

Fascism in Portugal:

Key words: Antonio Salazar, Estado Novo, colonies, Fatima,

António de Oliveira Salazar: (†1970):



- The of Portugal from 1932 to 1968. He also served as acting President of the Republic briefly in 1951.
- He founded and led the the **authoritarian, right-wing government** that presided over and controlled Portugal from 1932 to 1974.
- Dies in 1970

Estado Novo (New State): 1933 – 1974

<i>Estado Novo "New State" (1933-1974)</i>	
Antonio	1932-1968
Marcelo	1968 -

- Estado Novo was inspired by + developed by António Salazar

Basic signs of the regime:

- Under the constitution of *Estado Novo*, **free trade unions and strikes were prohibited**. The workers were kept under strict control.
- In 1974 the putsch organized by left-wing Portuguese military officers **overthrew the *Estado Novo* regime**.

The oppression:

- Salazar's regime was rigidly authoritarian.
- The regime and its **secret police** repressed in order to remain in power, avoid communist influence and the dissolution of its empire.
- In 1930 Salazar formed the *National Union*, the only

- Opposition to Salazar was dealt harshly. The **Secret Police** several of his opponents, and regularly suspects. Salazar even brought in instructors from Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy to teach the secret police new skills. When one opponent complained as he was arrested, the head of the secret police told him: *“Your rights. What rubbish. Here I arrest whoever I like and can keep him in prison for as long as I want to. There are only two people I cannot touch, the*”

- Salazar: *“Newspaper ... must be controlled. Communism is the great evil of the age. Like a great family the nation ... requires a head to control it. We make Portuguese nationalism the indestructible base of the New State.”*

- Give main characteristics of *Estado Novo*:

The Foreign Policy:

- Salazar did not seek closer relations with **other** countries. He was **more concerned with Portugal’s colonies**, which he believed were vital to the country’s success. He was determined to keep the colonies, at all costs. Most of Portugal’s colonies were in Salazar regarded the Africans as racially, and the Portuguese ruled them harshly and often cruelly.

Colonies:

Picture: Portuguese overseas territories in Africa during the Estado Novo regime (1933 - 1974): and were by far the two largest of those territories.



- **In 1945**, Portugal had an extensive colonial Empire, including **Cape Verde Islands**, São Tomé e Príncipe, **Angola** (including Cabinda), Portuguese Guinea, and **Mozambique** in Africa; Goa, Damão (including Dadra and Nagar Haveli), and Diu in **India** (the Portuguese India); **Macau in China**; and Portuguese Timor in Southeast Asia.

-: was a colony of Portugal from 1500 until 1815. The independence from Portugal was achieved in 1822.

Economic policies:

- The Salazar’s era was marked by an economic program based on the policies of and, which were popular in the 1930s as a response to the Great Depression.

- Industry was organized in **corporations**, as in Italy.
- Salazar based his political philosophy around a close interpretation of Catholic social doctrine. The economic system, known as corporatism, was based on a similar interpretation of the papal encyclicals **Rerum Novarum** (Leo XIII, 1891), which was supposed to prevent
- **Rerum Novarum** (Latin for **Of New Things**) is an encyclical issued by Pope Leo XIII in 1891. It supported the rights of labor to form unions, rejected communism and capitalism, whilst affirming the right to private property. Among the remedies it prescribed were the formation of trade unions and the introduction of collective bargaining, particularly as an alternative to state intervention.

Religion, Church:

- The **Catholic** religion was taught in **all** schools, the **education of the youth was greatly favored.**
- Legislation on marriage which read “*The Portuguese state recognizes the civil effects of marriages celebrated according to canonical laws.*”
- Salazar then initiated into this legislation articles that **did not approve of divorce**. Article 24 reads, “*In harmony with the essential properties of Catholic marriages, it is understood that by the very fact of the celebration of a canonical marriage, the spouses renounce the legal right to ask for a divorce.*” Divorce was only allowed if it has been purely a civil marriage. The effect of this law was that the number of Catholic marriages went up. So that by 1960, nearly 91 percent of all marriages in the country were canonical marriages.

Off topic:

Fatima, Portugal, 1917: The visions of the **Virgin Mary** appearing to **three shepherd children** at **Our Lady of Fátima** in Portugal in 1917 were declared worthy of belief by the Catholic Church in 1930. Five

popes - among them **Pope John Paul II** and **Pope Benedict XVI** - have supported the Fátima messages as **supernatural**.

On the picture: Lúcia Santos (left) with her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto, at Fátima, Portugal

