

Study; Research & Philosophy on NAZI ARCHITECTURE

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ABSTRACT:

Nazi architecture, also known as Third Reich architecture, was the architectural style promoted by the Nazi regime in Germany from 1933 to 1945. This style was characterized by grandiose and monumental buildings that aimed to evoke a sense of power, strength, and permanence.

This research paper examines the origins, key features, and legacy of Nazi architecture. The study draws on a range of primary and secondary sources, including historical documents, architectural plans and photographs, and scholarly works.

The research finds that Nazi architecture was heavily influenced by classical and neoclassical styles, as well as by fascist architecture in Italy. Key features of Nazi architecture included the use of massive, symmetrical structures, the incorporation of fascist iconography and propaganda, and the emphasis on creating an atmosphere of awe and intimidation.

Despite the ambitious plans and grand visions of the Nazi architects, many of their buildings were never completed or were destroyed during the war. Nevertheless, the legacy of Nazi architecture continues to be felt today, with many of the surviving structures serving as powerful reminders of the horrors of the Nazi regime.

The study concludes that Nazi architecture represents a unique and controversial chapter in the history of architecture, and that further research is needed to fully understand its impact and significance.

Synopsis

Aim:-

The aim of studying and researching Nazi architecture is to understand the political, social, and cultural context in which it was created and the impact it had on society.

Objective:-

- Studying Nazi architecture can help us understand the relationship between architecture and power.
- The Nazis used architecture as a tool to project their power and authority, and their buildings and monuments were designed to convey specific messages about the regime's values and beliefs.

Scope:-

The scope to study Nazi architecture is broad and multidisciplinary. The study of Nazi architecture involves examining the buildings and urban planning strategies employed by the Nazi regime and the ways in which they were used to promote Nazi ideology and legitimize Nazi power.

One area of focus in the study of Nazi architecture is architectural history. This involves analyzing the formal qualities of Nazi buildings, such as their use of monumental scale, classical forms, and fascist symbolism, and understanding how they fit into the broader context of architectural history. This can involve studying the work of individual architects and urban planners who were associated with the Nazi regime, as well as examining the architectural precedents and influences that shaped Nazi design.

Need:-

Studying Nazi architecture is important for several reasons.

- First and foremost, it can provide insights into the political, social, and cultural factors that led to the rise of the Nazi regime in Germany and its devastating impact on the world. By examining the buildings and urban planning strategies employed by the Nazis, researchers can gain a better understanding of the regime's ideological and propagandistic goals and the ways in which architecture was used to legitimize and reinforce Nazi power.

- Studying Nazi architecture can provide valuable lessons for contemporary architects and urban planners. By examining the successes and failures of Nazi architecture, can develop a deeper understanding of how architecture can be used to promote or hinder social and political agendas. They can also learn about the ethical considerations involved in designing buildings and public spaces that reflect the values and aspirations of a particular society.

•Nazi architecture is important for preserving historical and cultural heritage. Many Nazi buildings and monuments still stand today, and it is important to understand their historical and cultural significance in order to preserve them as part of our collective memory and to avoid repeating the mistakes of the past.

Methodology:-

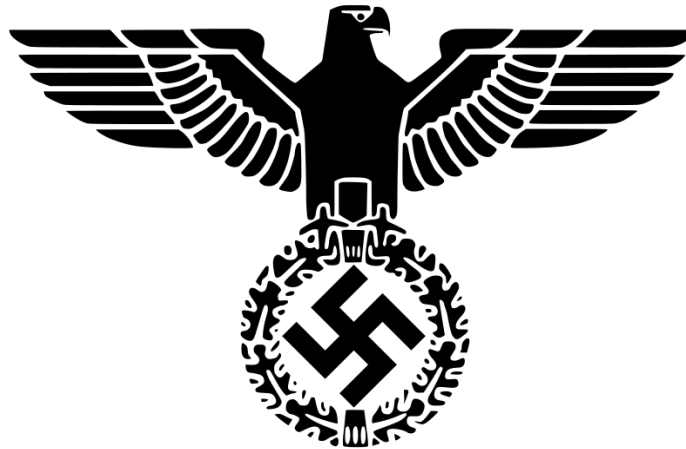
•Historical Context: The first step in studying Nazi architecture is to understand the historical context in which it was created. This includes understanding the political, social, and cultural factors that influenced the Nazi regime's architectural vision.

