

Spanish Civil War



1936-1939

Background

- In 1931, King Alfonso XIII authorized elections
 - voters overwhelmingly chose to abolish the monarchy
 - elections were won by republicans
 - the 2nd Spanish Republic (1931-1939)
 - Gov't dominated by middle-class liberals and moderate socialists
 - Spain's king, Alfonso XIII, went into exile





Background

- Spanish Republic
 - fiercely democratic, liberal with socialist leanings
 - initiated a series of reforms:
 - reducing the church's power
 - Legalized divorce and civil marriage
 - Religious symbols banned from public buildings
 - Military reforms
 - Military forced to take an oath of loyalty to the republic
 - Labor reforms
 - 8-hr. work day
 - Salaries increased
 - Agrarian reform
 - Seized land from elite landowners and redistributed it to peasants
 - Regional autonomy
 - the independence-minded region of Catalonia and the Basque provinces achieved virtual autonomy

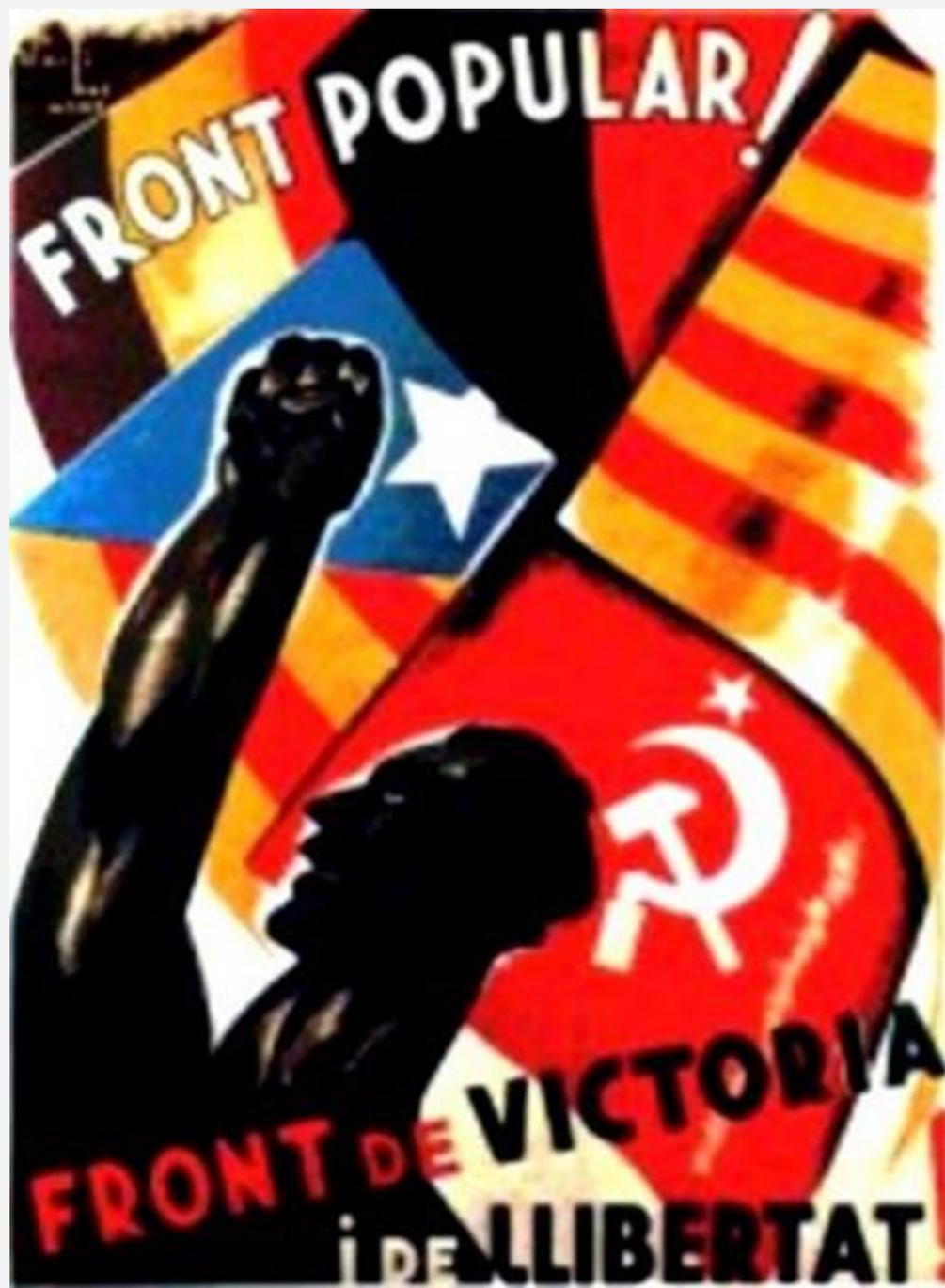
Constitution of 1931

- “Democratic Republic of worker of all types”
- Freedom of association and expression
- Universal suffrage (including women)
- Separation of church and state
- Provinces can organize regional autonomy
- State does not recognize noble titles



Background

- these reforms threatened Spain's wealthy classes (military, Church, monarchists) who controlled most of the country's land and industry
 - In 1933 conservative forces regained control of the government in elections
 - In response, socialists launched a revolution in the mining districts of Asturias where 70,000 miners revolted, and Catalan nationalists rebelled in Barcelona and declared independence
 - Gen. Francisco Franco crushed the so-called October Revolution on behalf of the conservative government
 - » 3,000 people killed and 40,000 people imprisoned
 - » appointed army chief of staff in 1935
 - » Franco was a nationalist, authoritarian Catholic
 - In February 1936, new elections brought the Popular Front, a leftist coalition, to power
 - anti-republican generals sent out of the country, including Gen. Francisco Franco, who was sent to the Canary Islands



Spanish Civil War

- Fearing that the liberal government would give way to Marxist revolution, army officers conspired to seize power
 - military leaders, led by Gen. Franco, started to plot a coup to violently overthrow the gov't
 - In July 1936, Franco and his Fascist supporters (known as Nationalists) landed in Spain and launched a military uprising
 - called for all army officers to join the uprising and overthrow Spain's leftist Republican government
 - within days, the rebels captured Morocco, much of northern Spain, and several key cities in the south
 - The Republicans succeeded in putting down the uprising in other areas, including Madrid, Spain's capital
 - Workers and peasants fought the uprising
 - Supporters known as the Loyalists
 - The coup failed, and it descended into a civil war

