

HISTORY & POLITICAL EDUCATION

S.4 WORK

Chapter 5: The struggle and liberation of South Africa.

5.1 The Apartheid policy in South Africa

L.O: By the end of the chapter, learners will be able to;

1. **Know the life of people in South Africa before the mineral discovery.**

Before the discovery of minerals in South Africa, there were two races that is the whites and blacks.

- The whites included the British at the Cape and Natal and the Boers who were in Transvaal and Orange Free State.
- Comparatively, the Africans were better off than the whites as shown below:

✓ **The Africans**

- **Economically**, before the mineral discovery, the Africans were predominantly cultivators and they grew crops like maize, beans and vegetables for home consumption.
- They also kept animals like sheep, goats and cattle.
- They carried out local trade as well as with the Europeans and barter system was the medium of exchange.
- They raided their neighbours for cattle and food to strengthen their economy.
- Land was owned communally but the chiefs had control over it.
- They carried out iron smelting and made iron tools like hoes on a small scale.
- Some carried out hunting for their survival.
- They also carried out fishing from the surrounding rivers like River Tugela, River Vaal and the Fish River.
- They had some industries but these were mainly agro - based.
- **Politically**, the Africans had a centralized system of administration e.g. the Ndebele, Zulu and the Swazi. Therefore, they were stronger than most of the white communities outside the Cape.
- **Militarily**, though Africans were armed locally, they were better than the Boers.
- **Socially**, the African communities were more united behind their leaders compared to the Boers who were divided along religious and family lines.
- Africans lived with stable families and marriages. Men lived with their wives and children.
- Africans had an independent culture, own code of dressing, language and other ways of life.
- The level of education was low for both Boers and Africans.
- There was limited inter marriages because either parties avoided contact with one another.



The Whites

- ▶ The Boers were much poorer in the interior before the discovery of minerals.
- ▶ The Boers depended on primitive pastoralism and kept animals like cattle, goats and sheep for domestic use.
- ▶ The Boers owned land on an individual basis.
- ▶ The Boers controlled Transvaal and Orange Free State and they normally suffered from African opposition.
- ▶ Although they traded with the Africans, no major profits were got because of their racist attitude towards the Africans.

The whites or Europeans had low levels of technology i.e. no machines and scientific methods of farming.

- ▶ There was poor transport and communication network between Natal and the Cape and between Transvaal and Natal i.e. the Boers used wagons or chariots as the major means of transport before the mineral discovery.
- ▶ However, the discovery of minerals changed the political, social and economic situation in South Africa.

Describe the situation in South Africa before the discovery of minerals.

What were the main features of the economy of South Africa before the discovery of minerals?

2. Understand the concept of mineral discovery

THE MINERAL DISCOVERY AND MINING IN SOUTH AFRICA 1867 – 1886

- ▶ The term mineral revolution is used to refer to the discovery and exploitation of minerals from 1867-1884 or it refers to the political, social and economic changes that came with the discovery of minerals in South Africa.
- ▶ The first major discovery was of Diamonds in **1867** at Kimberly between River Vaal and River Orange.
- ▶ This was followed by the discovery of Gold at Witwatersrand around **1886** in Transvaal.
- ▶ Later on other minerals like Coal, Iron, copper, Manganese, Uranium, etc. ore were also discovered in South Africa.

IMPACT OF THE MINERAL DISCOVERY ON THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA.

ON AFRICANS

- ▶ The discovery of minerals brought many effects on the Africans which were positive and negative, political, social and economic.
- ▶ Africans got jobs in the mines, industries and agriculture that sprung up around the mining areas which improved the standards of living.
- ▶ African nationalism increased as Africans in the mines came together to fight for their freedom.
- ▶ It led to the formation of political parties to fight for African rights in the mines e.g.

the South African Native Congress formed in 1912 which became the African National Congress (ANC).

- African agriculture was boosted as they got market to sell their agricultural products.
- Africans got guns using the money they got from the mineral wealth although they were of poor quality.
- There was rural-urban migration as Africans looked for jobs in towns around the mining areas like Kimberley, Pretoria and Durban.
- Africans became migrant workers as they left their families to go and work on contract in towns and mines.
- African families broke up as men over stayed away from their families working in the mines as migrant workers.
- Africans lost land where minerals were discovered and they were displaced into reserves and dirty towns like Soweto.
- Africans suffered the poor conditions in slums like congestion and diseases.
- Africans suffered from the high costs of living in towns and they became criminals in the slums.
- Africans were discriminated by the whites in employment as they were only left to offer unskilled labour.
- Africans were relegated to second class citizens as the whites emerged superior in South Africa.
- It laid ground for the rise of apartheid in South Africa in 1910 when the whites joined hands to discriminate against Africans in all spheres.
- African agriculture declined as many of them moved to towns to look for better jobs in mines.
- Africans suffered from famine due to neglect of agriculture with people moving to towns for better jobs.
- Some Africans working in the mines lost their lives in mining accidents leading to depopulation.
- Africans who moved to towns and mining areas lost their cultures and adopted western cultures like dressing.
- Some Africans adopted bad European acts like prostitution, smoking, drinking and gambling.
- African rulers lost their political powers as their subjects were instead respecting the whites who had authority.
- Some African states like Basuto and Swaziland were annexed by the whites leading to loss of independence.
- Africans lost support of the British who abandoned them in favour of the Boers.
- African societies attempted to resist white take over but were defeated hence decline of their military power.
- African conflicts with whites increased leading to wars like the war of guns in 1880.

EFFECTS ON WHITES



- The discovery increased Boer nationalism and they became more proud and arrogant
- It forced the Boers to unite against the British in order to protect their mineral wealth
- It led to the rise of powerful Boer leaders like **Paul Kruger** and **Thomas Burghers** who came up to guard the mineral wealth and Boer territory.
- The Boers became richer and wealthier than before the discovery of the minerals and their standards of living increased.
- The Boers started getting international recognition due to control of the mineral wealth.
- The Boers were put into an industrial revolution as many manufacturing and agro-processing industries were set up in the mining areas.
- Boer states emerged from being poor to being wealthy due to mineral discovery.
- The Boers of Transvaal began taxing heavily the rich gold mining companies like the De Beers consolidated company to raise revenue.
- It led to specialization among Boer republics with Natal taking on agriculture yet Orange Free State and Transvaal were for mining and industry.
- The Boers got employment opportunities in mines and industries.
- The Boers became politically strong since they bought better guns that strengthened their military power.
- The Boers began attacking neighbouring African societies as well as the British whom they fought in Anglo-Boer war 1 of 1880-81 and Jameson raid of 1895.
- The Boer communication network improved with many telephone lines, telegrams among others.
- The Boers took on commercial agriculture which improved their economic status further.
- The transport network in the Boer republics was improved with roads, bridges and railway lines built like Transvaal railway of 1891.
- The whites became controllers of South African economy replacing the Africans.
- Foreign exchange earnings of the Boers increased due to increased exports of diamond and gold.
- Social infrastructures were improved in the Boer republics like schools.
- Banks also came up like Orient and Standard Chartered bank in South Africa.
- Bad practices like theft, prostitution and alcoholism increased in the Boer republics.
- The Boer farms experienced shortage of labour as Africans ran to work in the mines where they anticipated better jobs.
- It led to the loss of independence by the Boers to the British who annexed Transvaal in 1877.
- It increased British interest in the interior and they started to defend the interests of the Uitlanders.
- The British invested a lot of capital in South Africa like Cecil Rhodes who set up the British South African company to carry out mining.
- Towns sprung up in the Boer republics such as Kimberly and Vereeniging.
- International trade was promoted between the Boer republics of Transvaal and

Orange Free State with the outside world.

