

Italian



Fascism

A Definition of Fascism

Fascism:

- right wing ideology

is the totalitarian philosophy of government that glorifies the state and nation and assigns to the state control over every aspect of national life.



The Fasces Symbol



-  Comes from the Latin word *fasces*.
-  Predate ancient Rome
-  They symbolize unity and power.

The Characteristics of Fascism



1. Ideology

Nationalism

- the nation or the race is an organic community
 - Unifying force
 - transcends all other loyalties.

Powerful and continuing nationalism.

- Constant use of patriotic mottos, slogans, symbols, songs, etc.
- Flags and symbols are seen everywhere.



2. Totalitarianism

- Subordination to the State
 - Fascism seeks forcibly mold ALL aspects of society to its vision of society
- The individual had no significance except as a member of the state.
- It uses organized violence to suppress opposition.
 - Glorification of force.
 - Accepts the tenets of Social Darwinism.
 - Is anti-democratic.



Cult of State Worship

- 
- The fascists were taught:
- *Credere!* [to believe]
 - *Obbedire!* [to obey]
 - *Combattere!* [to fight]

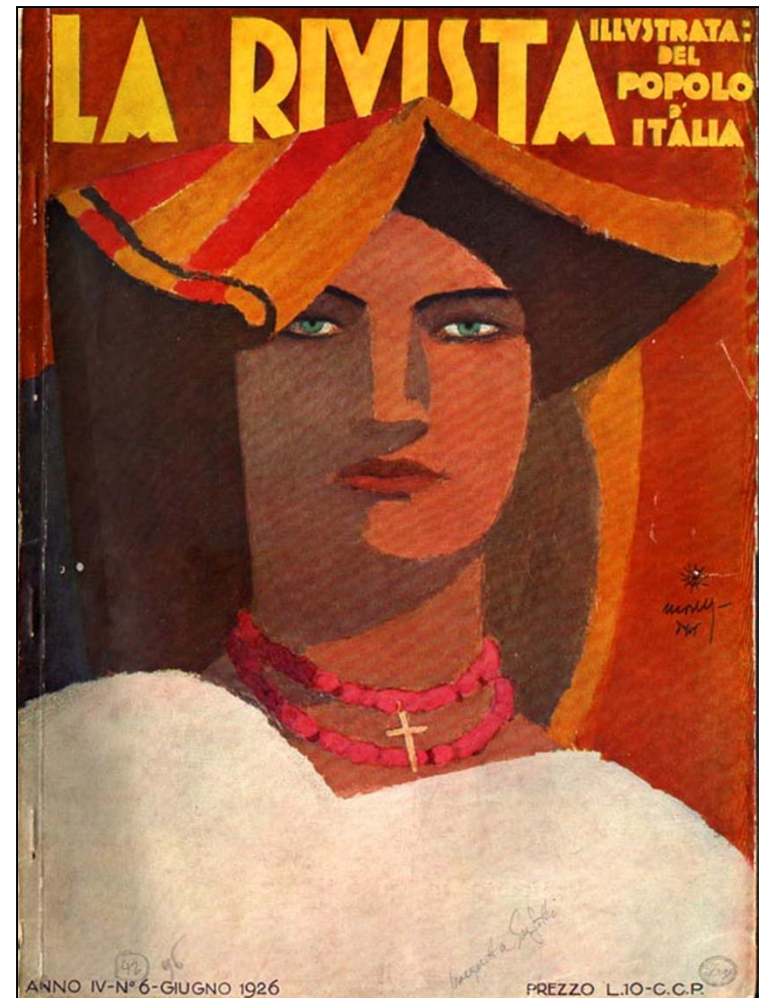
4. The Myth of Rebirth

- 🇩🇪 The “phoenix rising up from the ashes.”
- 🇩🇪 Emphasis on a national or racial rebirth after a period of decline or destruction.
- 🇩🇪 Calls for a “spiritual revolution” against signs of moral decay [such as individualism and materialism].
- 🇩🇪 Seeks to purge “alien” forces and groups that threaten the organic community.



