

# Mrs Johnson's Notes

The Road to the Holocaust in Germany Notes (Organization, Polarization, Preparation)  
World History

**Instructions:** As we watch the overview of today's focus, take note of how the events described would impact the World, Poland, Polish Jews.

## Scope

Sept. 1939

June 1941

## Impact

### Around the Globe

- German Army Invades Poland (Sept. 1939) ✓
- France and England Declare War
- German Army takes conquers Western Europe (Spring of 1940)
- Battle of Britain (Summer/Fall of 1940)
- Hitler breaks the Non-Aggression Pact and Invades Soviet Union (June 1941)

### Poland/ Non-Jewish Population

- Occupied by German army (Warsaw falls on Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>, 1939)
- Propaganda encourages + justifies anti-Semitism
- Supports isolation in ghettos of Jews

### Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto

- Rich collection of Jewish culture in Warsaw with newspaper, Theater, schools were present ~~but~~ in the 1920's - 1930's.
- Jewish orgs (Self-Help, JAIN) provided social services - Dr. Ringelblum
- Dr. Ringelblum creates a diary to record the history of what was happening.
- Jews were removed from occupations, banks accounts frozen, restricted from locations, forced to wear yellow stars, humiliations daily
- Refugees arrive from areas ~~of~~ outside of Warsaw, leads to 1/2 million Jews living in The Warsaw ghetto
- Nov-15, 1940 - Warsaw Ghetto closed + isolated

### Additional Notes

- Dr. Ringlebloom assembles a team of archivists to counter Nazi propaganda.
- Black Market for Food existed (\$160. for a loaf of bread)
- Starvation is rampant. Kitchens gave archivists a chance to record the experiences of the refugees.
- Smuggling was common to get resources from the Aryan side.
- Jews begin writing their stories, poems, jokes to record what they experienced under the threat of the death penalty (written in Yiddish)
- \* Underground schools, libraries and theaters created to maintain cultural heritage
- 80,000 died in the first year of the Ghetto. Jews are forced to sell all of their possessions. Starvation is a daily struggle
- Horrific dilemmas are presented on who gets to be fed
- Those leaving the Ghetto are now being executed (Jan. 1942)
- Violence increases → Mass shootings are happening in the countryside. (East + West of Warsaw)
- Archivists try to gather evidence of mass murder + send them to London. (June 1942)
- July 1942 - Expulsion of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto begins. Jewish police are used to round up deportees. (only 60,000 left)
- Some survivors hid on the Aryan side, protected by Poles
- Spring 1943 - Warsaw<sup>Ghetto</sup> uprising → 4 weeks → Ghetto destroyed. Polish police betray Dr. Ringlebloom in Spring 1944