nov. 9-10     *Kristallnacht* (Night of the Broken Glass), a government-organized, anti-Semitic program that involved the destruction of synagogues and businesses.
- November 12 Jews are forced to relinquish control of all retail shops to Aryans.
- November 15 Jewish children are expelled from German schools.
- November 28 Police limit the movement of Jews in public.
- December 8   Jews are no longer allowed to attend the universities.

### 1935

- May 21        "Aryan Heritage" becomes a mandatory prerequisite for military service.
- "Jews Not Wanted" signs begin to appear on restaurants, businesses, and public notice boards.
- May 31        Jews are barred from military service.
- September 14 The Nuremberg Laws are passed, revoking the citizenship of all German Jews.
- November 14 All Jews lose the right to vote and hold public office.
- All Jewish children are restricted from using the same playgrounds and locker rooms as other children.

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## 1939

- January 30 Hitler threatens extermination of all European Jews if war breaks out.
- September 1 Curfew is established for German Jews.  
Germany attacks Poland. WWII begins.
- September 17 Eastern Poland is invaded and occupied by Soviets.
- September 23 Confiscation of radios from Jews.

## 1940

- February 12 German Jews are deported to concentration camps in Lublin, Poland.
- April 27 Himmler orders the construction of a concentration camp at Auschwitz.

## 1941

- February 22 400 Dutch Jews are sent to the concentration camp Mauthausen. Dutch workers strike in protest.
- April 4 The murder of the "handicapped" in concentration camps begins.
- June-Dec. Nazi *Einsatzgruppen* (mobile killing units) massacre Jews in German-occupied Soviet territories.
- July 31 Göring assigns Heydrich to implement the "Final Solution."
- September 1 All Jews must wear the Yellow Star in areas occupied by Nazis.
- September 28 34,000 Jews are murdered at Babi Yar near Kiev.
- October 14 Mass deportation of Jews to concentration camps begins.
- December 8 Nazi soldiers at Chelmno, the first concentration camp built exclusively for the extermination of humans, begin gassing prisoners.

## 1942

- March 1 Jews are exterminated by gas at Sobibor.
- March 17 Jews are gassed at Belzec.
- July 4 Mass gassing begins at Auschwitz in the "new and improved" gas chambers.
- July 19 Himmler orders extermination of Jews in occupied Poland be completed by the end of December 1942.

## 1943

- January 20 Camp doctors give orders that sick and debilitated prisoners are to be killed.
- May 26 In order to hide the number of deaths occurring in the camps, a secret numbering code is established.
- October 2 Some 7,220 Danish Jews and German Jewish refugees are saved from deportation by the Danish underground.

## 1944

- November 26 Himmler orders the destruction of the crematoriums at Auschwitz to hide the evidence of the death camps.

## 1945

- January 17 The "Death March" from Auschwitz begins.
- April 11 American troops liberate Buchenwald.
- April 28 Austrian prisoners are the last to be sent to the gas chambers in Mauthausen.
- April 28 Dachau is liberated by Americans.
- April 30 Hitler commits suicide.