•Architectural Characteristics: Once the historical context is understood, it is essential to analyze the architectural characteristics of Nazi architecture. This includes studying the materials, forms, and symbols used in the buildings, as well as the urban planning strategies employed.

•Ideological Motivations: Nazi architecture was deeply intertwined with Nazi ideology, and it is important to understand the political and ideological motivations behind the design and construction of these buildings. This involves studying the rhetoric and propaganda associated with Nazi architecture and examining the ways in which it was used to legitimize and reinforce Nazi power.

•Impact on Society: The final step in studying Nazi architecture is to analyze its impact on society. This includes examining the ways in which these buildings were used and perceived by the general public, as well as their long-term cultural and historical significance.





INTRODUCTION OF NAZI REGIME ARCHITECTURE

The architectural design that was supported by the Nazi administration in Germany from 1933 to 1945 is referred to as Nazi architecture, also known as Third Reich architecture. Grandiose and colossal structures that sought to express a sense of power, strength, and permanence were typical of this architectural style. The classical and neoclassical styles, as well as Italian fascist architecture, had a significant impact on the design. The Nazis promoted their idea of racial supremacy and totalitarian rule using architecture as a weapon for propaganda. Many of the structures and areas they created were intended to frighten and intimidate the German people as well as to show off the regime's strength and authority. During the Nazi era, architects who worked for the regime were frequently given carte blanche to create structures and interior layouts that reflected their ideas about the new Germany.

While some of the structures and areas that the Nazis created were never finished or were destroyed during the war, others are still in existence and act as potent symbols of the regime's goals and ideologies. The legacy of Nazi architecture is still felt today, and it is still a contentious and difficult subject in the fields of history and architecture.

What is the role of NAZI Ideology & Politics in Architecture?

In Germany, during the years when the Nazis were in power, from 1933 to 1945, architecture was significantly influenced by Nazi philosophy and politics. In order to further their ideologies of nationalism, militarism, and racial purity, the Nazis believed that architecture should be exploited as a propaganda tool. They sought to establish a distinctive and opulent architectural style that would demonstrate their dominance and authority.

Albert Speer, who served as Hitler's chief architect and was instrumental in creating many of the famous buildings and structures of the Nazi dictatorship, was one of the important protagonists in the Nazi architectural movement. The grandiose, colossal style of Speer's architecture was characterised by an accent on force,

discipline, and order. He fashioned buildings that exuded a feeling of legitimacy and historical continuity using classical elements and styles.

The Nazis' emphasis on the Aryan race's racial purity was another component of their architecture. The Gothic style was one of many architectural motifs that the Nazis considered to be fundamentally "Aryan" and thus superior to other motifs. In order to eliminate "non-Aryan" influences and establish a wholly German architectural legacy, they also advocated the concept of "racial hygiene" in architecture.

Overall, Nazi ideology and politics used architecture to further the regime's ideas and values and to develop a distinctive and opulent style that demonstrated their dominance and strength. Nazi architecture was employed to support a government that committed some of the darkest atrocities in recorded history, hence its legacy is one of debate and censure.

How Nazi regime promote their ideology as in architecture.

Adolf Hitler led the Nazi Party, which emphasised architecture as a way to demonstrate its influence and philosophy. They used architecture as a tool to advance their fascist goals and foster a sense of nationalism among the German people because they believed that architecture had the ability to inspire and affect people's behaviour.

The Nazi government effectively promoted its racial superiority and totalitarian control ideologies through the use of architecture. They employed it to foster a sense of national unity, pride, and allegiance because they believed that architecture could influence the attitudes and behaviours of the German people.

Building eminent structures like Nuremberg's Zeppelin Field and the Reichstag was among the most famous architectural endeavours of the Nazi Party. These structures were intended to be imposing and fearsome, acting as representations of the strength and authority of the Nazi regime. Massive sculptures and reliefs that extolled the Aryan race and the Nazi philosophy were also commissioned by the Nazi Party.

The development of new cities and urban planning were two other major priorities for the Nazi Party. They felt that society and its members' behaviour may be significantly influenced by the way cities are built. The Nazi Party encouraged the development of new towns, such as Welthauptstadt Germania, which was intended to serve as the opulent capital of the Third Reich.

