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Notes for PG semester 2

Role of the Allied Powers and Axis Powers in the Second World War

The Second World War (1939–1945) was fought between two major groups of nations: the Axis Powers and the Allied Powers, each playing a decisive role in the course of the war.

Role of the Axis Powers

The Axis Powers mainly included Germany, Italy, and Japan. Germany, under Adolf Hitler, played the most aggressive role by pursuing expansionist policies based on Nazism. Germany invaded Poland in 1939, leading to the outbreak of war, and later occupied large parts of Europe. Italy, under Benito Mussolini, supported Germany and sought to expand its influence in the Mediterranean and Africa. Japan aimed to dominate East Asia and the Pacific region and attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, which brought the United States into the war.

The Axis Powers followed policies of militarism, territorial expansion, and authoritarian rule, which caused widespread destruction and human suffering.

Role of the Allied Powers

The Allied Powers included Britain, France, the Soviet Union, the United States, and China. Britain played a crucial role in resisting German aggression during the early years of the war. The Soviet Union made enormous sacrifices on the Eastern Front, particularly after the German invasion in 1941. The United States provided economic and military support and later played a decisive role in defeating both Germany and Japan. France, after initial defeat, contributed through resistance movements.

Conclusion

The coordinated efforts of the Allied Powers ultimately led to the defeat of the Axis Powers and the end of the war.