- ▶ Land became expensive in the Boer republics around the mines since it was highly demanded for agriculture and industry.
- ▶ The Boers rejected the British federation plan as they did not want to share their mineral wealth with the British.

POLITICAL EFFECTS OF THE MINERAL DISCOVERY IN SOUTH AFRICA

- ▶ It changed the balance of power in South Africa for example, among the British, the Boers and the Africans i.e. the whites became politically and militarily stronger than the Africans.
- ▶ It led to the colonization of the African states like Swaziland, Botswana, Lesotho and Griqualand West by the British.
- ▶ The African rights were restricted. For example, the Africans lost their voting rights.
- ▶ It increased African nationalism as the Africans in the mines came together to fight for their freedom and independence. This led to the formation of political parties like the South African Native Congress in 1912 that later became the **African National Congress (ANC)**.
- ▶ The African rulers became powerless because they lost their political powers i.e. Africans stopped respecting their local leaders since they had no authority.
- ▶ The military power of the Africans was completely destroyed. It is true that Africans acquired guns but they were of poor quality as compared to those of the Whites.
- ▶ It increased conflicts between the Africans and whites, thus leading to wars like the

Bambata rebellion of 1906.

- ▶ The Africans were no longer depending on the British for protection as it was before i.e. the British stopped protecting the Africans against the Boer mistreatment.▶ The enmity between the African and the whites worsened as the whites became richer than the Africans.
- ▶ The discovery gave the whites political and military advantage over the Africans i.e. they became stronger than the Africans.
- ▶ It increased the enmity between the Boers and the British since each of them wanted to control the mineralized areas in South Africa.
- ▶ The Boers started getting international recognition from major powers like Germany. This was because the minerals had been discovered in the Boer areas like Transvaal.
- ▶ It increased Boer nationalism and the desire to defend their independence especially from the British.
- ▶ It led to the rise of a new generation of Boer leaders like President **Paul Kruger** of Transvaal and President **Thomas Burghers** of Orange Free State to promote the Boer interests.
- ▶ It increased the British desire to spread her imperialism in the mineralized areas.
- ▶ The British policy of following and surrounding of the Boer controlled territories increased after the discovery of minerals.
- ▶ It increased the British desire for a political federation or union of South Africa championed by men like Lord Carnarvon, Cecil Rhodes among others.

- The discovery led to the downfall of **President Pretorius** of Orange Free State who was succeeded by **President Thomas Burghers** whom the Boers thought could withstand pressure from the British.
- The discovery of minerals resulted into the British annexation of the Boer Republics like Transvaal in 1877 thinking that all areas in South Africa had minerals.
- They led a delegation or team to London to demand for freedom and independence. However, the British rejected their demand and therefore the Boers returned home empty handed.
- The discovery forced Boers to adopt a military solution against the British in 1880 - 1881 and this resulted into the First Anglo-Boer war.
- This war ended with the signing of the **Pretoria Convention or treaty of 1881**.
- The discovery of Gold discovery at Witwatersrand in **1884** in Transvaal attracted more foreigners into Transvaal who came to be branded by the Boers as Uitlanders.
- It resulted into the unsuccessful **Jameson raid in 1895** organized by Dr. Jameson and Cecil Rhodes which worsened the hatred between the two white parties.
- The discovery of minerals also led to the **Second Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902** in which the Boers were defeated by the British.
- The Second Anglo-Boer War ended with the signing of a treaty between the Boers and British in the city of **Vereeniging on 31st May 1902** narrowed the gap between the two white races.
- On **31st May, 1910**, the **South African Union** was formed which ended the mineral competition between the two white communities.

ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE MINERAL DISCOVERY IN SOUTH AFRICA

- The Boers became richer and wealthier than before the discovery of minerals.
- The Boers enjoyed improved standards of living after the discovery of minerals.
- The capital investment of the Boers also increased because of the increased wealth from the minerals.
- Commercial Agriculture was developed, hence improving on the economic status of the Boers further.
- It led to the development of transport networks in the Boer Republics like roads, bridges and railway lines. For example, there was the **Delagoa-Transvaal Railway of 1887** as well as the **Natal -Transvaal Railway of 1891**.
- The Boer communication network also improved as many telephone lines and telegrams were built.
- New ports were built like Port Elizabeth and many steamer ships were established on Rivers which facilitated improved the transport network.
- The social infrastructures also improved. For example, schools and hospitals were set up using the money from the minerals.
- Banking facilities were also set up in South Africa after the discovery of minerals for example the Orient and Standard Banks.
- It emanated into the growth of towns like Pretoria, Johannesburg and Vereeniging in South Africa.
- It led to the development of international trade between the whites in South Africa and outside countries which increased foreign exchange earnings for the Boers.
- There was shortage of labour on the Boer farms as the Africans ran to work in the

mines.

- The Boers got better employment opportunities in the mines and industries.
- The Boers were forced to unite with the British so as to protect their mineral wealth from the Africans.
- It led to the establishment of many industries in the Boer republics like Transvaal to process the minerals thus putting an industrial revolution in South Africa.
- The Anglo – Boer wars led to the destruction of property like farms, homes and businesses.
- It led to the coming of the British investors to South Africa like Cecil Rhodes who acquired a lot of wealth from the minerals.
- The British got skilled jobs in the mines and industries, hence improving their standards of living.
- The Africans became poor after losing control of their economy and mineral resources to the whites
- The Africans also got jobs in the mines and industries, hence improving on their standards of living.
- The Boers lost land for example near Griqualand to the British.

