

ARRIVAL OF EUROPEAN AT THE CAPE

DUTCH COLONISATION OF THE CAPE-1652

Before the European came, the cape was occupied by the Saan, Khoikhoi and the Bantu.

THE PORTUGUESE

The first European to have contact with the Cape were the Portuguese sailors. In 1497, Bartholomew Diaz had reached Algoa and Mossel bay of South Africa. In 1498, Vasco da Gama sailed around the Cape. However, the Portuguese did not occupy the Cape because they did not find gold, ivory and slaves which they were looking for. The Portuguese sailors were looking for the sea route to India and Far East to trade in silk and spices.

DUTCH PRESENCE AT THE CAPE

The Dutch gained their independence from Spain in 1572. It was after winning independence that the Dutch began to challenge the superiority of Spain and Portugal in trading activities on the Indian Ocean. They did this for two reasons:

- ✓ To take revenge against the Spanish
- ✓ To take control over of the spice trade from the Portuguese.

They become successful in taking over control of the trade and became the major distributor of spice in Europe. To counter fierce competition from the English, several Dutch merchants joined to form the United Dutch East Indian Company towards the mid of the 17th century. It is at this period that the Dutch began to arrive at the cape.

ARRIVAL OF THE DUTCH AT THE CAPE

The Dutch are the first European group to settle at the cape. In April 1652 Jan Van Riebeck led the first Dutch settlers sponsored by the Dutch East Indian Company and settled at the cape. Jan Van Riebeck and the settlers group were given the following instruction;

- ✓ To erect a fort of 70men
- ✓ To build a wooden building for sick soldiers and sailors
- ✓ To build repairing, refueling and refreshment station
- ✓ To establish a vegetable garden
- ✓ To buy animal meat from the KhoiKhoi
- ✓ To treat the indigenous people with kind



THE DUTCH SOCIETY

By 1800 the Dutch society were established at the cape doing agriculture and pastoral farming using African labour.

The Dutch society has divided into three.

A. Cape town community

This was the community of prosperous Burghers (Boers) with well-built clean shops, houses and inns.

They were all involved in trading –exporting agriculture goods and importing European goods.

They lived in European type of life with actions and activities.

They used slave labour

They spoke Cape Dutch language and mixed easily with new comers

Burghers were also politicians and controlled the government

They were not firm Christians but attended church services and donated generously.

B. Cape neighbourhood community

(E.G Cape peninsular, Stellenbosch and Graaff Reinet)

These settlers were self-reliant in agriculture

They were hospitable, hardworking and by far a stable and fairly civilized community.

They used slave labour

They were religious people and most civil servants came from this community.

C. The Pastoralists of the Interior (VEE BOERS)

These settled on the large land in the interior according to the intention of the company.

They encouraged stock farming, cattle, meat trading and wheat export.

They were nomadic hunters and pastoralists who were living in a less comfortable isolated farms.

The led a simple life in simple houses with simple clothes, limited education mainly Bible reading and family prayers.

They spoke Afrikaans language and were firm Christians

They developed frontier policy of expansion (Trek idea) and had a lot of adventure like hunting and crashing with Khoikhoi people.

THE DUTCH EAST INDIAN COMPANY (D.E.I.C)

It set up a central government and judiciary made up of landlords.

The company made laws that all settlers followed at the cape.

General administration was helped by the council of six judges and field colonels.

The Dutch language was made official at the cape.

Social services like the market, health and education was limited.

The fluctuating Dutch currency was used.

The Dutch reformed was the official church for all settlers

Main duties

- i. To discipline slaves
- ii. To control boundaries

The Dutch colonialists did not like the company government because:

- a. It restricted their activities
- b. Imposed trade restriction
- c. Did not protect them against the attack from the surrounding tribes.

GENERAL PROBLEMS FACED BY SETTLER

1. The settlers lived in fear in early days due to lack of dependable knowledge of geographical conditions and economic potential of the country
2. Health and adaption
3. Lived in old tents and poorly constructed huts
4. Hostility from the Khoikhoi people
5. Economically
 - ✓ Land was limited at the cape
 - ✓ Markets for their products were limited
 - ✓ Restrictions by the company got on trade, price were kept low, crops to grow and taxations
 - ✓ Labour was limited (little)

DEVELOPMENT OF RACIAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS KHOISAN (relationship between Dutch and khoikhoi people)

The disuse of suitable labour led to the development of social superiority and distinction by the end of the 18th century.

The settlers hated manual work. This kind of manual was considered to be heaters of wood and drawers of water.

In this regard they tried to use local Khoisan people. This was not enough as Khoisan people were reluctant to work.

Thus in 1657 Jan Van Riebeck began to import slaves as far as West Africa, including Java, Ceylon, India and Madagascar.

With the coming of the slaves, Black people become majority race in South Africa.

Whites feared for their position so they introduced “white-black or master-slave” relationship to maintain their supremacy

The whites regarded themselves as masters and Christians while blacks were regarded as servants and pagans.

HOW DID THE DUTCH AFFECTED THE LOCAL PEOPLE AT THE CAPE

a) Population increase

The coming of the Dutch from Holland, French and British and others led to population increase at the cape. In turn it affected the indigenous (local) people like the Saan and Khoikhoi, because they occupied their hunting and food gathering areas.

b) Pastoralism and agriculture

The settlers also fought with the Bantu over land for agriculture and pasture e.g. the Xhosa

c) Master slave relationship

Some Dutch settlers introduced slave labour after 655 due to shortage of workers on their farms.

The bushmen (saan), the Khoikhoi (Hottentots) and the Xhosa were employed as slaves to do manual labour. Therefore a master-servant relationship developed at the Cape. Further, intermarriage developed between the local and the white settlers. This led to the emergency of the coloured society and new language Afrikaans widely spoken by the Boers.

d) Introduction of new disease

The further interaction between the indigenous people and the Dutch led to the introduction of European disease such as leprosy and small pox. Small pox killed a lot of Khoisan.

e) The interaction also led to the loss of identity by the Khoikhoi as a racial group.

f) The Khoisan also lost their land and in turn lost their freedom of movement. Their food supplies reduced as well. The Khoikhoi also lost their cattle which was grabbed by the Boers. The Khoikhoi used to exchange their cattle with brand, wine and clothes but when they refused to trade their cattle the Dutch settlers grabbed their cattle and land.

The Dutch activities forced the Saan and Khoikhoi to start hunting the animals for Dutch. A lot of Dutch settlers (Boer) were attacked by the Khoisans. The Dutch East Indian Company refused to protect the settlers from being attacked by the Khoisan. This made the settlers to form military groups and killed a lot of Khoisans. Most of them run away into Botswana and settled in the Kalahari Desert, some went and settled in Griqualand and Namaqualand and Namibia. Some were captured and forced to work as slaves and domestic servants

DUTCH RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BANTU PEOPLE

THE BOER-XHOSA WARS

In 1667, Simon Van Stel became the commander of the cape and he encouraged Dutch or Boers expansion in form of migration into the interior of South Africa. As the white population increased, there was need for more land and territorial expansion.