In addition, the Nazi Party supported a particular design of building known as "Nazi architecture" or "Third Reich architecture," which was distinguished by magnificence, symmetry, and simplicity. The party's values of power, cohesion, and order were intended to be reflected in this fashion. Large columns, domes, and other ostentatious features were frequent in Nazi architecture, which took inspiration from classical and neoclassical

styles.

Here are some ways that the Nazis promoted their ideology through architecture:

Grandiose and monumental buildings:

The Nazis intended their large, symmetrical structures to convey a sense of strength, permanence, and power. These structures were often built to last for centuries and were frequently made of strong materials like stone and concrete. The Olympic Stadium, the Zeppelin Field, and the Reich Chancellery are a few examples of these structures.



Olympische Sommerspiele 1936
Chancellery;Berlin

The entrances to the Reich Chancellery in Berlin.

Reich

Fascist iconography and propaganda:

Nazi architecture frequently featured fascist symbols, such as the swastika and the eagle with spread wings. Additionally, words and slogans were conspicuously placed on building facades or through sculptural features to spread propaganda.

Emphasis on Germanic or Aryan heritage:

Numerous Nazi structures were created to evoke the pre-Christian history of Germany, which the Nazis idealised. Runes, horns, and other symbols, as well as classic Germanic or Aryan motifs, were frequently used to accomplish this.

Racial purity and exclusion:

Architecture was utilised by the Nazis to support their view that the Aryan race was superior. Buildings were frequently made to marginalise or exclude people who did not match their idea of a racially pure Germany. For

instance, while the rest of the building was divided into distinct wings for various government agencies, the Reich Chancellery was constructed with a magnificent entrance for Hitler and his close friends.

Here are some examples of architectural buildings and elements used by the Nazi Party to promote their ideology:

Architectural Buildings:

Reich Chancellery -

Adolf Hitler's official house and workplace was the Reich Chancellery. With a sizable central courtyard and an opulent entrance hall, it was created by architect Albert Speer to be big and imposing.



Reich Chancellery; Berlin

Zeppelinfeld -

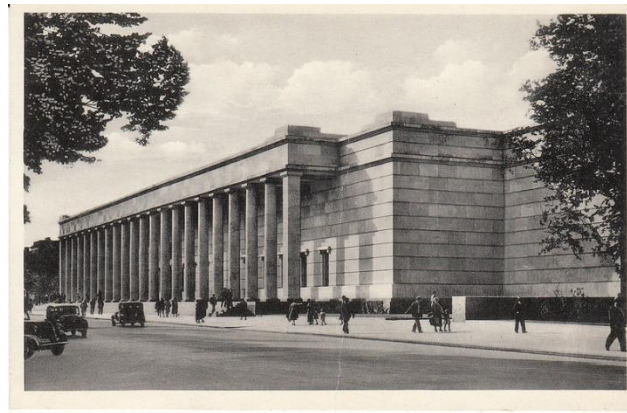
The Nazi Party conducted sizable gatherings at the Zeppelinfeld, a sizable parade area near Nuremberg. It had a grandstand that could accommodate more than 50,000 people and was created by architect Albert Speer.



Zeppelinfeld; Nuremberg

Haus der Kunst -

Munich's Haus der Kunst served as a museum for Nazi-approved artwork. With a sizable central hall and substantial columns, it was intended to be majestic and intimidating.



Haus der Kunst; Munich

Architectural Elements:

Swastika -

The swastika, which served as the Nazi Party's emblem, was widely employed throughout Nazi construction. It was frequently exhibited on buildings and incorporated into architectural features like columns and reliefs.



kongresshalle nürnberg

Columns -

In Nazi architecture, columns were a major element that were frequently used to convey a feeling of grandeur and strength. They often had a classical or neoclassical design and were big and intimidating.

Domed Ceilings -

In order to convey a sense of grandeur and power, domed ceilings were frequently used in Nazi design. They were often imposingly huge and decorated with elaborate ornamentation.



the Reichstag, German parliament

In conclusion, the Nazi Party viewed architecture as a potent tool for advancing their ideology and demonstrating their dominance. They promoted their fascist beliefs by evoking a sense of strength and solidarity among the German people through the use of grand structures, sculptures, urban design, and a distinctive architectural style.