SOCIAL EFFECTS OF THE MINERAL DISCOVERY IN SOUTH AFRICA

- There was population pressure around the mining centres which led to land conflicts.
- The British abandoned their policy of supporting the Africans in favour of the Boers who were considered more powerful and better friends than the Africans.
- Some Boers lost lives in the mine accidents and the Anglo-Boer wars.
- Bad practices like theft, prostitution among others increased in the Boer republics among the poor Boers.
- The Africans started working for money and therefore mineral discovery introduced a cash economy in South Africa hence improving the standards of living.
- The Africans who got jobs in the mines were able to send their children to schools. This led to the emergence of a new class of African elites like Mandela, Albert Luthuli and Walter Sisulu among others who struggled for African freedom in South Africa.
- The local markets benefited some Africans to a small scale. For example, they got where to sell their agricultural produce which promoted Agriculture.
- It led to rural-urban migration as many people especially Africans moved to towns to look for jobs.
- It led to the development of a **migrant labour system** in South Africa.
- It led to the breaking up of African families as the men overstayed away from their families while working in the mines.
- It led to displacement of the Africans who were forced to live in reserves.
- It led to the development of dirty towns especially slums that surrounded the mines like Soweto. These were characterized by lack of good social facilities, congestion

and poor living conditions.

- ▶ The Africans also suffered from various European diseases like cancer, thus causing a lot of misery and suffering to them.
- ▶ The crime rate in the shanty towns like Soweto was also high due to the high cost of living in such towns especially among the Africans.
- ▶ The Africans were discriminated by the whites in employment. For example, they were stopped from skilled work and were only supposed to offer unskilled, overworked and were paid low wages.
- ▶ There was enslavement and forced labour on the Africans and therefore, they were mistreated by the whites in the mines and industries.
- ▶ The white superiority over the Africans was confirmed. The Africans thus became second class citizens in South Africa and laid a foundation for the Apartheid policy in South Africa.
- ▶ Agriculture declined among the Africans societies as they rushed for better jobs in the mines, thus leading to famine.
- ▶ There was loss of cultures and traditional practices as many Africans adopted the European cultures especially those who went to the towns to look for jobs.
- ▶ Marriage among the Africans came to be postponed as people looked for money.
- ▶ Marriage also tended to be monogamous due to the high cost of living in the towns.
- ▶ The tribal differences among the Africans also disappeared for those who moved to towns since they came to live and work together.
- ▶ The African women in the towns acquired a high status as they got chance to interact with the rich white men.

3. Understand the meaning of the term apartheid

Apartheid was an **Afrikaner** or Boer word meaning separateness or apartness of races or people.

- ▶ The policy was mainly developed out of the **Boer's racial prejudice** and the belief that they were a superior race.
- ▶ It was a policy of discrimination practiced by the Whites over non-whites in South Africa.
- ▶ It was started by the Boers since their arrival at the cape in 1647.
- ▶ The policy was built over a long period of time and it was the Boer's favourable political policy.
- ▶ The policy was designed and forwarded by the Afrikaner University professor and it was supported by the laws.
- ▶ It was officially started by Dr Daniel Malan who was the Prime Minister of South Africa.
- ▶ The policy gave the whites an upper hand in the running of South Africa's affairs.
- ▶ It involved creation of separate homelands known as **Bantustans** for the natives of South Africa.

FACTORS THAT LED TO THE INTRODUCTION OF APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA IN 1948

- ▶ The growth of the Boer or **Afrikaner** nationalism in South Africa led to the establishment of Apartheid in South Africa.
- ▶ The teachings of the Dutch Reformed Church that they were God's chosen race led to the establishment of Apartheid in South Africa.
- ▶ The strong rise of African nationalism in South Africa after World War II threatened the Boers hence apartheid.
- ▶ The low levels of education on the side of the Africans and other non-whites paved way for the establishment of Apartheid.
- ▶ The rise of Dr Daniel Malan to power in 1948 led to the establishment of Apartheid in South Africa.
- ▶ The need to suffocate the rights and freedoms of the Indians and the coloureds living in South Africa led to the introduction of the policy.
- ▶ The whites wanted to promote White domination and supremacy in South Africa.
- ▶ The Whites wanted to weaken African rebellions which were a threat to white domination of South Africa.
- ▶ The need to make the whites and non-whites to develop separately was another consideration for the apartheid policy.
- ▶ The whites wanted to remove Africans from South African National politics.
- ▶ The whites were drove by the desire to deny Africans access to good social facilities
e.g. schools, hospitals and entertainment centres.
- ▶ It was introduced to create easy and cheap labour of Africans for the whites.
- ▶ The whites were influenced by the theory of Darwinism that stated that the superior races should dominate the inferior ones.
- ▶ The whites wanted to create the market for the outdated European goods.
- ▶ It was part of the divide and rule policy aimed at weakening the Africans.
- ▶ The need to deny African ownership of minerals and other economic resources in South Africa led to the apartheid policy.
- ▶ The whites were influenced by Italian "**fascism**" and Germany "**Nazism**" that had promoted the domination of the Germans (Aryan race) and the Italians.
- ▶ The misinterpretation of the Bible about Noah's sons that Ham who was cursed represented the Africans and the blessed Shem represented the whites influenced its introduction.
- ▶ The rise of Dr Daniel Malan to power who believed in white supremacy led to its introduction.

EFFECTS OF THE APARTHEID POLICY ON THE AFRICANS

- ▶ Africans were denied independence by the whites.
- ▶ It led to violent protests by the Africans which led to the death of many people. For example, in 1960 at Sharpeville sixty two (62) died and over 220 died during Clement Kadali's strikes.

- Africans were lowered to a status of being second class citizens in South Africa.
- It led to the displacement of Africans from their fertile land into Bantustans.
- It led to the creation of Bantustans e.g. Transkei, Venda, Lebowa and Kwazulu which became special homelands for Africans.
- It also led to establishment of slums for Africans e.g. Sharpeville, Soweto and Langa.
- Africans were denied economic opportunities e.g. jobs in the civil service and ownership of mining area.
- It resulted into restriction of African movement as they had to carry pass books.
- It resulted into African protests and rebellions against apartheid e.g. Sharpeville demonstration of 1960 and Soweto uprising of 1976-1977.
- Africans lost their lives during the uprisings against the whites.
- Apartheid policy led to increased exploitation of African resources e.g. minerals and fertile soils.
- It led to imprisonment of African leaders like Nelson Mandela and Robert Sobukwe for opposing apartheid.
- It resulted into the formation of political parties by Africans e.g. **African National Congress (ANC)** in 1912 and **Pan-African congress** in 1959 to oppose apartheid.
- It increased the level of illiteracy among the Africans since they were given poor schools and teachers.
- It led to formation of trade unions to oppose the economic exploitation of the whites.
- Africans were denied political participation in South African politics.
- Africans became the suppliers of cheap labour to the whites.
- It created hatred and enmity between the whites and Africans.
- Africans became poor and poorer due to apartheid.

4. Know how apartheid was exercised in the different sectors

How was Apartheid practiced in South Africa between 1948 and 1994?

- Apartheid was applied or practiced through establishing a number of Laws or Acts.
- It was practiced in the fields of Politics, Education, Land, Employment and other Social aspects.

POLITICS

- The Africans were removed from the common voter's register by the Native Act of 1936.
- The Africans in the Cape Province were to elect three white representatives in the House of Assembly on a separate voter's register.
- The Africans throughout South Africa were to elect four Europeans to represent them in the Senate.