The friction between the Boers and the Bantu was mostly due to land ownership, as both groups needed land for agriculture and grazing. The land conflicts were mostly between the Xhosa and the Boers who were both escaping towards the grassland to the west of the Great fish river called the Zuulveld.

The Boers had a system of land ownership where one individual would have a huge piece of land which he fenced. Land ownership among the Bantu was communal. The Boer system of land ownership usually interfered with the Bantu.

Land conflicts resulted into wars of dispossession or Kaffir wars.

The First Kaffir war 1779-1793

The first Kaffir war – 1779-1781 involved a Xhosa **chief Rarabe** who led a cattle raid on Khoikhoi villages. Unfortunately, he also took some cattle

belonging to the Boers. The Boers responded by attacking some Xhosa and getting away with cattle and land. The war ended in 1981.

The Second Kaffir War 1789-1793

The second Kaffir war was as a result of the expansion of the Xhosa clans across the Great fish river towards the areas called Zuuvelde. The government official responsible for the Boers in the area Mynier prevented the Boers from driving the Xhosa away. The Boers reacted by organizing commando raids against the Xhosa villages. During the period 1792-93 wars intensified between the two groups. In May 1792, the Xhosa attacked the Boers and got away with 20,000 cattle. The Boers retaliated by attacking the Xhosa and captured 60,000 cattle.

The Third Kaffir War 1799-1820

The third Kaffir war was started by the Xhosa who took advantage of the Boers' uprising against the British. The Xhosa took this opportunity to try to drive the Boers away from the Zuuvelde. The British supported the Xhosa in this war and angered the Boers. Therefore, the contact between the Boers and other groups ended in disaster for other groups.

THE BRITISH OCCUPATION OF THE CAPE

The first British occupation of the Cape was in 1795 due to revolutionary wars started by France in Europe. In 1793 France attacked Holland and the king fled to Britain to seek protection of Dutch colonies since Britain was a major power in terms war. Britain was also happy to safe guard the sea rout to India. Hence in 1795, Britain occupied the Cape, but the first British occupation of the cape was short lived because in 1803 the cape was returned to the Dutch Batavian government.

The second British occupation of the cape was in 1806 due to Napoleonic wars. During the Napoleonic France become friends to Holland. Napoleon I tried to stop British trade with Europe. As such British decided to send a permanent force to occupy the Cape due to the following reasons;

- The cape was a useful base from which British ships can be protected on the sea route to India.
- In times of war, the cape could be used as a military naval base from where enemies' ships can be attacked.
- The British also realized that in peace times, the cape could be used as a halfway station on the way to India.

The Cape officially become the British colony in 1814 after Napoleonic wars ended at **the treaty of Paris** and British paid £6,000,000. The British also got Mauritius and Seychelles and now the sea rout to India was fully under Britain.

THE BRITISH ADMINISTRATIVE AT THE CAPE

The second British occupation of the Cape in 1806 brought about important changes. The British introduced administrative, land, legal/judicial and reforms to secure their rule. These changes or reforms also led to the Great trek by the Boers

1. LAND REFORMS OR CHANGES

The British introduced a new system of land control. They insisted that;

- I. All land owners pay annual tax or rent as it was.
- II. All land owned had to be fenced
- III. There should be legal document to prove ownership.
- IV. If a farmer decide to sell his farm or land, he had to do it by auction

The Boers who were used to free land ownership and paying no tax were angered by the changes that the government introduced about the issue. It is in this regard that we call the change in the system of land ownership as one of the causes of Great Trek.

2. NEW CURRENCY

- ✓ From 1806 the British at the Cape replaced the fluctuating Dutch currency with the stronger British pound. This angered the Dutch who had been using the Dutch currency for more than 50 years.

3. BLACK CIRCUIT COURTS

- ✓ The Black Circuit court was introduced in 1812. This was a mobile court which heard complaints and instituted justice on the basis of equality
- ✓ This court put the servant (Khoisan) and the master (Boers) on the same level before the law.
- ✓ This court become unpopular among the Boers due to the fact that most of the Khoisan servants could win the court cases. The Boers resented the equality of races that the British laws seemed to accept.
- ✓ In 1812 this court came to be called as the **Black Circuit Court** as it appealed the black over the whites.
- ✓ The reluctance by the Boers to learn English also made them to lose court cases.

4. THE 50TH ORDINANCE OF 1828

- ✓ The missionary of South Africa like Dr Philip of London missionary society (LMS) worked hard to change for the better life of people in the Cape colony.
- ✓ They preached for equality and freedom of individuals.
- ✓ These Christian missionaries influenced the British government to pass a number of laws to grant individual rights to non-whites.
- ✓ One of the most significant laws is the 50th ordinance of 1828. This ordinance was a parliament Act passed by the House of Commons in 1828. It did the following;
 - I. Granted the right of ownership to all the people at the Cape. The ordinance stated that both the indigenous and Boer settlers could own land, cattle and other forms of property

II. It gave freedom of choice and movement. This led to the pass laws to be abolished. This angered the Boers because it affected them that;

-the Boers lost privilege of superiority as equality was proclaimed

-the Boers lost cheap labour on which their economy depended.

Due to the above problems the Boers desired to find a new place where master-servant

relationship could be practiced.

5. LANGUAGE

- ✓ In 1822 the Proclamation of language Act was proclaimed under this act. In 1828 English become the official language in the cape colony in place of Dutch.
- ✓ English become the official language of the government and of laws
- ✓ The Dutch reacted sharply against this law. They looked at language as something Britain want to use to destroy their culture and people. Most of the Boers absconded from learning English and as result Dutch were forced to use Black translators in courts
- ✓ This also encouraged the Boers to move to elsewhere they would be free to follow their own culture.

6. Education system

- ✓ Education at the Cape was Anglicized by following the British Education system and introduction of English as medium of instruction in schools and in public places.
- ✓ Many Boers encouraged their children to absconded from school because they did not see the relevance of the education system

7. THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY/ EMANCIPATION ACT OF 1833

- ✓ In 1833 the British parliament passed an Emancipation Act. This was an Act which abolished slavery throughout the British Empire.
- ✓ The following year 1834, the Emancipation Act was extended to South Africa. This meant that slavery was officially abolished in the Cape.
- ✓ The Boers were officially denied of African labour and the desire to move elsewhere increased.