List of the structure & building build during Nazi Regime

From 1933 to 1945, the Nazi authority in Germany constructed a number of opulent and enormous structures and areas. The following are a few of the most notable instances of Nazi architecture:

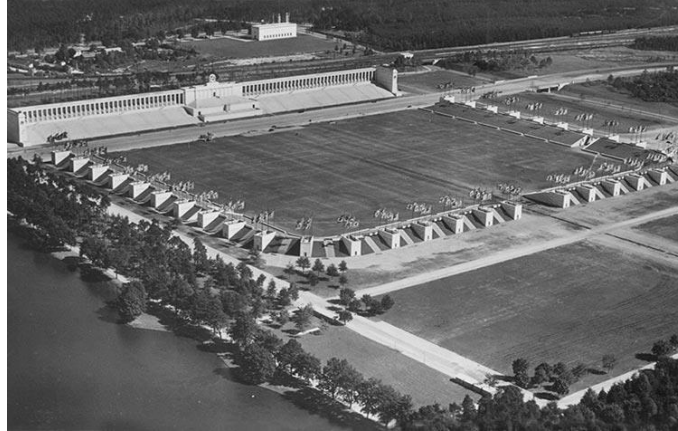
Reich Chancellery:

Hitler's official residence and office were both located in this building. It was one of the biggest governmental structures in Berlin at the time and was created by Albert Speer.



Zeppelin Field:

Nazi gatherings and events, including the famed Nuremberg rallies, were held in this sizable open area in Nuremberg. Grandstands with up to 200,000 seats were built around the field, and a huge swastika was placed in the middle.



Olympic Stadium:

Werner March designed this stadium in Berlin, which was constructed for the 1936 Summer Olympics. It was designed to display the might and athleticism of Nazi Germany and had a seating capacity of 100,000.



Haus der Kunst:

Paul Ludwig Troost created this neoclassical-styled art gallery in Munich with the intention of promoting Nazi-approved works of art.



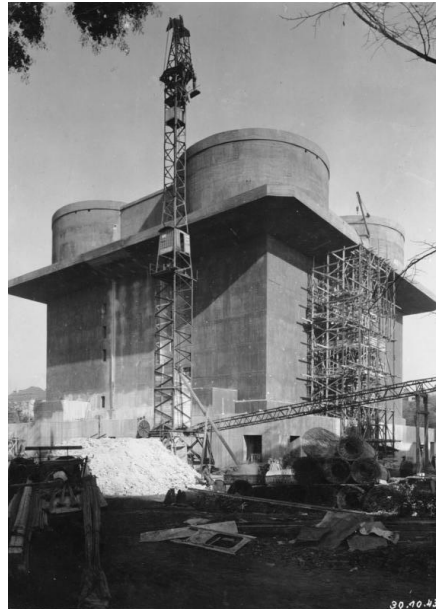
Führerbunker:

Hitler and his closest advisers spent their final days in this Berlin bunker during the Battle of Berlin in 1945. The bunker had a command center, offices, and living quarters that were all heavily fortified.



Flaktowers:

These massive concrete structures were erected in a number of German cities as platforms for anti-aircraft guns and air defence. They were some of the Nazi regime's strongest constructions, and many of them still stand today.



Prora:

It was intended for German employees to use this enormous resort complex on the island of Rügen as a getaway location. Although it was never finished, some of the structures have since been updated and put to new uses.



These structures and areas are just a few of the numerous architectural endeavours carried out by the Nazi government. After the war, some of them were demolished or fell into disrepair, but others remain as symbols of the goals and ideologies of the state.

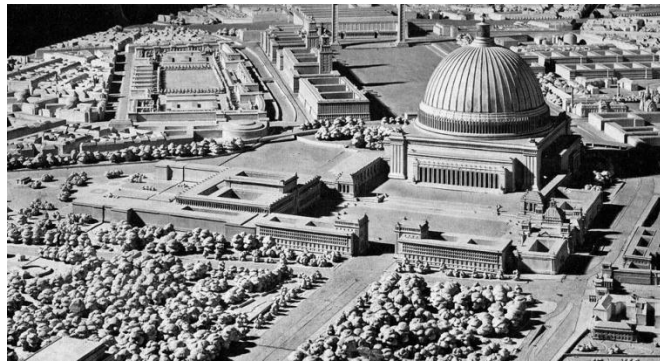
WHAT IS THE VIEW OF NAZI & Hitler's Views on Architecture, History, and Art