- The coloured people were also removed from the common voter's register and were put on a separate one.
- The Africans who tried to resist racial discrimination were arrested and imprisoned like Nelson Mandela, Albert Luthuli and Robert Sobukwe.
- The African political parties like the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan African Congress (PAC) were banned from operation.
- Any publication like Newspapers suspected for supporting the African nationalists was banned.
- Later African representation in the South African parliament was abolished.
- The whites passed an Act that authorized local magistrates to ban any gathering of two or more people for forty eight hours.
- African political organizations were stopped from receiving financial assistance from abroad.
- There was continuous arrest of people without fair trial.
- It was illegal for the Africans to complain and report about the prison conditions and for the prisoners to communicate with anyone.

EDUCATION

- The Bantu Education Act of 1953 and the Extension of Universities Education Act of 1959 defined the education to be offered to the Africans.
- By these Acts, the Africans and coloureds had to go to separate schools from those of the whites.
- The Africans were given inferior type of education to keep them in an inferior position in society.
- Academic and professional training like banking was not given to the Africans.
- The Africans were mainly given agricultural lessons to equip them for survival.
- The Africans were given an inferior curriculum and examinations.
- The African education was conducted in local languages or mother languages.
- African languages and sometimes the English Language were also used to prepare them for a simple conversation with the Europeans.
- African education was removed from the missionary control and put under government control.
- The government decided who to be taught, who to teach and what to teach.
- Higher education for Africans was discouraged. They also studied local issues rather than national issues.
- The Africans were put in congested classes and given inferior teachers.
- African education was poorly funded and the teachers were poorly paid.
- There were different universities for the different races following the Extension of Universities Education Act of 1959.
- African universities were set up in rural areas like Fort Hare University for the Xhosa, Ugowo University for the Zulu, the Sotho in Turf loop, the coloureds in Belle-Ville and the Indians in West Ville University.



- ▶ The white universities were in Natal, Cape Town and Witwatersrand.

EMPLOYMENT

- ▶ There was enslavement of the Africans and making them a source of cheap labour.
- ▶ Skilled employment was reserved for the Europeans while the heavy and unskilled work for the Africans like chopping of wood, digging in the mines and drawing water.
- ▶ The Africans were paid low or no wages for their heavy work done.
- ▶ The **Mines and Workers" Act of 1911** denied Africans employment as skilled workers in the mines.
- ▶ The Africans were not to belong to any Trade Union. For example, the Industrial **Conciliation Act of 1937** stopped the Africans from forming Trade Unions.
- ▶ The workers were excluded from organized consultation with the employers.
- ▶ African workers in towns were put in dirty African townships like Sharpeville, Vereeniging and Soweto
- ▶ The whites were the supervisors of the Africans at work.

AS REGARDS LAND

- ▶ Land was divided into two categories i.e. the Native and non-native land by the Land Act of 1913.
- ▶ Only 13% of the land was given to the Africans (Natives) and 87% belonged to the whites.
- ▶ Separate homes were created for the Africans. These were known as the Bantustans and they included Transkei, Ciskei, Gazankulu and Kwazulu - Natal.
- ▶ The African chiefs were given power over local issues in the Bantustans.
- ▶ By 1950, all people in South Africa had to be registered as whites, coloureds and natives.
- ▶ Africans were forbidden to live outside their reserves or Bantustans.
- ▶ The Africans were only allowed to live away from their reserves when working for the Europeans.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

- ▶ Social laws were passed that segregated Africans in social activities and contacts.
- ▶ Marriage between the Africans and whites was not allowed by the **Mixed Marriages Act of 1949**.
- ▶ Physical love between whites and non-white men and women was also stopped by the **Immorality Act of 1950**.
- ▶ Roads and beaches were marked in administrative way i.e. "whites only" or "non-whites only"



- ▶ Africans enjoyed separate social services e.g. hospitals, roads and railways from the whites.

THE USE OF PASS SYSTEM

- ▶ All people had to possess an identity card on which their race was written.
- ▶ Free movement of Africans was restricted by the pass laws.
- ▶ Every African of 15 years and above, whether male or female had to carry a passbook which contained all the permits and registrations like tax receipt and certificate of employment.
- ▶ Police officers could demand any of the permits and registrations at all times.
- ▶ Africans had to first get permission from their local labour office before seeking for employment in the urban centres.
- ▶ The contracted workers in white areas were not supposed to live with their wives and children.
- ▶ The Africans who were not employed in the white occupied areas were only allowed to stay for three hours.
- ▶ The Africans had to get a permit to enter an urban area if the visit was to last for over 72 hours.
- ▶ It was illegal for the Africans to live in the towns of the whites.
- ▶ Even the coloureds and Asians who had shops and property in the white occupied areas were prohibited from using them.
- ▶ The Africans were not to share social services like health, roads, railways, schools with the whites.

5. Understand the strategies used by Africans to fight against apartheid rule

THE REACTION/RESPONSE TOWARDS THE APARTHEID POLICY

How did the Africans respond to Apartheid?

- ▶ When Apartheid was introduced in 1948, it generated response both within South Africa and abroad.

Internally,

- ▶ Africans did not welcome apartheid when it was introduced and they opposed it.
- ▶ The majority of Africans reacted negatively against apartheid.
- ▶ The response of the Africans towards Apartheid was in different forms, at first they used peaceful and later non-violent means to oppose it as noted below;
- ▶ The Blacks formed mass political parties like the **African National Congress** in 1912 and **Pan-African Congress (PAC)** formed in 1959 by **Robert Sobukwe** to fight the practice.
- ▶ There was industrial action in form of strikes by the Blacks aimed at weakening the economy of the Apartheid regime in South Africa.
- ▶ The Africans organized demonstrations to capture international attention. For



example, there was the **Sharpeville demonstration** of 1960 as well as the **Soweto demonstration** of 1976.

- ▶ They formed sabotaged groups like Umkhonto Wesiziwe (spear of nation) and Poqo to attack government places like beaches, parks etc. to express their dislike to the regime.
- ▶ Newspapers and magazines were written by Africans to oppose Apartheid e.g. **"Mine Boy"** by Peter Abrahams, **"No Easy walk to Freedom"** by Nelson Mandela.
- ▶ The South African artistes also composed anti-Apartheid albums which mobilized the masses. For example, Lucky Dube, Chaka-Chaka and Brenda Fassie.
- ▶ They co-operated with non-whites like the Indians and the coloureds to oppose Apartheid.
- ▶ They mobilized funds from Donors to facilitate their anti-Apartheid struggle.
- ▶ Africans provoked police to arrest them so as to win International sympathy like in the Sharpeville demonstrations of 1960.
- ▶ The African National Congress (ANC) declared a day of National mourning to remember the Sharpeville massacres of 1960 and the Soweto uprising of 1976.
- ▶ The African students formed organizations to oppose Apartheid e.g. The National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) and the Black Consciousness Movement (BCM).
- ▶ African youth formed organizations to oppose Apartheid e.g. The South African Youth Congress.
- ▶ The African workers formed secret organizations to oppose mistreatment like the Congress of South African Union.
- ▶ They looked for assistance from some fellow African states like Egypt, Libya, Tanzania and Uganda. They even opened up training grounds in the above countries.
- ▶ Africans boycotted the consumption of European goods to paralyse the White man's economy in South Africa.
- ▶ African women formed organizations e.g. Federation of African Women in 1954 and the Federation of Transvaal Women of 1960 to oppose Apartheid.
- ▶ Some responded by demanding for the release of the political prisoners like Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and Robert Sobukwe.
- ▶ The South African nationalists co-operated with the communist countries like China and USSR. This helped them to get military support from the above countries.
- ▶ The Anglican Church also rose up against the Apartheid government e.g. **Bishop Desmond Tutu** was against this policy in the 1980s.

