

# Lecture 7

## Italy: From Axis Accomplice to Occupied Foe

- I. **Fascist Italy, 1922-1944**
  - A. Mussolini's Moments
    1. Draining Swamps and "Making the Trains Run on Time"
    2. The Lateran Pact, 1929
    3. Conquest of Ethiopia
    4. Renovation of Rome
    5. Olympics and World Cups
  - B. Rifts in the Fascist Firmament
    1. North vs. South
    2. Class War
    3. Ethnic Disputes
    4. Feuding Fascists
  - C. A Rougher and Tougher Italy?
    1. The Fascist Salute
    2. Passo Romano
    3. Babies in Blackshirts
  - D. Il Duce: The Milkman of Munich
  - E. Slouching toward War
    1. Meeting with Hitler at Brenner Pass
    2. Day of the Jackal: June 10, 1940
- II. **Military Misadventures and Hapless Homefront**
  - A. North Africa: Lost in the Desert
  - B. Southern Anger
  - C. Debacle in Greece
  - D. Doubts about Il Duce
  - E. Barbarossa: Italians in the Russian Meatgrinder
  - F. Life under Allied Bombs: Uncivil Defense
  - G. Up to One's Neck in *Merda!*

### **III. Invasion! Allies in, Mussolini Out**

- A. The Allies Take Sicily (with a little help from their friends)
- B. The Sicilian Homefront
- C. Cashiering and Confining Il Duce
- D. The “Forty-Five Days”
  - 1. “Finito Benito – Armistizio”
  - 2. Royal Screwups
  - 3. Horror (and Heroism) in the North

### **IV. Divided Italy and Civil War**

- A. Springing Il Duce
- B. Gilded Cage: The Republic of Salò
- C. The Fate of Italy’s Jews
  - 1. Venice
  - 2. Roundup in Rome
  - 3. Trieste and the Riserva di San Sabba
- D. Varieties of Resistance
  - 1. The National Committee for the Liberation of Upper Italy
  - 2. Reprisal: The Ardeatine Caves Massacre
- E. Bombing Rome
- F. Aiding the “Enemy” – *Love and Death in the Apennines*
- G. Southern Miseries
  - 1. Naples ‘44
  - 2. Going Underground

### **V. Downfall**

- A. Capture and Execution of Mussolini
- B. The Piñata of Piazzale Loreto
- C. A Moveable Corpse
- D. Mussolini Lives!