FRONTIER RAIDING BY THE XHOSA (FRONTIER POLICY)

The other great worry to the eastern frontier farmers (Boers) was the continuing Xhosa raids and counter raids.

The frontier problem had for a sixth time erupted into war in which crops were destroyed and herds of cattle depleted. The cause of all this was land shortage. This shortage of land was made worse in 1820s by the emergence of Zulu kingdom

The Xhosa encroachment into the empty land had begun as early as 1820 and in 1823 and 1825 troops and Commandos had been called out to drive the Xhosa away.

By 1828 large numbers of friendly Xhosa clans had been allowed to settle on what came to be the ceded territory as long as they recognized it as British land.

However, successive attempts by the British government to solve the frontier problem did not ease the dispute between the Bantu and the Boers. This failure by the British to solve the land and property disputes on the eastern frontier was one of the main reason that caused the Boers to leave the cape colony for the north by 1838.

THE GREAT TREK 1835-1838

(Sometimes known as Afrikaners Mfecane). Trek is a Dutch word means journey where goods are carried using wagons.

The **Great Trek** is defined as the mass movement of the Boers from the Cape colony into the interior of South Africa. It involved a sudden large scale movement of many Boers from the Cape colony into the interior of South Africa.

Farmers from all over the frontier districts packed their belongings into ox-wagons and drove off their animals into north – not just in search of fresh pasture but determined to establish their own states where their way of life would be free from British interference.

CAUSES OF THE GREAT TREK

The Great Trek began from 1835 onwards due to the following factors;

1. Self – centred cause – some boers left because they wanted to change in their way of life in different environment. Others were attracted by movement of their friends and relatives and others left for adventures in new lands
2. **LAND POLICY** – The new land policy introduced by the British administration at the Cape contributed in the Great trek. In the past the Boers acquired land freely but the land policy required them to pay for any piece of land they owned and fence it. This policy did not please the Boers because it was very expensive. The only better solution therefore was to leave the Cape colony into the interior.
3. **CIRCUIT COURTS** – These were mobile courts which heard and tried cases between the Khoisan servants and the Boer masters. The circuit court put the Khoisan and the Boer on the same level before the law. Most of the Boers lost their cases against their servants and this made them to be angry about these circuit court. They rejected the courts

because they deprived them of the superiority of their race. A clear example of this case was the **Slagter's Nek Rebellion of 1815**. Here a Boer called Fredrick Bezuidenhout was accused by his servant of ill-treatment and was summoned the court at Graaf Reinet. He refused and Khoikhoi soldiers under a European command were sent to arrest him. He opened fire on them and was terribly wounded in the process which led to his death. This angered many Boers and protested.

4. **ANGLICIZATION OF THE CAPE** – this refers to the introduction of English culture and British way of life into the Cape colony. In 1828 English became the sole official language in all public places such as schools.
5. **THE 50TH ORDINANCE OF 1828** – This ordinance gave nonwhites equality before the law with whites. It also gave the khoikhoi freedom to move without using passes and to change their master due to freedom of choice. This ordinance angered the Boers because they lost labour due to individual rights and freedoms granted by this ordinance.
6. **EMMANCIPATION ACT 1833** – The Boers depended on Khoikhoi and other local people for labour but in 1807 the British passed an Act to abolish slave trade. This was followed by the abolishing of slavery in 1833 by the Emancipation Act. This law abolished slavery throughout the British Empire, and it was introduced at the Cape in 1834. The Boers lost the much needed cheap labour and wage labour was introduced.
7. The Boers also made the great trek because of the stories of empty land in the interior as a result of Mfecane.

THE COURSE OF THE GREAT TREK

The trekker's movement was a large and organized one. The Boer farmers took their goods on ox-wagon and drove their animals northwards and crossed the Orange River.

In the first two years 5000 Boer trekkers had crossed the Orange River into the interior. It was a sudden and dramatic movement that surprised and shocked the British administration at the cape. The Boers trekkers were divided into three main trekking parties or groups. Leaders with military experience were chosen to lead the groups. Leaders included Louis Trigardt and Hans van Rensburg, Hendrik Potgieter and Gerrit Maritz, and Piet Retief.

LOUIS TRIGARDT AND HANS VAN RENSBURG (FIRST GROUP)

- ✓ Louis Trichardt and led the first groups to leave the Colony. There were 53 people in Trichardt's group and they crossed the Orange River in 1835 on their way to the Soutpansberg.

Louis Trichardt moved on to the area where the town of Louis Trichardt is situated today. He waited for some time for Potgieter's trek to meet up with them but eventually became impatient and moved on to Lourenco Marques (present day Maputo). By the time Trichardt reached Maputo, on 13 April 1838, many of his cattle had been killed by tsetse flies and nearly half of his group had died of malaria. They finally came back to settle in Transvaal.

Liebenberg and Erasmus

Hans van Rensburg [Liebenberg] and Erasmus also left the colony at the same time with his group of followers but his aim was to move to Mozambique. The Van Rensburg party was subsequently massacred near the Limpopo River by Mzilikazi [king of the Ndebele]

ANDRIES HENDRIK POTGIETER AND GERRIT MARITZ

- ✓ Potgieter left the Cape Colony towards the end of 1835 with 200 people.
- ✓ They also wanted to go to Lourenco Marques for trading purposes, but went toward Mzilikazi's kingdom. They were attacked by an army of 1 000 men sent by Mzilikazi at battle of Vegkop. A few of the Boer

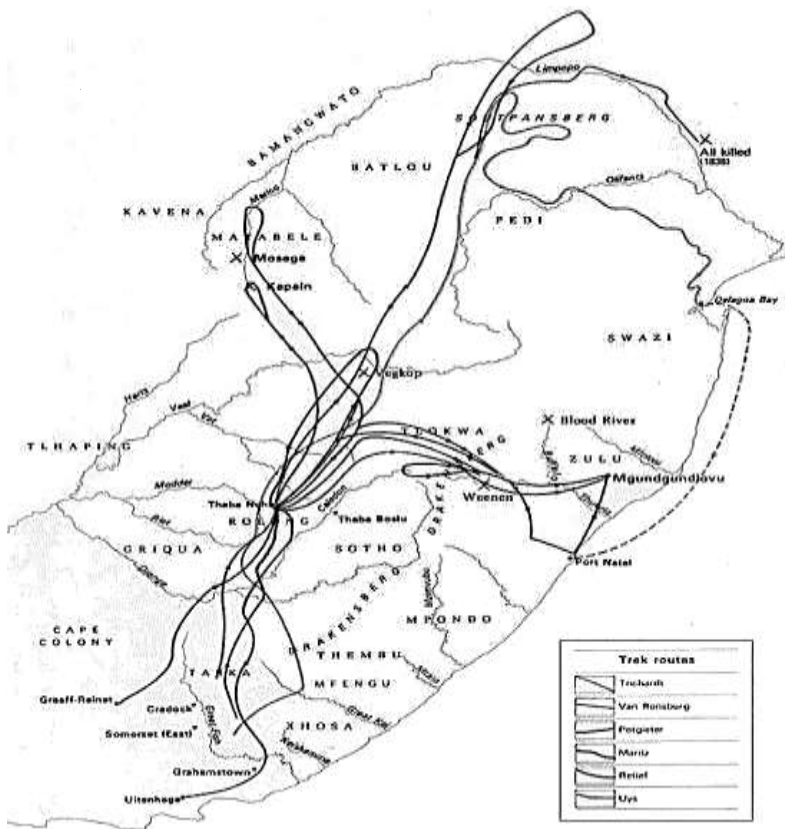
trekkers were killed and Potgieter left his trek temporarily to meet up with Louis Trichardt.