Externally,

- ▶ The UNO intervened and opposed to racial segregation in South Africa.
- ▶ The OAU also intervened in the struggle against Apartheid in South Africa. In 1974,



it formed the South African Liberation Committee with its Headquarters in Dar-Es Salaam.

► The Southern African countries formed the **Southern African Development Coordination Council (SADCC)** in 1979 to weaken Apartheid.

► The Blacks in USA under the spirit of Pan-Africanism put pressure on the President

Jimmy Carter to stop the American multi-companies from investing in South Africa.

► The Communist countries like USSR and China provided moral, financial and military assistance to the Africans in order to stop the capitalist advance into South Africa.

► Some African countries provided sanctuaries and embassies to the South African nationalists e.g. Egypt, Libya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola and Tanzania among others.

► These countries also provided financial and military support and they included Egypt,

Libya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola and Tanzania among others.

► The International Olympic Committee also banned South Africa from participating in

all the Olympic Games in order to isolate her through sports.

PROBLEMS/OBSTACLES TO THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN SOUTH AFRICA

What problems did the Nationalists face in the struggle against Apartheid in South Africa?

► The struggle against the Apartheid policy ended in 1994 with the attainment of freedom in South Africa.

► The struggle took long to be completed because the Africans faced a number of obstacles.

► The problems to South Africa's liberation struggle worsened with the establishment

of the **1910 Act of Union** and went on up to **1994** when South Africa achieved independence.

► The poor education system given to the Africans was an obstacle i.e. low quality education and taught in their local languages.

► The banning of African political parties by the Apartheid regime was a major obstacle. For example, in 1960 the ANC and PAC were banned.

► The Nationalists were militarily weak to fight and overthrow the Apartheid regime.

► African struggle was weakened by the arrest, exiling and imprisonment of their leaders like Nelson Mandela and Robert Sobukwe.

► The disunity and fighting within the anti-Apartheid groups delayed the struggle. The

Africans were divided along tribal and ideological lines.

► The assassination of the anti-Apartheid leaders like Steve Biko in prison in 1977 as well as Chris Hani was another factor.

► The "divide and rule policy" that was introduced in South Africa by the whites also left the African communities divided.



- ▶ The role of **Chief Buthelezi**, the leader of the **Inkatha Freedom Movement** promoted tribal nationalism of the Zulu. This delayed the liberation on the entire South Africa.
- ▶ The Apartheid government had a strong spy network that enabled it to gather information about the operation of the Africans.
- ▶ The support from USA and Canada to the Apartheid government also worked against African efforts towards independence. For example, they supported the Apartheid government in terms of arms and finance or money.
- ▶ The establishment of strict Apartheid Laws or Acts delayed the struggle for freedom i.e. the laws were very oppressive.
- ▶ The establishment of a strong aggressive police known as the **South African Police** was a major obstacle. For example, it used tear gas and guns to disperse the demonstrators.
- ▶ The establishment of the Bantustans i.e. separate homes for Africans delayed the struggle
- ▶ The delayed Independence of South Africa's neighbouring countries led to the survival of the Apartheid regime in South Africa.
- ▶ The Cold War politics on the African continent delayed South Africa's struggle for freedom as they made Britain and USA to support the whites.
- ▶ The weakness of the United Nations Organization (UNO) delayed South Africa's struggle for freedom.
- ▶ The existence of the conservative white leaders in South Africa who strongly believed in racism like Daniel Malan, John Vorster, Louis Botha and Dr Verwoerd delayed the liberation struggle.
- ▶ The military strength of the Apartheid regime also worked against the struggle.
- ▶ The use of non – violent methods in the initial stages of the struggle was a major factor.
- ▶ The rampant poverty and economic backwardness of the Africans led to the survival of the Apartheid regime in South Africa.
- ▶ Africans also lacked good leadership since most leaders had been imprisoned and others were not trained in warfare.
- ▶ The weakness of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) delayed the struggle for freedom in South Africa. For example, it was militarily weak.
- ▶ The collaboration of some African countries with the Apartheid regime delayed the struggle. For example, Lesotho, Swaziland and Malawi.

6. Understand the internal and external factors leading to the liberation of south Africa from apartheid

Explain the factors that were responsible for the liberation of South Africa by 1994.

- ▶ The adoption of the military approach led to the defeat of the Apartheid regime.



- The harsh Apartheid laws made the Africans more determined to liberate themselves.
- The Independence of the neighbouring countries like Angola and Mozambique in 1975, Zimbabwe in 1980 and Namibia in 1990 inspired the nationalists in South Africa to fight hard for their Independence.
- UNO encouraged its member countries to stop relating with South Africa.
- The collapse of the Triumvirate was another factor that led to the struggle for freedom in South Africa.
- The role of the mass media. The newspapers as well as television stations and radios were used to expose the evils of the Apartheid regime which eventually weakened the government.
- The role of Robert Sobukwe also led to the liberation of South Africa. For example, he formed a political party known as the Pan-African Congress in 1959.
- The contribution of Nelson Mandela led the formation of the African National Congress (ANC) which struggled for freedom in South Africa.
- The support from the communist countries like China and USSR led to the defeat of the Apartheid regime.
- The role of the African liberation movements and their military wings like PAC with POQO led to the liberation struggle.
- The end of Cold War politics in 1991 favoured the struggle for Independence in South Africa.
- The rise of Fredrick De Clerk as the **Umkhonto Wesizwe** President of the South African Apartheid regime in 1989 was vital in the struggle for freedom in South Africa.
- The role of the frontline states like Angola, Mozambique, Zambia and Tanzania was vital. For example, they offered military bases to the South African fighters.
- The Common Wealth Countries led to the liberation of South Africa. For example, South Africa was banned from being a member of the Common Wealth Organization due to its Apartheid policy.
- The role of the Anglican Church under Archbishop Desmond Tutu led to the end of Apartheid as he preached exposing its dangers.
- The role of the white liberals in South Africa led to the defeat of the Apartheid regime.
- The role of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) led to the defeat of Apartheid.

