





## **HOLODOMOR: STALIN'S GENOCIDAL FAMINE OF 1932-1933**

### **DEATH TOLL: AT LEAST 4 MILLION UKRAINIANS**

*Holodomor (death by hunger, in Ukrainian) is the starvation of millions of Ukrainians in 1932–33 as a result of Soviet policies*



- ▶ In Stalin's plan, rapid industrialization was supposed to propel the USSR into modernity.
- ▶ Collectivization of agriculture was enforced to feed the growing urban population and to purchase factory equipment from abroad.
- ▶ Ukrainian peasants had a strong tradition of private farming and resisted collectivization, posing a threat to the Soviet state.

#### **FALL 1932 - SUMMER 1933**

Ukrainian peasants were given impossibly high quotas for the amount of grain their villages were required to contribute to the Soviet state.

→ Because these quotas couldn't be fulfilled, special teams were sent in to search homes and confiscate all produce, including planting seeds, as "fines" for unrealistically high quotas.

→ The Ukrainian countryside was cut off and became what Stalin called a "fortress." Starving farmers were prohibited from leaving their villages to search for food. Stealing a few stalks of wheat from the collective field was punished by death.