The Spanish Civil War 1936 - 1939



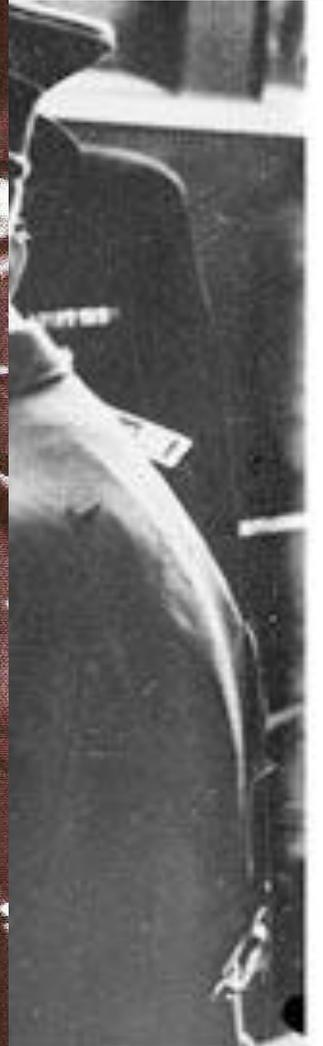
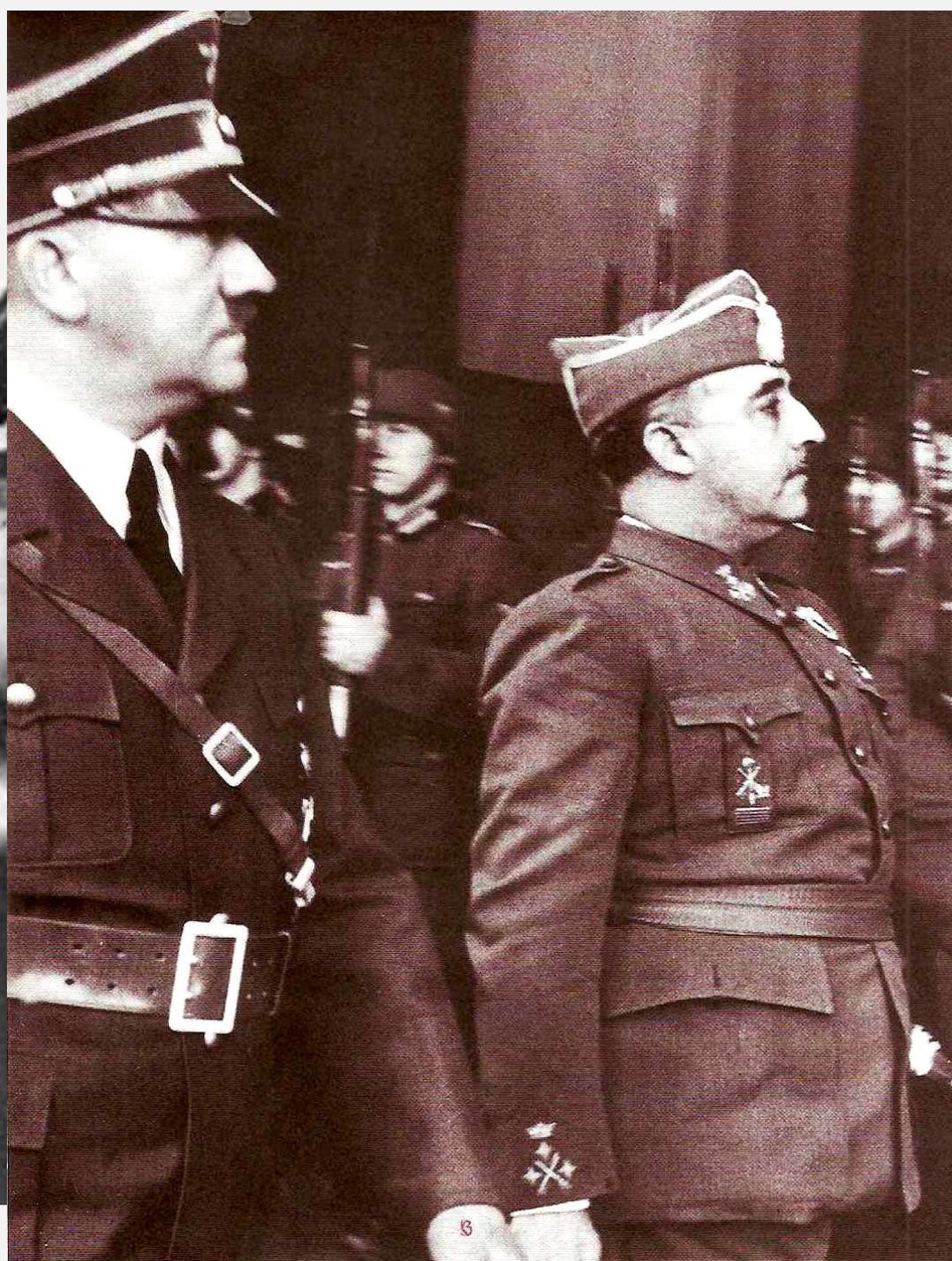
Spanish Civil War

Loyalists

- Led by the democratically elected government
 - But fell under the sway of the communists in the country
- Supported by Stalin and other democratic nations
 - 3,000 Soviet “volunteers,” along with hundreds of tanks and planes, were sent to the loyalists
 - the Comintern also organized and sent an additional 42,000 volunteers
- saw the Civil War was a battle against fascism
- Launched the Red Terror
 - Targeted the Catholic Church

Nationalists

- Led by Gen. Francisco Franco and his Fascist military supporters
- Supported by Hitler and Mussolini
 - Ex. Hitler sent 20,000 German soldiers to fight for Franco
- saw the Civil War was a battle against liberalism and communism
- Launched the White Terror
 - Targeted gov’t sympathizers





THE DUMMY THAT SPOKE BY ITSELF

ADOLF |
BENITO | (together). "WHERE DID THAT ONE COME FROM—YOU OR ME?"