5. Rampant Sexism

- 🇮🇹 State moral and familial guardian
- 🇮🇹 male-dominated.
- 🇮🇹 Traditional gender roles are made more rigid.
- 🇮🇹 Divorce, abortion & homosexuality are suppressed.
- 🇮🇹 Women "reproducers of the nation"



6. Militarism





🇩🇪 Political violence a necessity

- Inside and outside country

🇩🇪 Continuous national and racial conflict

- Need to purge society of socially and biologically weak
- Need strong society to survive

Identification of Enemies or Scapegoats as a Unifying Cause



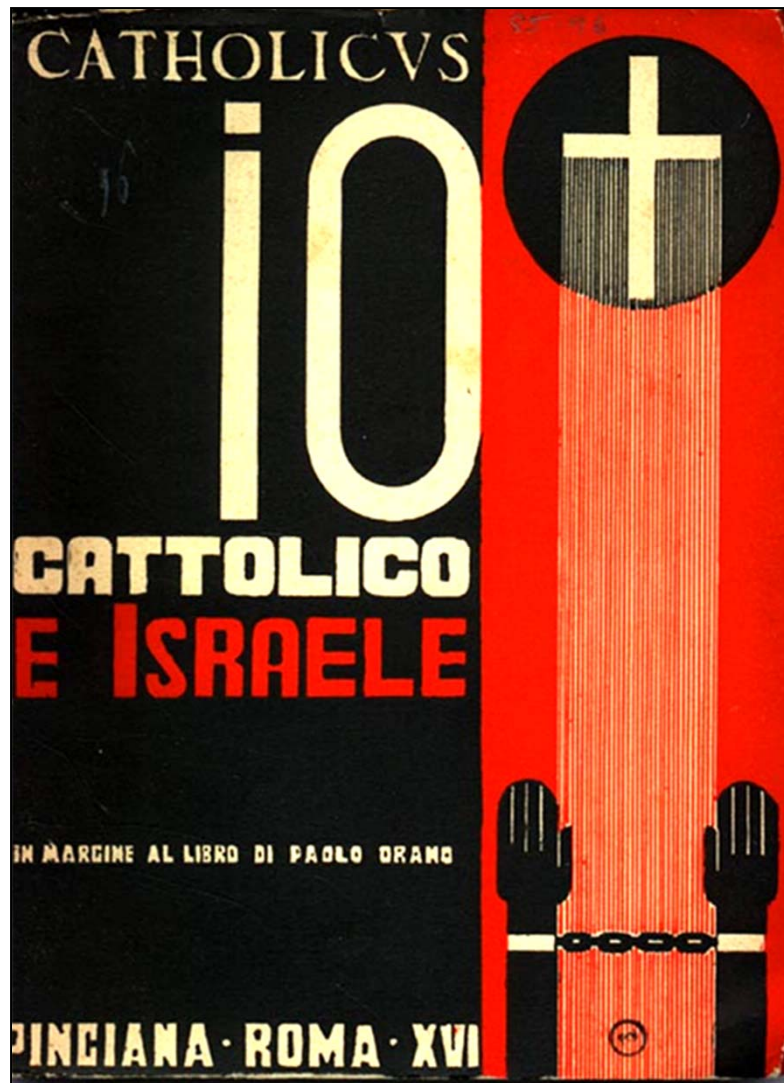
- 🇮🇹 The people are rallied into a unifying patriotic frenzy over the need to eliminate a perceived common threat or foe.
- 🇮🇹 This foe could be racial, ethnic, a religious minority, liberals, communists, etc.

Disdain for the Recognition of Human Rights

-  Because of the fear of enemies and the need for security, the people are persuaded that human rights can be ignored out of "need."
-  People look the other way or even approve of torture, summary executions, long incarcerations of prisoners, assassinations, etc.



Jews Are the Enemy!



Disdain for Intellectuals & for the Arts

-  Open hostility to higher education and academia is promoted.
-  Professors and other academics are censored or arrested.
-  Free expression in the arts and letters is openly attacked.



7. Controlled Economy

- 🇲🇪 Capitalists, workers, and government set labor policy.
 - Need strong economy for strong country
- 🇲🇪 Government has ultimate power in this relationship.
- 🇲🇪 Result: harmony between workers and employers.