Nazi ideology saw history, art, and architecture as ways to further their fascist ideology and demonstrate their might. Particularly Adolf Hitler had a keen interest in the arts and architecture and greatly influenced how they

were used and promoted under the Nazi dictatorship. Hitler's opinions on history, art, and architecture are illustrated by the following:

Architecture:

Hitler firmly believed that a building's ability to inspire and shape human behaviour. He championed the concept of "Führer Architecture," emphasising opulent structures that demonstrated the might and might of the Nazi regime. Some of these structures, like the "Welthauptstadt Germania" planned capital city, were designed by Hitler himself.



Welthauptstadt Germania; Berlin

History:

Hitler held a unique historical perspective that placed emphasis on the notion that the Aryan race had a better culture. He thought that the Germans were the descendants of the ancient Greeks and Romans, who laid the groundwork for Western civilization. Hitler tried to alter history to support his worldview because he saw it as a tool for advancing his fascist ideology.

Art:

Hitler had a very distinct aesthetic philosophy that he referred to as "heroic realism." He favoured works of art that portrayed heroic individuals and idealised the Aryan race because he thought that art should be utilised to advance the ideologies of the Nazi Party. Additionally, he had a profound distaste for modern art, which he saw as corrupt and depraved.

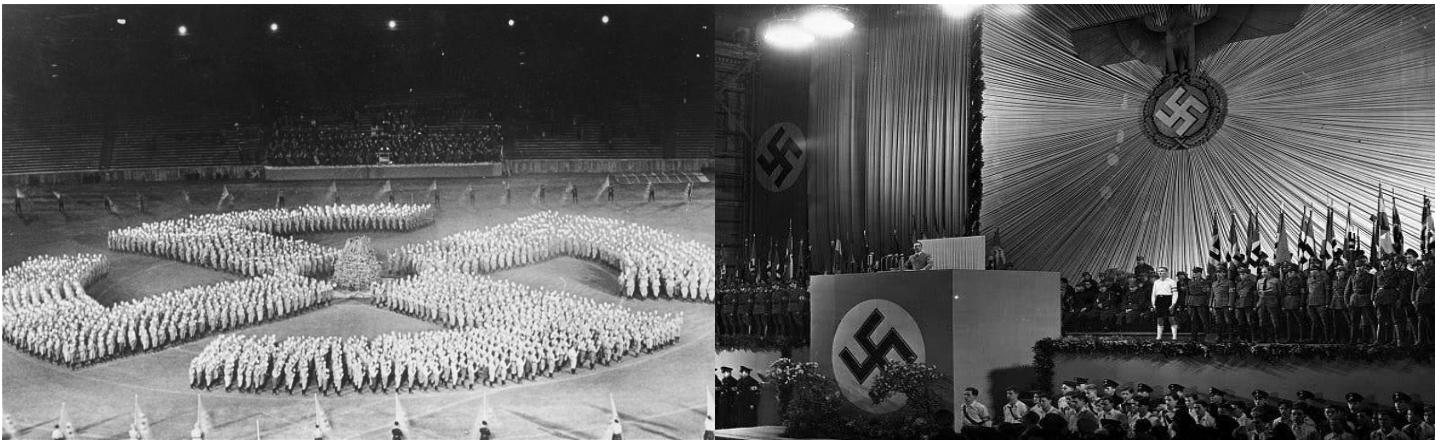
Hitler's contributions to art and architecture include, for instance:

the "Welthauptstadt Germania" and other colossal structures built under the rule are examples of the architecture and urban planning of the Nazi Party.

Hitler's own art collection, which was largely composed of the "heroic realism" works he favoured. Along with creating his own artwork, Hitler also had pictures of himself and other Nazi leaders created.

The Nazi Party's propaganda, which frequently included works of art and other designs to advance their fascist viewpoints. There were also additional propaganda tools used to spread the party's message, such as posters and banners.

Hitler's opinions on history, art, and architecture were all closely related to his fascist worldview. He wanted to demonstrate the strength and authority of the Nazi regime while also advancing his worldview.