THE ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU)

- The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was formed in 1963 in Adis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- By this time, Africans were divided along traditional lines, religions and political groups like Casablanca and Monrovia.
- Casablanca had Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Morocco and Egypt.



- Monrovia consisted of Liberia, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Senegal, Togo, Dahomey, Nigeria, Upper Volta, DRC, Central African Republic, Ethiopia and Liberia.
- It was formed on the advice of Emperor Heille Sellasie of Ethiopia.

Some of the objectives/aims for its formation include the following;

- It was formed to promote the solidarity and unity of all African states.
- To defend the independence of all African states.
- To eradicate all forms of colonialism or neo-colonialism from the continent.
- To defend the territorial integrity of all African states.
- To promote international co-operation in respect of requirements of the United Nations Charter.
- To promote the respect of human rights all over the continent.
- To spear head economic development all over the continent as a check against neo-colonialism.
- To fight against the policy of apartheid that had sprung the African continent.
- To demand for the release of political prisoners like Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu etc.

THE ROLE PLAYED BY OAU IN THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

What was the role of OAU in the liberation of South Africa?

- It played a major role in the liberation of South Africa as noted below;
- It recognized political parties in South Africa like ANC and PAC which gave the Africans morale to fight against the Apartheid regime.
- It put pressure on the European countries like France and Britain to stop supporting the racist government.
- It established a Liberation Committee in 1974 based in Dar-es-salaam, Tanzania which looked for military and financial assistance to the Blacks.
- It formed the **Frontline states** that were very instrumental in the liberation of South Africa.
- It imposed economic sanctions of the South African government which weakened her economic stand by 1994. Its member states gave asylum to the South Africans who were persecuted by the Apartheid regime e.g. **Oliver Tambo** was hosted by Zambia while many others were hosted in Uganda, Libya and Egypt etc.
- OAU member states trained the South African rebels who later launched attacks against the Apartheid regime.
- OAU member states gave scholarships to the South Africans who had been expelled from the White man's schools by the Apartheid regime.
- OAU put pressure on the South African government to change the harsh Apartheid laws.
- It demanded for the release of the political prisoners like Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and Oliver Thambo among others.
- It co-operated with the United Nations Organization in the struggle against Apartheid by appealing for moral and material support.
- The OAU member states contributed money to support the struggle for independence in South Africa.



- It isolated all countries that dealt with South Africa especially in Africa like Malawi under Kamuzu Banda.
- The OAU member states that were formerly under Britain put pressure on the Commonwealth to expel South Africa from this organization.
- It condemned the abuse of human rights in South Africa by the Apartheid regime.
- OAU prohibited the movement of their citizens into South Africa by issuing pass ports with the words **"All countries except south Africa."**
- It put pressure on President De"clerk to end Apartheid which he finally accepted in 1994, thus leading to the liberation of South Africa.

THE ROLE OF THE FRONTLINE STATES IN THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

What contribution did the Frontline states make towards the liberation struggle in South Africa?

- The Frontline states were independent African states which have a geographical proximity with South Africa.
- They included Tanzania, Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- These states played a big role as noted below;
- They provided asylum to political refugees from South Africa. For example **Oliver Thambo** was hosted in Zambia.
- They offered education facilities to the young South Africans who had fled in their country due to the harsh Apartheid laws.
- They imposed a **trade embargo** on South Africa which weakened the economic stand of the Apartheid regime, hence leading to its collapse in 1994.
- They offered training bases to the South African liberation movements like the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan African Congress (PAC).
- They put excessive pressure on De"Clerk"s government to introduce political reforms in South Africa.
- They formed the **South African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC)** in 1979 which weakened the economic stand of South Africa.
- They sought and welcomed the support and co-operation of other nationalists and world bodies like the United Nations Organization (UNO).
- The independence of the Front line states like Tanganyika in 1961 Zambia in 1964 etc. inspired South African nationalists to struggle for theirs.
- They helped to exchange intelligence information with the South African freedom fighters leading to the liberation of South Africa.

THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION (UNO) IN THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

What contribution did the United Nations Organisation states make towards the liberation struggle in South Africa?

- The United Nations Organization (UNO) was formed in **October 1945** after World War II at San Francisco, USA.
- It replaced the defunct League of Nations that had failed to keep world peace. It had its headquarters in New York.
- As a peace loving in the world, the UNO was anti-Apartheid in South Africa.



- Therefore it played a major role in the liberation of South Africa as noted below;
- It provided a platform to the Africans both in South Africa and beyond to condemn the Apartheid regime in South Africa.
- It ended diplomatic relations with South Africa in 1961 due its unfair Apartheid laws.
- It set up a special committee against Apartheid in 1962 which looked for international support which helped to liberate South Africa.
- It influenced the expulsion of South Africa from all international sporting activities like the World Cup as well as the Olympic Games.
- It adopted the international Convention or Treaty on eliminating all forms of racial discrimination in 1965.
- In 1970, South Africa was excluded from the UNO General Assembly.
- It set up a Trust Fund for South Africa's publicity to fight Apartheid.
- It recognized the two liberation movements in South Africa i.e. the ANC and PAC. This gave Africans morale to fight against the Apartheid regime.
- It condemned the indiscriminate killings of innocent civilians during the Soweto demonstration of 1976.
- It approved and financed conferences that were organized to lay strategies for the liberation of South Africa. For example, it financed the 1967 conference in Zambia.
- It demanded for the release of political prisoners. Nelson Mandela was released in 1990 which greatly contributed to the liberation of South Africa.
- It collaborated with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in the struggle against Apartheid. For example, they offered financial assistance to the freedom fighters.
- It imposed economic sanctions on South Africa in 1962 that weakened the economic stand of the Apartheid regime.
- It imposed an **arms embargo** on South Africa and called upon its member countries not to sell arms to the Apartheid regime.
- The UNO mediated talks between the Apartheid government and the armed groups like ANC which finally led to the collapsed of the Apartheid.
- It sent observer teams to monitor elections for majority rule in 1994. As a result, the blacks became victorious under Nelson Mandela.
- This finally marked the end of Apartheid rule in South Africa.

7. Know areas in south Africa where Bantustans camps were located

THE BANTUSTANS POLICY IN SOUTH AFRICA

- Bantustans were isolated homelands for the blacks in South Africa created by the whites during the period of apartheid.
- They were semi-independent political units set up for Africans in which they were to be under African leaders.
- They were introduced by Dr Verwoerd in January 1959.

➤ Over 10 Bantustans were created and they were Tanskei, Ciskei, Kwazulu, Gazankulu, Venda, Lebowa, Basotwoqwoquo, Boputha, Ndebele among others.

REASONS FOR THE FORMATION OF THE BANTUSTANS

Why were the Bantustans created?

