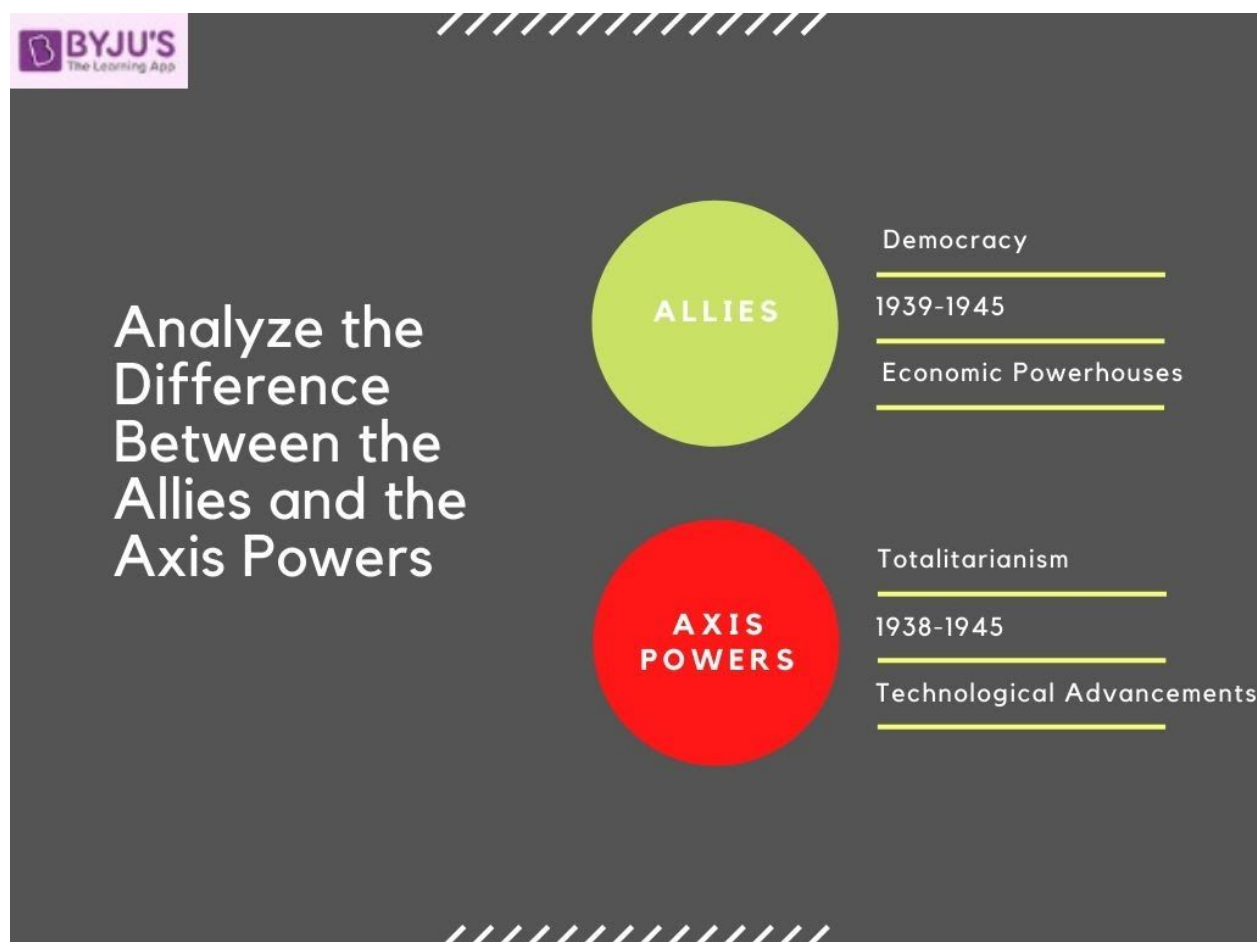


Difference Between Allied and Axis Powers

With 70 to 85 million casualties, World War 2 was and remains the deadliest conflict known to humankind. It was a global war lasting from 1939 to 1945 involving almost all the nations of the world eventually forming two opposing military alliances: The Allies and the Axis Powers

The Allies of World War 2 were the countries that fought against the Axis powers during the conflict.

The Axis powers were the nations that fought in World War 2 against the Allies.



Both had diverging agendas and ideologies that set them apart from each other. The points of divergence will be discussed at length in this article within the context of the IAS Exam

Differences between the Allies and Axis Power	
Allies	Axis Power
The origins of Allies stemmed from the wartime alliances made in World War 1. It was also made up of the original members of the defunct League of Nations	The Axis developed through the diplomatic efforts of a resurgent Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy and Imperial Japan. A pact was made between the three to secure their own imperial interests in their respective spheres of influences.
The Allies initially consisted of European Nations with the exception of Germany, Italy and Russia. Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Sweden were neutral. Russia (Soviet Union) and the USA would join later in 1941.	The Axis consisted of Germany, Italy and Japan. But after the German blitzkrieg campaigns of 1939-1940, they were joined by countries occupied directly by them or governments that supported the Axis such as Bulgaria, Romania, Finland and Norway
The Allied camp would be led by US President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet Premier Josef Stalin	The Axis camp was led by German <i>Fuhrer</i> Adolf Hitler, Italian Dictator Benito Mussolini and Japanese <i>Shōwa</i> Emperor Hirohito (Although military affairs were led helmed by General Tojo Hideki)
The governments of the Allied nation were democratic and liberal in their nature and approach.	The Axis powers were authoritarian regimes led by powerful dictators who championed different forms of fascism, authoritarianism and militarism
The main goal of the Allies was to end the conflict and liberate nations under occupation by the Axis powers	The primary goal of the Axis powers was territorial expansion at the cost of its neighbours and defending civilization from communism.
The wartime GDP (Gross Domestic Product) of the Allies was \$1798 billion out of which \$1094 billion was of the United States	The wartime GDP of the axis was \$911 billion at its height in 1941

<p>The Allied population (excluding the Soviet Union and the United States, which later joined the Allies) was 689.7 million in 1938</p>	<p>The Axis population in 1938 was 258.9 million.</p>
<p>Initially, the Soviet Union refused to join either party that resulted in non-aggression pact signed between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. The pact was broken upon Germany launching an invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941 prompting the USSR to join the Allies</p>	<p>Nominally the Axis powers were supposed to be enemies of Russia but Japan had signed a neutrality pact of its own with the USSR following the disastrous battle of Kalkin Gol in 1938. It did not violate the pact until 1945</p>
<p>Due to the shortage of troops in the initial phase of the war, the Allies developed a volunteer programme that allowed idealistic civilians from around the world to join the Allied Armies with no restriction of a geographic border.</p>	<p>The Axis forcefully conscripted (sometimes it varied from country to country) the populations it into its own armies or used them as forced labour to drive its war industries</p>
<p>Upon the end of World War 2, the victorious Allies would announce the formation of the United Nations.</p> <p>The 5 victorious nations (USA, France, United Kingdom, Soviet Union and China) would later become the 5 permanent members of the United Nations Security Council</p>	<p>The Axis powers would go on to be defeated by the Allies. Italy would be the first to surrender on September 8, 1943, with the new Government declaring war on its former pact members after the death of Benito Mussolini that same year.</p> <p>Germany Surrendered on May 7th, 1945.</p> <p>After dropping atomic bombs on the twin cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Imperial Japan formally surrendered to the Allies on September 2nd, 1945</p>