- ✓ On his return, he instructed his people to form a laager (circle of ox wagons) as a defense strategy against the black armies. Two months later, all their cattle were stolen during another attack at Vegkop.
- ✓ Moroka (chief of the Barolong) and Gerrit Maritz helped Potgieter's group to get back to Thaba Nchu.
- ✓ **Gerrit Maritz** left for Thaba Nchu with 700 people. When they arrived in November 1836, they held a mass meeting with the Boer trekkers who had already arrived.
- ✓ Maritz was elected as the president of a council of 7 members who were to look after the interests of the Voortrekkers.

PIET RETIEF

- ✓ The third group was led by Piet Retief and left the cape in March 1837.
- ✓ This group was originally part of Potgieter but branched off and crossed the Drakensberg Mountain into Natal with 400 people.
- ✓ He joined the voortrekkers now numbered 5000
- ✓ Piet Retief and his Boer Trekkers crossed the Drakensberg Mountains into Zulu land. These Boer trekkers were welcomed by Dingane the Zulu king.
- ✓ Retief wanted a negotiated agreement with Dingane the Zulu chief to occupy Natal (Zulu land). Retief was then given a task of recovering the cattle stolen by Sikonyela before he was allowed to settle. Retief agreed and accomplish the task.
- ✓ However, Retief and his men were killed by Dingane in 1838. When Retief died the leadership was taken by Pretorius. He organized his people and made a camp on the Banks of the Blood River. On the 16th December 1838, Pretorius and his commandos waged a war on the Zulu at the Battle of the Blood River. The Zulu were defeated and Dingane fled to

Swaziland. He was replaced by a new Zulu king Mpande. The Boers created Natal republic.



THE RESULTS/EFFECTS OF THE GREAT TREK

- It led to the creation of Boer republics; Orange Free State, Natal and Transvaal.
- The Boers achieved both aims: they acquired huge tracks of land and attained independence from the British.
- Great trek also led to the defeat of the well-organized bantu groups – the Ndebele under Mzilikazi were defeated and forced out of Transvaal at the Battle of Vegkop in 1838 and Dingane and the Zulu were defeated by the Boers in 1838
- It was no longer possible to separate the Bantu from the Boers and so it led to clashes between the two groups

- The Great Trek led the British to extend the boundaries of the Cape colony up to latitude 25°S by the Cape Punishment Act.
- The Great trek also led to the discovery of precious mineral – diamond was discovered in 1867 at Kimberly and gold in 1886 at Witwatersrand.
- Due to insecurity some African groups were made to seek British protection due to the great trek e.g. the Sotho under Moshoeshoe.
- The Boer and British relationship worsened due to the great trek. The British failed to stop them.

THE BOER REPUBLICS



BRITISH AND BOER RELATIONSHIP AFTER THE GREAT TREK

After the defeat of the Zulu the Boers felt comfortable and on 14 February 1840, Andries Pretorius proclaimed Natal a Boer trekker Republic, the Republic of Natal. They formed a government and Pietermaritzburg was chosen as the new capital. The Republic of Natal existed for only 5 years until the governor of the

Cape, Sir George Napier, sent Sir Harry Smith and his men to annex Natal. A struggle followed, during which the British suffered a number of casualties and lost two of their cannon. Dick King (a legend in South African history) escaped on horseback, and astonishingly, it took him only six days to reach Grahamstown. The British sent reinforcements and the Voortrekkers were forced to retreat to Pietermaritzburg. On 12 May 1843, Natal became a British colony and most of the Voortrekkers chose to return to the Free State and the Transvaal.

Britain did not recognize the independence of Transvaal, but made no attempt at annexation. The reason for its inactivity was the hostile attitude of certain black tribes towards Britain and also the fact that war was looming in Europe. On 17 January 1852, the Sand River Convention was signed between Britain and the Transvaal Republic. It was the first time that Britain had acknowledged the independence of a Boer trekker Republic

The British government was of the opinion that since the independence of Transvaal had been recognised in 1852, there was no reason why the same could not be done for the Orange Free State. When the Basotho defeated another British force in the area of Berea, Britain decided to officially recognise the Republic of the Orange Free State.

On 23 February 1854, the Bloemfontein Convention was signed and the area between the Vaal and Orange Rivers officially became the Republic of the Orange Free State.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

THE MINERAL REVOLUTION IN SOUTH AFRICA (DISCOVERY OF MINERAL)

Before discovery of minerals in South Africa economic development was slow and subsistence. The main activities that time were hunting, pastoralism,

agriculture and barter system. Technology was also not well advanced. But after 1860s the economic development became rapid mainly because of discovery of minerals like diamond and gold.

THE DISCOVERY OF DIAMOND

Diamond were discovered in 1867 near the meeting of the Hartz and the vaal rivers at Kimberly. When diamond was discovered many people came to Kimberly as diggers, especially English speaking. As a result there was need to maintain law and order in mining area. This brought about the question of ownership of diamond mines in South Africa. This resulted into a dispute among the five claimants. These are ;

1. The Boers of orange free state republic
2. The Boers of Transvaal republic
3. The Griquas under waterboer
4. The BaTlapin chief and
5. The Barolong chief

However, of the all the claimant the Orange Free State Boers had a genuine claim since prior to 1854 Bloemfontein convention her territory had extended as far as Kimberly. To solve the question of ownership a commission was set up in 1871 under Mr. Keate, the lieutenant Governor of Natal to arbitrate between them. On the evidence presented before him, he awarded the area to the Griqua under Waterboer. This became known as the Keate Arbitration award of 1871. The Orange Free State received a small area east of Vaal River. Immediately waterboer put his area under British protection. The Orange Free State was also compensated with a sum of 90,000 pounds for their loss by Britain.