- They were created to separate the white race from the non-white races in South Africa.
- They were created to promote separate development of Africans and the whites since the two would be staying separately.
- They were to ensure that the whites enslave Africans in South Africa.
- The whites wanted to isolate Africans such that they benefit alone in the control of South Africa.
- The whites wanted to create labour reservoirs where to draw cheap African labour for their plantations and mines.
- They were created to weaken African nationalism so that Africans do not raise against white rule.
- They wanted to ensure that only the whites own fertile land and mineral resources in South Africa.
- The whites wanted to avoid competition for jobs with Africans in South Africa.
- They were created to isolate Africans from the main stream of South African politics since they would be ruling themselves in the Bantustans.
- They wanted to deny Africans voting rights in South Africa by isolating them from white controlled areas.
- The whites wanted to ensure social segregation of the non- whites by giving them inferior education in the Bantustans.
- The whites wanted these homes to act as a dumping ground for out-dated items and unproductive labour from the white areas.
- The policy was to disarm Africans completely so that political control remains in the hands of the whites.
- It was to blind fold/deceive the white world that apartheid was good and Africans were ruling themselves.
- It was also to divide social services for Africans to get poor while the whites would get better quality social services.
- It was to preserve the racial purity of the whites since they would mix freely with the Africans.

EFFECTS OF THE BANTUSTANS

What were the consequences of the creation of Bantustans on Africans?

What effects did the Bantustans have on the Africans and Whites?

- ▶ Africans were enslaved and continued to be sole states until 1994.
- ▶ The Bantustans led to weakening of Africans militarily and could not easily fight the whites.
- ▶ They created disunity as Africans killed each other.
- ▶ They reduced African political power since it was limited in the Bantustans.
- ▶ Africans lost their land to the whites especially those who stayed in fertile soils.
- ▶ Africans suffered from bad conditions in their homelands hence leading to low standards of living.
- ▶ Africans were discriminated against social, political and economic affairs in South Africa.
- ▶ The Bantustans increased racial segregation of the whites against Africans.
- ▶ Many Africans were killed during the resistance towards the policy of Bantustans.
- ▶ Africans were arrested, tortured and imprisoned as a result of the policy.
- ▶ It led to loss of African independence due to denial of political rights in South Africa.
- ▶ The policy of Bantustans led to disarmament of Africans to reduce African resistance.
- ▶ The policy laid foundations for uprisings in South Africa like Sharpeville massacre in 1960 and Soweto uprising in 1976.
- ▶ It led to over population in the Bantustans hence increasing pressure on land.
- ▶ The policy led to the rise of African urbanization/Black towns e.g. Soweto.
- ▶ It led to formation of political parties e.g. African National Congress, Pan African Congress.
- ▶ It contributed to the rise of African nationalism.
- ▶ It led to decline in agriculture due to loss of productive labour hence decline in food supply.
- ▶ It contributed to unemployment on the side of Africans.

8. Appreciate the impact of the liberation of south Africa from apartheid

- ▶ Led to the independence of south Africa
- ▶ Mandela rose to power as the first black president in 1994
- ▶ There was a reconciliation government created with Mandela as the President and Fredrick De' Clerk as the first deputy president.
- ▶ Black dignity was restored in south Africa.
- ▶ There was restoration of democracy in which south Africans voted for their leaders.
- ▶ Mandela and other political prisoners were released
- ▶ Among others

5.2: KEY PERSONALITIES IN THE STRUGGLE AND LIBERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Meaning of nationalism (let learners define)

Liberation movements in south Africa (let learners suggest)

Reasons for the rise of nationalism in south Africa (let learners suggest)

Challenges to the liberation struggle to end apartheid rule in south Africa. (let learners give suggestions)

NELSON MANDELA

What was the contribution of Nelson Mandela in the struggle for the liberation of South Africa?

- ▶ Nelson Mandela was born in **Umata** in Transkei on **18th July 1918**.
- ▶ His father **Mgadla Mandela** was the principal councillor to the paramount chief of the **Thembu** tribe known as **David Dalindyebo**.
- ▶ The many cases that came before the chief's court influenced him to become a lawyer.
- ▶ He received his primary education at a local mission school.
- ▶ His secondary education was at a Wesleyan mission school in **Herold** town.
- ▶ He later joined Fort Hare University College for a Bachelor of Arts Degree.
- ▶ While there, he was a member of the students' representative council.
- ▶ When he participated in a students' protest, he was suspended.
- ▶ He went to Johannesburg where he completed his Bachelor of Arts Degree by correspondence. In Johannesburg, he started studying for his Bachelor of Laws Degree.
- ▶ In 1942, he entered politics by joining the African National Congress (ANC).
- ▶ At the peak of World War II, Mandela and a small group of youths in ANC met under the leadership of Lembedde.
- ▶ The other members included William Nkomo, Walter Sisulu and Oliver Tambo.
- ▶ They started with sixty (60) members while residing in the Rand.
- ▶ The aim of these 60 youths was to turn ANC into a mass political party with support from the peasants, workers and the uneducated of both the rural and urban areas.
- ▶ Mandela and these youths emphasized radical nationalism and thus formed the African National Congress Youth League (ANCYL).
- ▶ Mandela's hard work led to his election as Secretary General of the Youth League in 1947.
- ▶ He was behind the programme of action passed in the 1949 Annual Conference of the ANC which emphasized boycott, strike, civil disobedience and non-cooperation. This was after the victory of the Boer Nationalist Party under Dr. Malan in 1948.
- ▶ In 1950, he joined the National Executive Committee of ANC.
- ▶ He played an important role in issuing a policy document demanding for equal land distribution, trade union rights, education and culture.
- ▶ In 1952, he was elected national volunteer in chief of the ANC Defiance Campaigns against the unfair Apartheid laws. He therefore travelled all over the country organizing resistance to the discriminatory laws.



- As a result of the defiance campaigns, he was charged and convicted of breaking the Suppression of Communism Act and given a suspended prison sentence.
- After the defiance campaigns, he was banned from attending any gathering and confined to Johannesburg for six months.
- It was during this confinement that he concentrated on his law profession and was fully admitted to the profession.
- Earlier the ANC had honoured him by electing him to the presidency of both the very influential ANCYL and the Transvaal region of ANC at the end of 1952.
- The above honour enabled him to become the Deputy President of ANC.
- While in his law practice, he helped many people with land problems and those breaking the various Apartheid laws.
- Due to the legal assistance he extended to the poor and helpless Africans, the Apartheid regime chased him away from the town to an area where his clients could not easily reach him.
- In 1952, he was at the head of formulating a plan to ensure that the ANC remained in contact with the people through organizing public meetings.
- He strongly opposed the Bantu Education Act of 1953.
- In the late 1950s, he turned his attention towards the exploitation of labour, the press laws, the Bantustans policy and the Universities Act of 1959. It was such activities that made him in the 1950s a victim of torture by the Apartheid regime.
- After the Sharpeville demonstration of 1960, Mandela who was still on trial for treason was detained.
- In 1961, the treason trial failed and ANC was banned from operation.
- From then onwards, Mandela became the most important figure in ANC leadership since his underground branches became very important in the face of this ban.
- In March 1961, 1,400 delegates met in Pietmaritzburg to map out a future for South Africa and Mandela was the key note speaker.
- At the conference, he warned the Apartheid regime that unless it involved all in people in the politics of their country, he was going to organize a general strike which he later did.
- He therefore moved all over the country disguising himself on many occasions to avoid being arrested.
- It was this successful dodging of police arrest that got him the name the **Black Pimpernel**.
- In 1961, his friends formed the Spear of the Nation (**Umkhonto Wesizwe**) an armed wing of the ANC of which Nelson Mandela was the commander in chief.
- In 1962, he left the country secretly and attended military training in Algeria and many conferences like the Pan African Congress of 1963 in Ethiopia.
- While out of the country, he arranged for the training of the ANC freedom fighters in friendly countries like Tanganyika.



