

OPTION F: APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA 1960-1994

- The nature of the Apartheid system including:
 - Political, economic, social and demographic issues in South Africa in 1960
 - Apartheid: Ideology, policy and practice
 - Impact of Apartheid on rural and urban communities

Social	Political
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blacks had no parliamentary representation in S.A • Racial segregation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schools - Public transport - Hospitals - Entertainment • Regulated movement of non-whites using a passbook system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decolonisation became the driving force of change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Left White S.A open to attack by perceived 'immature' Black Communist nations to the North • Majority African nations achieved independence in the 1950s and 1960s • Both the United Nations & the Organisation of African Unity demanded that S.A ends its racial policies (BUT DOES NOTHING) • British PM Harold Macmillan – 'Winds of Change' Speech (1960) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Made clear his belief that segregation and racism was ending (does not actually end)
Economic	Demographic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economy in 1960s boomed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Due to mining & minerals e.g. Johannesburg, De Beers Diamond Comp. - No. of people employed in Gold mining doubled - Relied on cheap Black labour • Gov used wealth to invest in national roads, dams and power plants & purchase military equipment • Afrikaners earned twice as much as English speaking South Africans • Whites lived a comfortable life with skilled jobs, maids and gardeners • Black population lived in poverty despite being the backbone of the economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paid less than half the earnings of a White worker - Work was labour intensive and unskilled - Only in the 1970s were non-Whites able to organise better wages through trade unions due to the relaxation of Apartheid laws 	<p>1904</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whites – 22% • Blacks – 67.5% • Asian – 2.4% • Coloured – 8.6% <p>1960</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whites – 19% • Blacks – 68% • Asian – 3% • Coloured – 9%

APARTHEID IDEOLOGY

- Ideological foundation encompassed the idea that different races needed to be separated for their own mutual benefit
- Main ideas based on the philosophy of scientific racism (Social Darwinism)
- Afrikaners believed that it was impossible, impracticable and ungodly for the different cultures & races to live as one
- Key function was to keep the white race 'pure'
- S.A political, economic and social policies were directly contrary to the decolonisation and desegregation rapidly taking place in the rest of the world
- S.A received some criticism from other countries
 - Britain & U.S (Explained in International Factors DP)

- The **Rivonia Trial** + the **life sentences** of the ANC leaders (8) broke the leadership of MK and the spirit of the resistance
 - During the trial, **Mandela** was highly significant in **recharging the spirit** of resistance
- **Mandela**, a trained and articulate **lawyer**, used the trial as a platform to **respond to the oppression by white society**
 - Made a **historical address** to the white members of court:
 - He explained the decision to **adopt violent strategies** – justified its use

“Four forms of violence are possible. There is **sabotage**, there is **guerrilla warfare**, there is **terrorism** and there is **open revolution**. We chose to adopt the first method and to exhaust it before taking any other decision. In the light of our political background the choice was a logical one... *Sabotage did not involve loss of life, and it offered the best hope for future race relations...*”

- Aim was to halt the economy in order for the government to consider integrating black members into society

IMPRISONMENT ON ROBBEN ISLAND

- **Rivonia Trial** generated international reaction → so the **death penalty** was **withdrawn** by the SA govt.
- The accused were **found guilty** + **sentenced to life in prison on Robben Island**, a small desolate island off Cape Town
- The courage of Mandela to defy white law under the threat of death elevated the ‘struggle’ of black South Africans and the ANC
 - Mandela gained a high international profile and became the focus point and international figurehead in anti-Apartheid protests
 - While imprisoned, **Mandela wrote**:
 - **Letters** to his wife + children
 - **Defiant letters** to prison authorities + govt. Ministers
 - **Condolences** to the families of fallen freedom fighters
 - Explorations of African + colonial **history** – always seeking to learn, eventually earning an advanced law degree

FREE MANDELA CAMPAIGN

- **1980:** ANC leader, **Oliver Tambo**, introduced the ‘Free Mandela’ campaign → fueled **international outcry** against apartheid
- **Goal of the Anti-Apartheid Movement:** Transforming Mandela from a largely unknown jailed **dissident** to the international spearhead of anti-apartheid resistance
- Mandela gained a **high international profile** → became **international focus, figurehead/symbol** of anti-apartheid protests, **liberation struggle** and **reignited** the spirit of the resistance
- **1985:** **Albertina Sisulu**, wife of Walter Sisulu, and one of the campaign’s presidents said: Mandela’s release was now the “**number one political priority**” to end apartheid + create a “**non-racial, democratic**” constitutional system
 - “We have come to **demand** that **Nelson Mandela be released** and that no conditions be attached to his release ... Mandela is our leader. **He is a man known to the people and chosen by the people.** As long as the government won’t release Mandela, there will be no peace in this country.”