DISCOVERY OF GOLD

Gold was discovered in Transvaal at Witwatersrand in 1885. Prior to the discovery there were minor discoveries of gold at Tati and Umpuli, north of Limpopo River. But the major discovery was at Witwatersrand in the deep reefs at least 160 km long and 112 km wide. There was no question of ownership over gold discovery because it was clear that it belonged to Transvaal.

During this period Transvaal was under the leadership of Paul Kruger. Paul Kruger was anti-British. He hated the British with a passion since his childhood when he took part in the great trek. Despite of this hatred for the British the Transvaal government under Paul Kruger decided to invite the British miners to come and exploit the gold in Transvaal. This was because Transvaal republic was a poverty stricken state with no capital to invest in machinery necessary to exploit the gold. The British had the capital, machinery and expertise needed to carry out large scale mining. Those British miners who came and settled in Transvaal to exploit gold were referred to as Uitlanders – a Boer word meaning foreigners. The Transvaal government benefited from the mining industry through heavy taxation on the miners.

CONSEQUENCES /EFFECTS OR IMPACT AND RESULTS OF THE DISCOVERY OF MINERALS (DIAMOND AND GOLD)

The discovery of diamond had far reaching consequences/results that changed the whole history of South Africa.

ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OR IMPACT

- a. There was economic prosperity for Kimberly, Cape and Transvaal. Transvaal was transformed from being poor to being the richest state in South Africa. Kimberly and Transvaal attracted foreign investment.

- b. Development of mining industries in Kimberly led to the development many other industries.
- c. Development of the manufacturing industry for the manufacturing of consumer goods such as cloths for the increased population in the mining area.
- d. Development of the construction industry for the construction of roads, schools, railways and houses.
- e. Areas around Kimberly also developed commercial agriculture. This was in response to high demand for food stuffs by increasing population of mining area. In relation to this the value of land also increased.
- f. Development of transport industry for movement of people and goods to and from the mining areas.
- g. Mining industries attracted a lot of capital investment from Europe and America to develop other industries and facilities that supports the mining such as banks.

SOCIAL IMPACT

The social consequences/effects can be divided to the positive and negative.

Positive include the following:-

- a. Mining industry led to labour migration for both whites and blacks in search of employment. This was the movement of people from other areas to mining areas in season of work. European came from the cape and overseas, while Africans came rural areas of south Africa and other African countries such as Zambia, Malawi Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.
- b. Increase in employment opportunities for both blacks and whites.
- c. Raised standards of living for most people.
- d. Increase in the provision of social amenities of improved quality such as schools and health facilities.

- e. Discovery of minerals also led to the process of urbanization resulting to development of towns and cities e.g Johannesburg.

Negative Impact.

- f. Overpopulation in the mining areas as a result of labour migration.
- g. Overpopulation led to unemployment. This was to the fact that the mining industry could not employ all the labour migrants. Those not employed became destitute in towns
- h. Increased social vices and crimes such as theft and prostitution, because those who could not get employed by the mines became destitutes in town and involve themselves in criminal activities such as murder and theft.
- i. Another negative result of discovery of MINERALS is Creation of Shanty compounds as a result of overpopulation. There was no proper sanitation resulting into outbreak of contagious diseases such as Cholera, dysentery and tuberculosis.
- j. Discovery of minerals also led to underdevelopment of rural areas. This is because the able bodied youth who could have developed the rural areas through agriculture migrated into urban areas to work in mines. This also led to starvation in some cases.
- k. Labour migration led to the breakup of families in the rural areas. Some people who went to seek for jobs did not return to their families.
- l. Racial segregation also worsened in South Africa due to mineral discoveries. African workers in mines over worked and had worst conditions of service and were given little wages as compared to whites.

Political Impact

- a. The Cape increased its political power as well as Transvaal.

- b. British at the Cape revived their desire to control the whole of Southern Africa. This resulted into a federation scheme by the British at the cape
- c. There was also an increase in political tension between Boers and the British due to minerals. This because British interest in the interior increased. Cecil Rhodes in particular wanted to acquire Transvaal as part of the British Empire.
- d. There was also Change in political leadership in the Transvaal following the event after discovery of minerals. There was also a growing need for nationalism to those who did not want the British to interfere in the political affairs. Rev. Thomas Bergers replaced Pretorius as president.
- e. Paul Kruger also became an influential political figure in South Africa.
- f. British interest in the interior increased. Cecil Rhodes acquired Transvaal as part of the British Empire.
- g. Discovery of gold created political tension between Paul Kruger and his government and the Uitlanders. Kruger started mistreating the uitlanders denying them citizenship and franchise. Besides Kruger also insisted that uitlander did not use English in public places. The uitlander grievances led to coup against the Transvaal government with the help of Cecil Rhodes and Dr. Starr Leander Jameson. This rebellion failed and the incident become known as the **Jameson Raid of 1895.**

FEDERATION SCHEMES OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN STATES.

Federation schemes were plans by the British colonial in South Africa to bring all South African states under one government to be controlled by the British. There were two phase of the attempts to federate South Africa states. There are: early attempts that were started by Sir George Grey in 1804 and further

attempts that were started by Lord Kimberly and continued by Lord Carnarvon after 1871 as a result of discovery of minerals in South Africa.

EARLY ATTEMPTS AT FEDERATION

The earliest attempts to federation South Africa states were stated as early as 1854 by Sir George Grey who was the British governor at the cape. However, by 1854 after the Great trek, there were three British colonial and two Boer republics, the Transvaal and the Orange Free states. Sir George Grey wanted to bring all the different white states under one British government.

He gave some reasons for federation. These were that:

- ✓ Federation could lead to security in the interior for both Africans and Boers states
- ✓ Federation would also prevent any form of conflicts in the interior

Sir George Grey also gave the disadvantage of separation. These that:

- a) Small states were unstable and vulnerable
- b) Small states were also unable to provide education and health facilities to their member because of poverty.
- c) Small states had inefficient legal systems.

However, these earlier attempts at federation failed due the fact that Boers were reluctant to loss their needy acquired independence and the British government was not ready to take responsibility.

The most important reason for the failure of early attempts at federation was the fact that all white states of South Africa had difference racial policies.

FURTHER ATTEMPTS AT FEDERATION ON AFTER 1871

After the initial attempts failed the British world for another opportunity came to introduce diamonds in 1864 and the British annexation of Griqualand. Therefore the discovery of diamonds in South Africa gave the British a new motive for the federation of the whole of southern Africa.

Between 1870 and 1874, Lord Kimberly was the British council secretary. He became interested in federating South African states because of the newly found wealth (The reason for federation of whole South Africa).