- When he returned to south Africa, he was charged for unlawfully leaving the country and inciting strikes and therefore he was given five years imprisonment.
- While serving his sentence, he was charged in the Rivonia trial with sabotage.
- He was sentenced for life imprisonment on the notorious Robben Island prison off the Cape Town coast.
- While in prison, he received offers of freedom in exchange of his relaxation against the Apartheid regime but he refused.
- On 11th February 1990, he was released and assumed the Presidency of the ANC in 1991 at the National Conference. When he was released, he suspended the armed struggle.
- In 1993, he accepted the noble prize on behalf of all the South Africans.
- On 10th May 1994, he led the ANC into power following his victory in the first multiracial elections in South Africa.
- In June 1999, he retired from public life and **he died on 2nd December 2013.**

ALBERT WALTER SISULU 1912 – 2003

What contribution did Walter Sisulu make towards the struggle for the freedom in South Africa?

- He was born in 1912 in the district of Transkei to a white father though his mother was black.
- He received his education from a certain Anglican mission school and thereafter resorted to gold mining though later he became a manager of an estate agency.
- In 1944 together with Oliver Tambo and Nelson Mandela, he played a big role in forming the ANC Youth League. This was after 1940 when Walter Sisulu joined the ANC and he became an active member of the party.
- Later he was elected as a treasurer of the youth league and became one of its key leaders.
- In 1949, he assumed the bigger post of Secretary General of the ANC.
- His anti-Apartheid activities made him an enemy of the government and from 1956 he started facing arrests from the government.
- In 1956 he was charged with treason but was acquitted in 1961.
- After the Sharpeville Massacre of 1960 when the government banned the ANC, Walter Sisulu and others were repeatedly arrested and tortured by the authorities.
- In 1963, because of the persecution of the nationalists by the government, Walter Sisulu went underground.
- In 1963 Walter Sisulu was arrested and was like others charged in the infamous Rivonia trial.
- In order to please the international community, Walter Sisulu was released together with seven other nationalists in October 1989.
- When ANC was allowed to operate again, Walter Sisulu resumed his leadership of ANC.
- In 1991, he was elected deputy president of African National Congress.
- He died in 2003 after playing a great role in the liberation struggle.

STEVE BIKO 1947 – 1977

Explain the contribution of Steve Biko towards the struggle for the independence of South Africa.

- He was born in 1947 in **King Williams Town** present day **Eastern Cape Province**.
- He was one of the militant nationalists who spearheaded many anti-apartheid demonstrations.
- He became very prominent from the late 1960s until 1977 when he became a national hero after being killed in prison.
- As a young man, Steve Biko enrolled with the University of Natal in 1966 to study medicine.
- But in 1972, he was expelled from the university because of his involvement in anti-apartheid activities.
- Steve Biko founded the **South African Students" Organisation (SASO)** in 1969 as well as the **Black Conscious Movement (BCM)** in the 1970s.
- He recruited many students into the BCM, leading to a wave of demonstrations by school children and adults.
- By 1976, such student demonstrations had led to the death of some children.
- He was important in opposing the introduction of Afrikaans in the Soweto schools since could lead to the dangerous assimilation of the Blacks.
- Biko became the **president** of the of the African students" organization, a position which enabled him to form other Black groups opposed to Apartheid.
- The Apartheid regime at first did not see the BCM and other African organizations as a threat to it, but their anti-Apartheid activities started attracting punitive measures from the 1970s.
- Consequently, by 1973 Steve Biko had been banned from many public activities and arrested several times.
- In August 1977, he was arrested again after many serious students" demonstrations which had caused more death.
- He was imprisoned by the white police men who severely beat him up leading to his death in police custody.

OLIVER TAMBO 1917 – 1993

Describe the contribution of Oliver Tambo in the struggle for the independence of South Africa.

- Oliver Tambo was born in 1917 in Transkei.
- He was educated in mission schools from 1924-1937 and Fort Hare University from 1938-1941 where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree.
- He joined the ANC in 1944. Together with Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu, they founded the ANC Youth League.
- At this time, most of his political activities against the whites were conducted from Johannesburg, where he was a teacher at St. Peters" Secondary School.
- In 1955, Oliver Tambo became the Secretary General of the ANC and later in 1958, the ANC Deputy President to Albert Lithuli.
- In 1956, he was arrested over charges of treason but only to be released in 1957,

due to lack of enough evidence.

- ▶ After the Sharpeville massacre of March 1960, the ANC was declared as an illegal organization and therefore, Oliver Tambo fled to exile in Zambia.
- ▶ While in Zambia, Oliver Tambo became acting President of the ANC after the death of Albert Lithuli and later became full President.
- ▶ He published some anti-Apartheid books like **“Oliver Tambo Speaks: Preparing for Power”**, which was published in 1988.
- ▶ In 1989, he suffered a stroke but continued to hold the ANC presidency till Mandela’s release in early 1990.
- ▶ In 1993, Oliver Tambo passed away.

ROBERT MONGALISO SOBUKWE 1924- 1978

What was the contribution of Robert Sobukwe in the liberation struggle of South African Freedom?

- ▶ Robert Sobukwe was born in 1924.
- ▶ He was educated at Lovedale Mission School and Fort Hare University College.
- ▶ While studying at Fort Hare University College, he became politically active as the Secretary-General of the ANC Youth League.
- ▶ He later taught at the University of Witwatersrand as a language teacher.
- ▶ He later resigned his teaching post to edit a newspaper known as **“The Africanist”** for two years. This paper was against the Apartheid government.
- ▶ In 1959, he broke away from the ANC and formed the **Pan-African Congress (PAC)** which organized a number of demonstrations against the Pass Laws.
- ▶ On the day of the Sharpeville massacres, March 21, 1960, Robert Sobukwe was arrested and sentenced to three years in jail.
- ▶ This was followed by six years in prison on Robben Island.
- ▶ After his release in 1969, he was subjected to the Banning Order which placed him under house arrest for life.
- ▶ Despite this, he managed to qualify as a lawyer in 1975 and practiced law until his death in 1978