Pro-Nationalist propaganda posters



LA GUERRA Y DEFENSA DEL MUNDO ES EL EJERCITO DE FRANCISCO VERA EN EL SOCORRO DE LA BRONCA QUE CON SU VICTORIA SOBRE LAS PLUMAS, EMPLEMA Y ARMA DEL FASCISMO FRONTEAL, SE UNEN EN FUERZA HERMANA DE GLORIA Y TROPICAD. LOS SEÑOS VICTORIOSOS DE DOS NAÇÕES MEDALLAS ESTAMPAS DEL TRIUNFO.

ITALIA y ALEMANIA con ESPAÑA



Pro-Loyalist propaganda posters

HAY QUE DAR
EL GOLPE
DEFINITIVO
CNT
FAI
AIT

JANZAL
miralles



C.N.T. COMITE NACIONAL A.I.T.

OFICINA DE
INFORMACION
PROPAGANDA



Tronconi

the Spanish Civil War

- During the Spanish Civil War, Pablo Picasso had been asked to create a series of prints to raise funds for the Republic
 - *The Dream and Lie of Franco* was a savage attack by Picasso on Franco's regime
 - Franco was portrayed as a swollen monster, proceeding through a series of scenes to desecrate and destroy all in his path
 - Months later, he was asked to paint what became one of his most well-known pieces -- *Guernica*

The Dream and Lie of Franco



Guernica

- On April 26th, 1937, during the Spanish Civil War, Gen. Francisco Franco called on his allies Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy to bomb the Basque town of Guernica
 - Targeted them due to their support for the Republicans





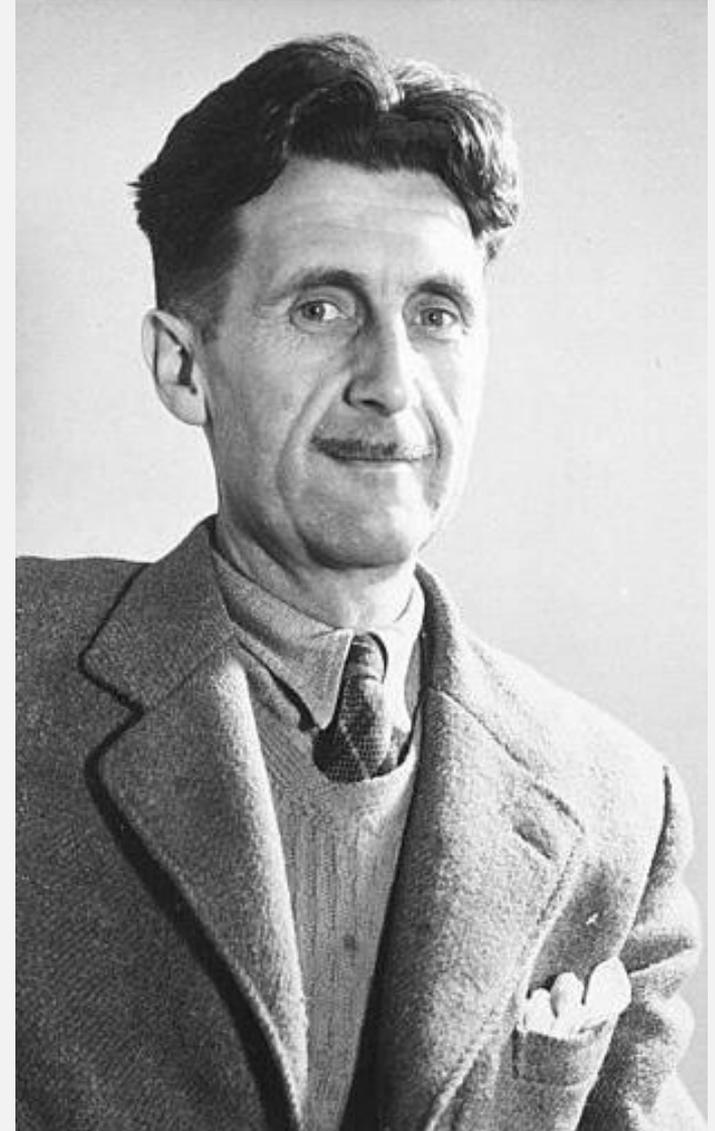
- ***Guernica* (1937)**
 - Picasso's hallucinatory nightmarish view of the Spanish Civil War
 - Hoping for a bold visual protest to Franco's treachery from Spain's most eminent artist, colleagues and representatives of the democratic government came to Picasso's home in Paris to ask him to paint the mural
- one of modern art's most powerful anti-war statements