In 1874 Benjamin Disraeli became the British prime minister and he wanted to acquire a lot of colonies in South Africa. He appointed Lord Carnarvon as his colonial secretary in 1874. Lord Carnarvon was able to strongly revive the idea of federation. He gave economic reasons for federation. According to him at that time, the Cape was prosperous from the wealth of diamond mining at Kimberly, while the two Boer republics were poverty stricken and could be happy to be part of the federation and share in the economic benefits. Carnarvon also clearly stated that the British would control the federation. Despite the above stated fact the federation failed again. This was because:

- ✓ The Boers were still determined to maintain their independence because they feared that the federation with the British would lead to loss of their independence.
- ✓ The Boers became suspicious of any British plan especially after the annexation of Natal.
- ✓ All the white states still had different racial policies.
- ✓ The Cape was reluctant to share its wealth with other poor states

Due to the above reasons the federation of South African states failed. As a result of this failure, Lord Carnarvon called for a conference in London in 1875 to try and convince all the white states of South Africa. Two from Natal showed up and the federation failed again. However, the British did not give up their plans completely. They waited for another opportunity which they would reintroduce the federation scheme. The British even prepared to use force if necessary.

THE BRITISH ANNEXATION OF TRANSVAAL – 1877

After the British failed to convince the different white states of South Africa into a federation, they were willing to use force if necessary.

The British in particular advanced federation schemes in 1877 when a war broke out between the Transvaal and a Bantu group, the Ba PEDI.

This war broke out over a piece of land called Tydenberg, where minor discoveries of gold were made.

The Boer of Transvaal claimed the Tydenberg as theirs though the Bapedi controlled it.

The Boers of Transvaal were defeated and gave the British the chance they needed to take over the Transvaal.

The Boers were exhausted by the war and the Transvaal government became bankrupt and could not provide social services to its citizens.

To make the matters worse the Transvaal government had borrowed money from the cape banks and could not repay.

Sir **Theophilus shapstone** secretary of the native affair in natal was sent to Pretoria capital of Transvaal.

In January 1877, Shapstone entered Transvaal with British forces with instruction to take over the Transvaal government, dissolve the parliament and hoist the British flag.

The Boers offered little resistance to the annexation initially in fact they welcomed the British troops in the Transvaal. The reasons for this reaction were;

- a. The Boers were promised that they would be given back their independence as soon as they recover from their economic problem. As such the Boers saw the need to resist British.
- b. The Boers had been exhausted by the war with the Ba Pedi and were not in a position to resist the British military.

- c. The Boers also preferred to be ruled by the British rather than a Bantu group as they thought themselves as superior than the blacks.
- d. The Boers also welcomed the British into Transvaal because they were at that time not happy with the government which could not provide adequate social services; and taxed them heavily to raise money for a bankrupt government.

For the above stated reasons the Boers easily accepted the British annexation of Transvaal. After the annexation Paul Kruger and Boer leaders returned. However, after some time the Boers were not given back their independence as soon as they had thought, they began to resent their loss of independence. This led to the rise of **Afrikaner nationalism**.

THE RISE OF AFRIKANER NATIONALISM

The rise of Afrikaner nationalism started with the annexation of Transvaal in 1877. After the annexation the Boers were not given back their independence as soon as they were promised.

When Gladstone and his government came to power in Britain in 1880, it raised the Boers' hope of being given back their independence. But Gladstone's government did not comply with the Boers demands and continued with annexation. The Boers sent their representatives to London to negotiate for their independence.

When these negotiations failed the Boers started fighting for their independence through the spread of the Boer Afrikaner nationalism.

ORIGINS OF AFRIKANER NATIONALISM

Afrikaner nationalism started as a culture movement among the teachers and preachers in 1870. The leaders of the movement at this time included Dorothea Heine who owned a newspaper called **DC Afrikaner patriot**. This magazine promoted Afrikaner language, history, culture and religion.

Later this movement became political with political leader under Paul Kruger and Pie Jon Bert.

Afrikaner nationalism as a political group started among the landowners who wanted to fight the cape government.

By 1880 the political and culture elements of Afrikaner nationalism were combined and the movement become strong. This new movement was called Afrikaner band.

AIMS OF AFRIKANER NATIONALISM

Afrikaner nationalism aimed at;

- ✓ Maintaining and preserving Boer history, culture and language
- ✓ Fighting for and maintaining Boer independence in Transvaal.

Characteristics of this new Afrikaner nationalism included the revival of the Boer history that had been previously half forgotten. Past events were also given pride of place in resistance to British rule and the Great Trek.

This happened when the Boers trekked for their freedom

In the interior of south Africa, other events such as the 16th December that also was celebrated as national boundary.

Afrikaner nationalism contributed to the outbreak of the **first Anglo-Boer war 1880-1881.**

THE FIRST ANGLO-BOER WAR 1880-1881

The first Anglo-Boer war of 1880 and 1881 was fought between the Boers and the British.

The first Anglo-Boer war was also referred to as the war of independence, because the main grievance of the Boers was the loss of political independence and the war was fought with an aim of regaining their independence.

Long term causes of first Anglo-Boer

1. **Annexation of Transvaal 1877.** The first cause of the Anglo-Boer war was the annexation of Transvaal by the British in 1877. During government of British Prime Minister Disraeli, a promise was made to give the Boers self-government and this became a dead promise. The new Prime Minister Gladstone did not change anything. This annoyed the Boers and made them rebel against the British.
2. **The British refusal to share administrative position with the boers after the takeover of Transvaal.**
3. The Boers failure to pay back the money they borrowed also contributed to the outbreak of the war. The Boers borrowed huge sums of money and refused to pay back.
4. **British war with the Zulu people.** The British wanted to create security by crushing the threats from the BaPedi and the Zulu. However, the Zulu won the war briefly at the battle of Isandhlwana 1879. This war made the Boers to despise the British confidence in war and made the Boers revise their demands for self-government.
5. **The rise of Afrikaner nationalism.** This movement rose as a result of British abuse of Dutch culture and desire to replace the Dutch culture with English culture.
6. **Payment of tax.** The immediate cause of the first Anglo-Boer war was over payment of tax. This happened when a Boer farmer was sued for non-payment of tax and had his property confiscated by the British. About 300 Boers attacked the British in trying to get back the confiscated property of fellow Boer. This triggered the war because the British were not willing to surrender the property. Therefore, on December 8, 1880, was re-established with Paul Kruger as president.

COURSE OF THE FIRST ANGLO-BOER WAR 1880-1881.

The serious conflict began on 8th December 1880 when the Boers raised the republican flag of Transvaal.

Upon seeing the Transvaal flag the British sent troop to pull down the flag and the actual war began on 20th December 1880.

The Boers shot the first Gun shot when the British were attacked by 300 Boers who wanted to recover the property of their colleague due to failure of paying tax.

This was followed by an ambush on British troops under colonel Anstruther. His soldier and himself were severely wounded and killed

This was later followed by numerous attacks on British garrison and all British in Transvaal were besieged and the British were defeated.