Hitler's Youth Rally



Modern Development in Architecture Influenced from NAZI Architecture

It's crucial to remember that because of its links to fascist ideology and propaganda, the architecture of the Nazi government is not frequently seen as having had a good impact on modern architecture. However, certain recent architectural innovations may be influenced by or reflect aspects of Nazi design. Here are a few instances:

Monumentalism -

Nazi architecture is known for its use of big, imposing structures, and some modern buildings also adhere to the monumentalism aesthetic. For instance, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, which is the tallest skyscraper in the world, might be compared to the monumentalism of Nazi architecture because of its imposing height.



Brutalism -

The use of unfinished concrete and blocky, imposing constructions are characteristics of brutalist architecture, which first appeared in the middle of the 20th century. The use of huge, solid forms and other aspects of brutalist architecture have been compared to the monumentalism of Nazi architecture.



Habitat 67(1967) in Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Neo-Classicism -

Classical Greek and Roman architecture had a significant impact on Nazi architecture, and some contemporary architects have also integrated neo-classical aspects into their projects. One such instance is the United States Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C., which features several columns, pediments, and domes.



United States Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C

Propaganda -

The use of architecture as a tool for propaganda can be seen in several contemporary developments, albeit it is not a particular architectural style. For instance, certain prominent firms' architecture, like Apple's slick, minimalist storefronts, could be interpreted as employing architecture to advance a specific brand or message.



Apple's sleek, minimalist stores

The link with fascist philosophy and propaganda makes Nazi architecture a contentious and difficult influence, even though some aspects of modern architecture may be inspired by it.

Following are some instances of architecture that might have been influenced by Nazi ideology:

Palace of the Republic, Berlin, Germany -

Berlin, Germany's Palace of the Republic was built during the Cold War with the intention of housing East Germany's parliament. Its style has drawn flak for being too reminiscent of the Reich Chancellery during the Nazi era.



Palace of the Republic, Berlin, Germany(1950)

Ryugyong Hotel, Pyongyang, North Korea -

Although it has not yet been made public, this enormous, pyramid-shaped structure was intended to be the highest hotel in the world. Its layout has been compared to Albert Speer's Nazi architecture.



Strasbourg Court of Human Rights, France -

This structure's design has come under fire for looking too much like Nuremberg, Germany's Zeppelinfeld stadium during the time of the Nazis.

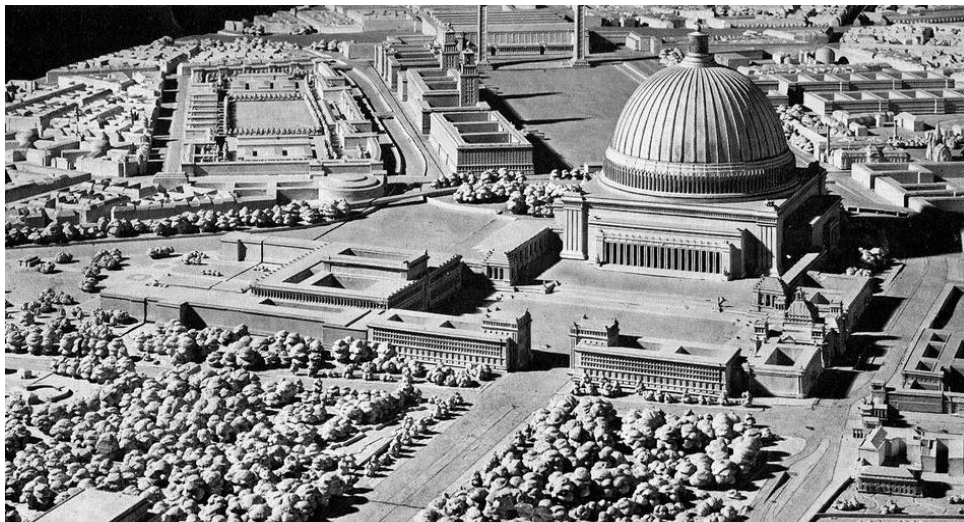


National Convention Centre, Canberra, Australia -

This structure's architecture has drawn criticism for being too reminiscent of the Nuremberg Rally Grounds during the Nazi era.



The concept of the “Volksgemeinschaft,” or “people’s community,” which placed a strong emphasis on cooperation, order, and sacrifice for the greater good, served as the philosophical foundation for Nazi architecture. Nazi architects thought that through inspiring awe and reverence for the state and its leaders, their structures might contribute to the promotion of these principles. It’s crucial to keep in mind, though, that this way of thinking was seriously misguided and ultimately resulted in horrible crimes.