Guernica

- It first appeared at the 1937 World's Fair in Paris
 - Specifically it appeared in the Spanish Pavilion at the World's Fair
 - The German fair guide called *Guernica* "a hodgepodge of body parts that any four-year-old could have painted."
- After the Fair, *Guernica* toured Europe and North America to raise consciousness about the threat of fascism
- Although Picasso had always intended for the mural to be owned by the Spanish people, he refused to allow it to travel to Spain until the country enjoyed "public liberties and democratic institutions"

The Spanish Civil War

- George Orwell volunteered on the Republican side of the war
 - believed that Franco could be defeated only if the working class in the Republic overthrew capitalism
 - *Homage to Catalonia* (1938)
 - Spent 6 months fighting in the war in 1936
 - Orwell's political awakening
 - Left Spain with an understanding of the brutality of totalitarianism

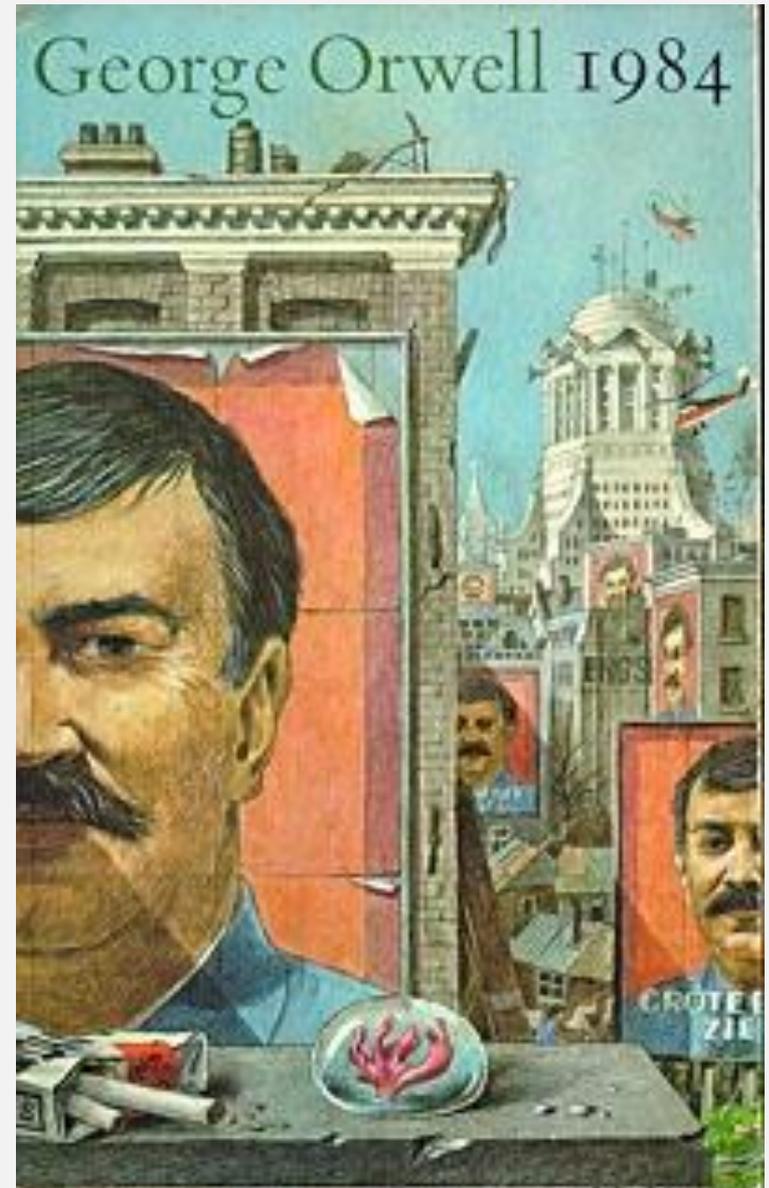


- "Every line of serious work that I have written since 1936 has been written, directly or indirectly, against totalitarianism and for democratic socialism."

