

# Orson Welles' Interpretation of Julius Caesar

## Fascism timeline

Key: ■ = Italy ■ = Germany ■ = Russia

1917	<b>March</b>	<span style="color: red;">■</span>	Revolution in Russia overthrows the Russian Empire and institutes democracy.
	<b>October</b>	<span style="color: red;">■</span>	The October Revolution gives power to the Communists led by Lenin.
1918	<b>November</b>	<span style="color: brown;">■</span>	End of the First World War and the defeat of the Alliance powers – Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy. Fall of the monarchy in Germany and founding of the German Republic.
1919	<b>January</b>	<span style="color: brown;">■</span>	Elections in Germany for a new National Assembly.
	<b>February</b>	<span style="color: brown;">■</span>	National Assembly elects Ebert first President of the Republic and decides new constitution. Universal suffrage and elections of President and Reichstag (Parliament) every seven years.
	<b>September</b>	<span style="color: brown;">■</span>	Adolf Hitler joins the German Workers' Party – an extreme right wing, anti-semitic organisation with around 50 members.
	<b>March</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	Mussolini founds the 'Fasci di Combattimento' in Italy. The new party adopts a military style uniform with black shirts.
1920	<b>February</b>	<span style="color: brown;">■</span>	German Workers' Party changes its name to 'Nazionalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei, or NSDAP – acquiring the nickname 'NAZI' party. 2,000 people attend their first rally.
	<b>June</b>	<span style="color: brown;">■</span>	Treaty of Versailles demands punitive damages. Is paid by Germany as 'reparation' for the war. Germany's army, navy and air force are to be disbanded or drastically reduced in size. The German Empire and its colonies are to be dismantled under the mandate of the League of Nations. The Rhineland is to be occupied by Allied troops.
1921	<b>July</b>	<span style="color: brown;">■</span>	Adolf Hitler becomes leader (Führer) of the NAZI party.
	<b>November</b>	<span style="color: brown;">■</span>	Members of the NAZI party charged with 'maintaining order' at meetings become officially known as the SA or Sturmabteilung (translated as 'Stormtroopers').
1922	<b>October</b>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	Mussolini's party seizes power in Italy, and begins to dismantle the structures of democracy.

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- 1923 **January** ■ Mussolini sets up the 'Fascist Grand Council' that will eventually replace the elected parliament.
- French troops occupy the German industrial region of the Ruhr, leading to unrest and instability.  
Collapse of German economy leads to disastrous government decision to print money that dramatically escalates the problem of inflation.
- February** ■ Mussolini's private army of 'Blackshirts' become the 'Militia for National Security'
- June** ■ Mussolini enacts law (the Acerbo law) that changes the electoral rules to ensure a fascist victory in the next General Election.
- November** ■ One US dollar is worth 42,000,000,000,000 German Marks.  
The NAZI party stages an attempt to overthrow the democratic government (The Munich Beer Hall Putsch) that fails. Hitler is sentenced to 5 years in prison.
- 1924 **April** ■ A fractured and disparate opposition enables the fascist party to a comfortable victory in the General Election in Italy.
- August** ■ The Dawes Plan provides for US loans to Germany to ease the financial crisis.  
The National Bank introduces a new unit of currency – the Reichsmark – that stops inflation.
- December** ■ Adolf Hitler is released from prison after serving one year of his sentence. While in prison, he has written 'Mein Kampf'.
- 1925 **January** ■ Mussolini assumes dictatorial powers in Italy.
- 1926 **November** ■ All non-fascist political activity in Italy is prohibited.
- 1928 **December** ■ The Fascist Grand Council becomes the elected body of government, with candidates proposed by fascist organisations and selected by the Council itself.
- 1929 **June** ■ The Young Plan establishes the total amount of reparations to be paid by Germany, and suggests that the Allies withdraw from the Rhineland in 1930, five years ahead of the date specified in the Treaty of Versailles.
- June** ■ The Lateran Treaty creates a Vatican Sovereign State independent from the rest of Italy. The Pope will be politically neutral. Catholicism is the State religion of Italy.

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1930	<b>September</b>	The NAZI party gets 6 million votes in the General Election, making them the second largest party in Germany.
1931	<b>May</b>	Unemployment in Germany reaches 4 million.
	<b>July</b>	Bank Crisis in Germany
1932	<b>April</b>	Hitler gets 37% of the vote in the elections for Reichspräsident.
	<b>July</b>	Reichstag elections. NAZI party are now the largest party in parliament.
1933	<b>January</b>	President Hindenburg appoints Hitler Chancellor of a coalition government.
	<b>March</b>	General Election gives Hitler's coalition slim majority in the parliament. Enabling Act gives all legislative powers to the Chancellor.
	<b>July</b>	All political parties banned.
1934	<b>June</b>	Night of the Long Knives – Hitler conducts purge of his rivals and enemies.
	<b>August</b>	Death of President Hindenburg. Hitler assumes Presidential powers. In a plebiscite, an overwhelming majority of the electorate approve the move.
	<b>September</b>	Hitler proclaims 1000 year Reich.