The British received a reinforcement from Natal under command of General George Colley and were intercepted by a strong Boer army under Pieter Jon Bert AT Majuba hill.

Finally in February 1881, the Boers managed to humiliatingly defeat the British at Majuba hill.

About 92 British soldier died and the British were forced to accept peace. However, the Boers continued fighting until August 3 1881 when the Pretoria convention was signed.

The Pretoria Convention 3 August 1881

After the defeat of the British, Gladstone called for a conference at Pretoria, were;

- The British was read to make peace on basis of complete self-government under the British sovereignty with British at the cape.
- This conference resulted to Pretoria Convention of 1881.
- The Pretoria convention granted independence to Transvaal under the sovereignty of the British Queen.
- The Transvaal government also agreed on new boundaries in the west and east

- Swaziland was to be independent according to this agreement.
- British troops were given rights to pass through Transvaal.
- The Transvaal government promised to grant the ultlanders equal rights
- The Transvaal government also agreed to abolish slavery within boundaries.

The restoration of the republic meant a new British withdraw from the interior as just like in 1854. The Pretoria convention also led to the maintenance of Afrikaner separation.

Effects of the first Anglo-Boer war

- It marked the final defeat of the British by the Boers at Mjuba and led to the signing of the Pretoria convention to end the war
- Led to the rise of Afrikaner nationalism
- Gave back lost political independence and the republic of Transvaal
- The war also led to increased scramble for territories in the interior of South Africa by Boers.
- It led to Paul Kruger been elected president due to his contribution in fighting against the British imperialistic policy
- Worsened the bitter Boer – British relationship in south Africa
- Made boers to become more suspicious and increased their mistrust of the British. This led to outbreak of conflicts like Jameson raid of 1895
- The war also promoted unity between the Transvaal and orange free state Boers
- It also made the ultlanders be recognized and given citizenships

PAUL KRUGER AND ULTLANDER PROBLEM

Paul Kruger was born in the cape in 1825

He left the cape colony at the time of the Great Trek and old enough to remember the sorrow of Piet Retief's death

He was proud of the trekkers' triumph over Mzilikazi at the Battle of Vegkop.

His early life was full of hunting and fighting

In the first years of South African republic (Transvaal), he gained the affection and honour of his fellow Boers through his early connection with early history the trekkers.

Kruger seemed to be a typical Boer and part of veldt life that they loved.

At Majuba hill in the first Anglo-Boer war, Kruger was the automatic choice for Transvaal burgers.

He was elected president four times 1883, 1888, 1893 and 1898.

He had a very forceful personality.

His main asset was that he understood that his people wanted a strong and independent republic controlled by Afrikaners.

To the people of Transvaal, Kruger represented all that was best in the independence spirit of the Afrikaner nationalist.

Kruger played an active part as a commando leader in battles against African groups

He led resistance movements during the British annexation of the Transvaal.

THE PROBLEM OF THE ULTLANDERS

The Ultlanders were the foreign population who had entered the Transvaal to exploit the mineral of the republic.

These were mostly English speakers though a good number of them came from Germany and America

Within a few years these foreigners outnumbered the Boers.

One of the grievances of the Ultlanders was that they hoped to qualify for citizenship and elect representatives.

Paul Kruger denied the ultlanders right to vote and citizenship because he knew that this would bring down Transvaal Republic.

He marginalized the ultlanders politically, socially and economically

He taxed the ultlanders heavily. They contributed at least 90% of revenue.

JAMESON RAID 1895

This was attempt by John Cecil Rhodes and his friend Dr. Starr Jameson to overthrow the Kruger government.

The Ultlanders appealed to Cecil Rhodes and Jameson for help in their struggle for political and civil rights in the Transvaal and plan was thought overthrow Transvaal.

Cecil Rhodes had intended that the raid should support a revolt by the Ultlanders on the rand.

As time for the raid grow closer it became clear that the mining people of the rand were not enthusiastic with the plan

Colonel Frank Rhodes, Cecil Rhodes's elder brother, who was in charge of the conspiracy was not a type of person to inspire others.

Cecil Rhodes differed with the Ultlanders. Ultlanders wanted self-government in Transvaal and Cecil wanted an association with the rest of South Africa.

Jameson had to set out on 28 December, but on 22 December Rhodes canceled this plan.

But impulsive Jameson with burning desire of taking over Transvaal decided to disregard this order.

The raid began with 385 mounted men at Pitsani in Bechuanaland.

The Boer was aware of Jameson's invasion by morning of the first day.

Unfortunately Jameson and his men were surrounded by Kruger's forces within one week.

They were tried and found guilty and condemned to death but pardoned by Kruger for 25000 pounds each.

The main result of the abortive Jameson raid was that it worsened the British relationship with the Boers.

THE SECOND ANGLO-BOER WAR- 1899-1902

The second Anglo-Boer war was also known by many names such as ***the South African war***, or ***Anglo-Boer war of independence*** and ***the white man's war*** or ***the gentlemen's war***.

This was a bloody war fought between Boers and British involving African on both sides.

It is highly recognized as a very important landmark in shaping the political, social and economic history of South Africa. The main causes of this war were:

- Misunderstanding and suspicions that developed between the Boers and British since the first came into contact.
- Results of the 1st Anglo-Boer of 1880 – 1881. The British defeat at Majuba also acted as a factor in provoking another war.
- The terms of the Pretoria convention which threatened independence of Transvaal.
- The mineral revolution which created a lot of tension between the Boers and the British.
- The question of the Uitlanders did not end after the Jameson raid. Kruger became harsher on them and imposed more restriction on the Uitlanders.
- The British prevention of Transvaal expansion. The Boers were trying to prevent the imperialist British into the interior of South African.

- Results of the Jameson Raid of 1895. The abortive Jameson raid brought ill feeling but the British were still determined to take over the economic wealth of Transvaal. Jameson raid also brought embarrassment to Britain they wanted to regain reputation

COURSE OF THE WAR

The war was fought in three stages. **The 1st stage lasted from October 1899 to around January 1900.** During the initial stage Boers aimed at achieving quick victories before the arrival of more British troops from overseas. Boers attacked the British at Ladysmith to the South Natal, Kimberly and Mafikeng in the north of the Cape. Between December 1899 and January 1900 Boers defeated the British at Stormberg and Megerslotein.

The 2nd stage started after January 1900. British assembled a huge army in South Africa with reinforcements from Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The command of Lord Kitchener and Lord Roberts. By the end of February the British recaptured Kimberly and Ladysmith. Boer, General Cronje with 4000 soldiers surrendered at Paardeberg. March 1900, Bloemfontein was captured and Orange Free State was declared a British colony. By May 1900, Mafikeng was taken over by the British. By the end of June 1900, British occupied Johannesburg and Transvaal capital Pretoria. Kruger escaped to Europe and died in exile in 1904.