–Orwell

Orwell

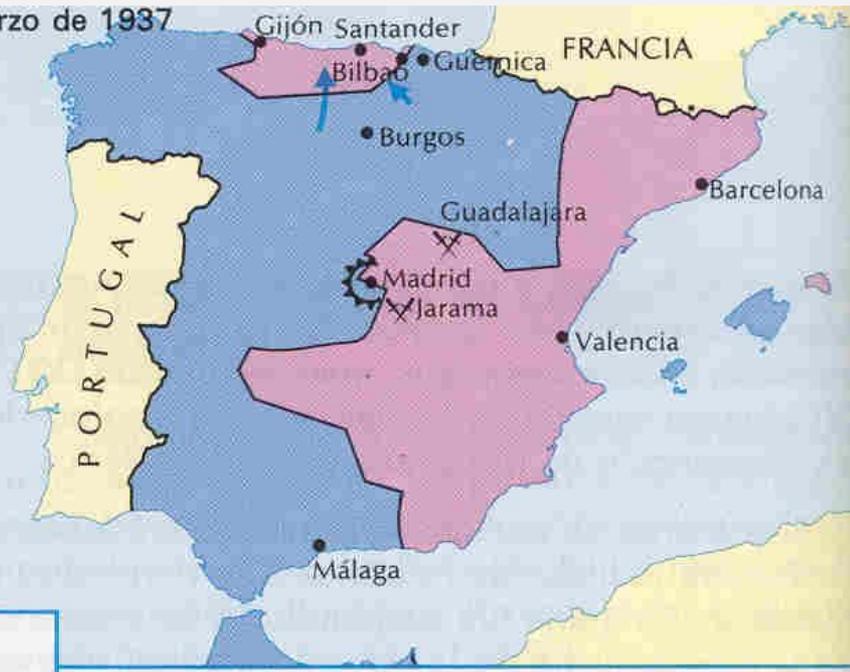
- *Animal Farm* (1945)
 - Anti-Stalinist allegory, portraying the Russian Revolution and Stalin's ascent to power
- *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949)
 - Anti-Stalinist story portraying life under Stalin's totalitarianism
 - displays his perception of a dystopia
 - technological advances are used to the benefit of the party and to exploit greater control over the masses, not to improve quality of life as intended



Julio de 1936



Marzo de 1937



| | |
|---|--------------|
|  | nacionales |
|  | republicanos |

Marzo-Abril de 1938



Febrero de 1939





Spanish Civil War

- The Republicans and the Nationalists proceeded to secure their respective territories by executing thousands of suspected political opponents
 - The Civil War lasted over 3 years and killed 600,000
- In 1939, the Republicans finally surrendered Madrid, bringing the Spanish Civil War to an end
 - Franco subsequently became dictator of Spain until his death in 1975
 - Franco was named Generalísimo (commander in chief) of the Nationalist troops, as well as el Caudillo (the leader), head of Nationalist Spain
 - The longest reigning Fascist dictator





Franco's Spain (1939-1975)

- Franco ruled the country as an authoritarian ruler
 - the first decade of his government saw harsh repression by military tribunals and political purges
 - Hundreds of thousands were executed
 - Violently suppressed any attempts of autonomy or independence
 - Franco sought to destroy Catalan nationalism
 - » Catalan autonomy and culture were crushed, including the Catalan language being banned and Catalan political organizations were banned
 - ...as well as Basque nationalism
 - » Franco restricted virtually every public expression of Basque culture and banned all expressions of Basque nationalism, including public display of the nationalist flag, celebration of nationalist holidays, speaking the Basque language in public and teaching it in schools

Provinces, Autonomous Communities & Languages of Spain



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INQUISITION AND EXTERMINATION IN
TWENTIETH-CENTURY SPAIN

PAUL PRESTON

THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER



THIS IS SPAIN



UNDER FRANCO

Franco's Spain (1939-1975)

- Renewed the power of the Catholic Church
 - the church was given control over education
 - Franco signed a concordat with the Pope in 1953
- Restricted various freedoms, including freedom of the press and speech
- Repression ruled Spain and held it back economically until the death of Franco in 1975