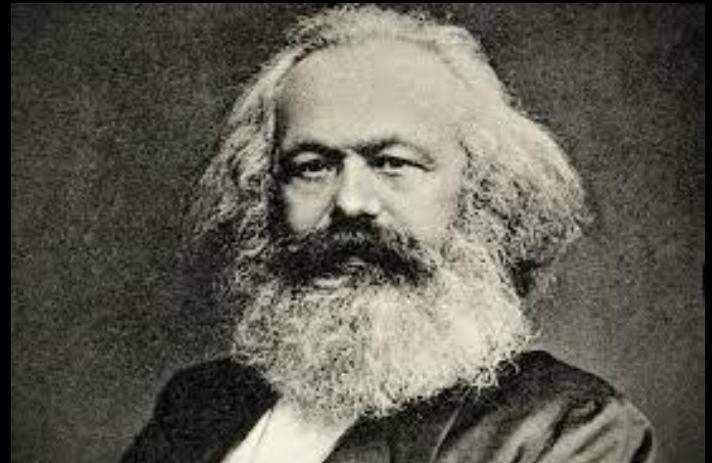


Communists and Aryans

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What Communism Is

Communism is a political ideology that was created by Karl Marx. The word itself comes from *communis* meaning shared or common. Communism centers around the idea that everyone gets what they need, no more, no less. Marx said there would be no class system or government and that It's based on the principal "From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs.



The Fate of Communists in Germany

Communists were sent to concentration camps after the German Communist Party was framed for setting fire to the Reichstag (a government building). After that the party was forced to disband and any members were arrested and sent to concentration camps. Aryan communists were kept in the concentration camps until they changed their political views, as they were seen as crucial members of the race, while non-Aryan communists were killed.



Who and What an Aryan Was

An Aryan was considered by Nazis to be a fair-skinned person who had Germanic or Norse heritage and spoke an Indo-European language like German. Not all German citizens were considered Aryan, you had to have Germanic or Norse heritage and couldn't be Jewish. Other Aryan countries included Austria and Norse countries like Sweden. The theory of the supposed Aryan master race originated in the mid-19th century as a way to justify white superiority. Hitler later used the Aryan race theory as a way to justify the killing of Gypsies, Jews, and Africans. The word Aryan comes from the Sanskrit word *arya*, which means noble or distinguished.