Hitler and his Plans after 1933 in Architectural Industry

Adolf Hitler had a keen interest in architecture and used it to forward his ideas for a brand-new Germany. He founded the Reich Ministry of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda, which was in charge of regulating all facets of culture, including architecture, after assuming power in 1933.

Hitler held the opinion that architecture should be used as a tool of propaganda to further his political ideas and serve as a reflection of the strength and greatness of the German country. The Reich Chancellery in Berlin, the Nuremberg Rally Grounds, and the “New Berlin” plan, which intended for the construction of a monumental cityscape to rival Paris and Rome, are just a few of the large-scale construction projects Hitler ordered.

Hitler had a special fondness for the classical buildings of classical Greece and Rome, which he viewed as a representation of the power and superiority of the Aryan race in terms of culture. He also loved the work of Albert Speer, who served as his chief architect and created many of the most significant structures under the regime.

Germany’s architectural sector was heavily politicised and devoted to advancing Nazi ideology under Hitler’s leadership. Many Jewish architects were completely banned from the profession after refusing to abide by the regime’s dictates; they were frequently persecuted or sent into exile.

But despite Hitler’s ambitious aspirations for a new Germany, the start of World War II and Nazi Germany’s ultimate loss meant that many of the projects he ordered were never finished. The remaining works of Nazi architecture are now frequently viewed with distrust and have been the focus of heated discussion and controversy.

NAZI’s Megalomania as Policy

Megalomania was a key component of Nazi policies and ideology, and it permeated their views on architecture and urban planning as well. The Nazis saw big architectural projects as a way to show off the strength and majesty of the Nazi regime. They believed that architecture and urban planning should be used to promote their idea of a new, superior Germany.

Hitler and other senior Nazis commissioned massive construction projects that were meant to intimidate and astound both German citizens and visitors. They also saw architecture as a propaganda tool. The opulent Reich Chancellery in Berlin, the Nuremberg Rally Grounds, and the envisioned “New Berlin,” which would have included colossal structures and extensive boulevards, are examples of such ideas.

The megalomania of the Nazis permeated even their approach to city planning. They thought that cities should be remade to represent Nazi philosophy, with opulent structures and monuments placed in strategic areas to proclaim the authority of the Nazi state. Additionally, they aimed to erase all reminders of the previous regime and replace them with fresh structures and designs with Nazi influences.

The megalomania of the Nazis had a significant impact on Germany's architectural and urban planning sectors. Many Jewish architects were completely banned from the profession after refusing to abide by the regime's dictates; they were frequently persecuted or sent into exile. Additionally, more pragmatic issues like affordable housing and infrastructure were frequently disregarded in favour of grandiose construction projects and urban planning initiatives.

The surviving examples of Nazi-era architecture and urban planning serve as a living reminder of the megalomania that the Nazis adopted as a policy. Given their associations with the atrocities of the Nazi dictatorship and their symbolism of a dark period in human history, these structures and designs are frequently viewed with distrust and criticism.

SUMMARY

Nazi architecture is the term used to describe the architectural movement supported by the Nazi Party in Germany from 1933 to 1945 known as the Third Reich. Grandiose, gigantic structures meant to symbolise the might and authority of the Nazi regime were a hallmark of Nazi architecture.

Albert Speer, who was chosen to serve as Hitler's chief architect in 1937, was among the most well-known architects of the Nazi period. Many of the important structures built during the Nazi era, such as the Reich Chancellery, the Zeppelinfeld stadium, and the New Reich Chancellery, were the work of Speer.

Classical architecture, especially that of ancient Greece and Rome, had a significant impact on Nazi architecture. The Nazis attempted to resurrect these values in their own structures because they thought that classical architecture reflected the ideals of power, order, and reason.

Many of the structures constructed during the Nazi era had imposing facades, huge columns, and opulent entrances that were intended to frighten and impress. Additionally, the architecture was designed to strengthen the notion of a powerful and cohesive nation and to foster a sense of community among the German people.

Despite the splendour of many Nazi-era structures, the regime also committed numerous crimes, such as the Holocaust and other acts of persecution and cruelty. Because of this, a lot of people today associate Nazi architecture with oppression and totalitarianism.