MANDELA’S ACTIVITIES IN THE ANC + LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- Through his leadership positions, **Mandela** helped **revitalise** the org. + **oppose the apartheid policies** of the ruling NP
- **1944:** **Mandela** joins ANC, befriends Walter **Sisulu**, Oliver **Tambo** and becomes a **leader** of its **Youth League**
 - **1949: ANC Youth League's Program of Action** is launched – ANC becomes a **militant org.** as the program called upon members to embark on mass action (*non-violent* resistance); **civil disobedience, strikes, boycotts**
- **1952:** **Mandela** supported **Sisulu** in entering the **Congress Alliance** with Indian, Communist + other anti-apartheid groups – **multi-racial** group committed to **protesting the apartheid**
- **1952–54:** **Mandela** led the **Defiance Campaign** (*main Congress Alliance campaign*) – travelled across SA **enlisting volunteers** to defy apartheid laws
 - He was the **public spokesperson** + **leader** of the DC – most influential leader of the liberation struggle
 - Transformed the ANC into a **mass-based** + **militant org.** → **largest liberation movement**

- End of Apartheid, including:
 - Political, economic and social factors contributing to the end of Apartheid
 - International factors contributing to the end of Apartheid
 - Problems facing the National Party and the ANC in the transition to democracy in South Africa

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC & SOCIAL FACTORS LEADING TO THE END OF APARTHEID

Failure of Total Strategy

- Total strategy did not stop anti-Apartheid groups such as the ANC, PAC and UDF from protesting for political and social equality for all races
- Poverty for black people continued in townships
- Unemployment rose due to sanctions and education and housing for of a third world standard
- *'One man, one vote or this country is out' (P.W. Botha, 1984)*
- Botha's state of emergency failed to make S.A safe for whites
 - Many whites suffered the loss of liberties under censorship and rigid laws of the military state
 - ANC in exile continued to attack shopping centres and post offices
 - Many whites became disillusioned with Apartheid
- Coloureds and Indians became openly defiant of the white state

The United Democratic Front (Banned by Botha Gov)

- January 1983, Allan Boesak (President of Church), called for a 'united front' of resistance groups and other anti-apartheid groups to fight for freedom
- UDF formed on the 20th of August 1983
- Major goal for UDF was to fight for the introduction of a Tricameral Parliament
- Also advocated for rent boycotts, school protests and worker stayaways
- UDF was highly successful because it was an umbrella organisation representing a vast number of people and organisations with different ideologies
 - United in the desire to bring down the government
 - From 565 member organisations represented at the launch in 1983, membership numbers grew close to 1000 affiliated groups
- UDF had many high profile members including Archbishop Desmond Tutu
- Despite the UDF adopting the Freedom Charter in 1987 and calling for the unbanning of the ANC and the release of its leaders, relationship between UDF, ANC and Inkatha was strained.
- UDF was not organised in organising township riots between 1984 and 1985 as it was focused on issues around the Tricameral Parliament
 - Government leaders held UDF responsible and started arresting and detaining UDF leaders
 - Most well-known instances: **Pietermaritzburg Treason Trial & Delmas Treason Trial** both in 1985
 - State claimed that UDF was committing acts of treason, but charges were eventually dropped, and sentences overturned

Township Revolts

- School boycotts continued after the 1976 uprising
 - 'Liberation before education'
- Only a small number of students in urban areas expected to complete schooling
- Some students left the country to be trained as liberation fighters
- Other students joined growing number of unemployed youth in the frontline of township resistance
- In response to the Tricameral Parliament (September 1984), protest demonstrations started in the Vaal Triangle
 - Occurred in the form of marches, stayaways and school boycotts
 - These quickly spread to black townships, often in response to increases in municipal rates and bus fees
- In March 1985, police patrols were issued with heavy ammunition leading to the death of 6 young men
- 21st March 1985, police observed that a crowd was gathering in Langa Township, and later marching towards white residential areas
 - Police opened fire, wounding 27 and killing 35 people
- Daily protests became the norm
- Trojan Horse Massacre (15th of October 1985)