The 3rd stage was guerrilla warfare between 1900 and 1902. Boers damaged railway lines, cut telegraphic wires and generally disrupted British supplies and communication. Boers launched successful attacks against isolated British columns.

In this war African had a minor role to play they were carriers, servant and wagon pushers.

RESULTS OF THE SECOND ANGLO-BOER WAR

- Boers became British subjects and the Orange Free State and Transvaal became British territories.
- Britain promised self-government to the two territories.
- There was total disruption of economic activities in Transvaal due to war

- Equality of language and rights were granted to both Boers and British.
- 6 million pounds was given to Orange Free State and Transvaal as compensation and for reconstruction of the territories.
- There was destruction of life, about 26000 Boer women and children die in concentration camps

THE TREATY OF THE VEREENIGING- 31 MAY 1902

To end the war a treaty of Vereeniging was signed in 1902 may 31.

This was spearheaded by Smut and Botha to settle peace between Boers and British, but General Hertzog was reluctant this was assign of nationalism.

The terms of the treaty were:

- The Transvaal and Orange Free State become British colonies.
- Responsible government was promised to both territories (Transvaal and orange free state)
- Vast sums of money (12000 pounds) and assistance were to be given to restore the broken states (Transvaal and orange free states)
- Dutch and English language were to be given equal status.

THE PATH to THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Vereeniging treaty put the two white communities of South Africa on the same level and the future of South Africa was to be determined by the two groups (British and Boers). This treaty also paved way for the calling of the **National Convention** (conference) in 1908 which gave birth to the **Act of Union in 1910.**

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION -1908

This was a parliament convention which was called in 1908. This was a step towards the Union Act of 1910.

It was attended by both the British and Boer governments and opposition members from each colony.

It was attended by about 30 members who had been appointed by the four colonies; 12 from Cape colony, 8 from Transvaal, five from Natal and the other five from Orange Free State.

It was also attended by three non-voting members from Rhodesia as observers. It was chaired by Sir Henry de Villiers who was the chief justice of the cape colony.

The aims of the National Convention include;

- Presenting, debating and passing a new joint constitution of United South Africa.
- To discuss and make frame work constitution which was to determine the political future of South Africa.
- To end the political differences between the Boers and British in South Africa which had caused a lot of wars. It was called for the two groups to reconcile.
- To discuss equal rights and the position the Dutch language.
- Discuss the nature and rights of voting in case of election in South Africa.
- It was also called to decide the form of unification to be adopted.
- To decide the new capital in case of a union
- To discuss issues concerning customs and how to remove economic barriers to enable a closer union.

RESULTS OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

- English and Afrikaner language were given equal status in South Africa.
- It was also agreed that the four colonies should be called province(cape, orange free state, natal and Transvaal)
- The convention also created three capital Pretoria, Cape Town and Bloemfontein.
- It led to the drafting of the Union constitution.
- Finally the convention led to the unification of the four white territories (states) in South Africa as **union of South Africa**.

THE UNION OF 1910

This was a union of the four white states of South Africa effected on May 31st 1910; the cape colony and Natal (British population), and Orange Free State and Transvaal (Boer population).

The British government appointed the first **Governor General- Herbert Gladstone**, and the premier chosen was **General Louis Botha**.

Under this the union parliament held real power and made laws for all the four colonies to be called provinces.

TERMS OF THE ACT OF UNION

- a. The union parliament was to be given supreme authority over the four white colonies to be called provinces.
- b. The head of the union was to be the governor general assisted by the premier and the executive council of ministers.
- c. The union parliament was to consist two houses, lower chamber- **the assembly** and upper chamber the **senate**.
- d. There were to be three capital;
 1. **Pretoria** –executive or seat of administration
 2. **Cape town**-legislature(parliament)
 3. **Bloemfontein**- judiciary (court of appeal
- e. English and Dutch were to be official languages.
- f. Non-white voters in the cape were recognized the coloureds, but the union parliamentary membership was limited to whites only.

The last two provisions could only be changed by the 2/3 of the majority of the two houses in parliament..

EFFECTS OF THE UNION ACT

- It was a victory of the Afrikaners who longed to see the back of the British government. So the aims of the Great trek were achieved.
- The act was practically was an Act of reconciliation between the Boers and the British

- It was a victory for Afrikaner independence. It gave protection and support to the Boers and after 20 years the British washed its hand off South Africa. From 1910 to 1994, Boer governments and prime ministers ruled South Africa.
- It confirmed white domination in the politics of South Africa. It excluded the Blacks from the system.
- South Africa became one country under one government on 31st May 1910 with one parliament and one flag. A political union was achieved the dream of Sir George Grey.
- The union also gave independence to the high commissioner territories; Swaziland, Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- English and Dutch finally became equal on basis of equality and freedom
- South Africa entered into partisan politics e.g. Louis Botha's South African Party won the 1910 elections, Dr. Jameson formed the Progressive Party, in 1912, and General Barry Hertzog formed the Nationalist Party.

EFFECTS OF THE UNION ON AFRICANS

- All African provinces were moulded automatically into the union.
- Africans lost their voting rights
- Union aroused political consciousness in the Africans who realized that the union had ignored their political rights and interests. In 1912 the two first African political parties were formed, the South African Native Congress later became African National Congress and South African Races' Congress by Dr. P Seme and John Tengo Jabavu.
- Africans were excluded politically the union
- Africans also lost parliamentary representation.

AFRICAN RESISTANCE TO WHITE DOMINATION

RISE OF AFRICAN NATIONALISM IN SOUTH AFRICA

The rise of African nationalism in South Africa can be traced back to the formation of the union of South Africa in 1910. The Act denied Africans civil and political rights.

Not only did the union totally exclude African from the system but it made no provisions for African admission for the future. Africans were no longer represented in the white-led government of the union.

The new union parliament also passed a lot of repressive laws against the Africans. Naturally all these aroused political consciousness in the Africans who quickly realized the limitation in the political life of the union. All their political interests and rights had been swept aside by white. This led to the rise of African nationalism, which was a fight for recognition and demand for political rights of Africans who were majority in South Africa.

In 1912 the first political parties was formed, the **South African Native congress** (SANC) by Dr. Pixley Ka Isaka Seme, and the South African Races Congress (SARC) by John Tengo Jabavu.

SANC later was renamed African National Congress (ANC) in 1936. These parties were formed to fight against the formation of the union of South Africa and fight for African political rights and interests in a white dominated South African union.

Dr. P. Seme and John Tengo Jabavu called for a conference for all African chiefs and leaders in South Africa to create national unity and defend African rights. They formed the SANC which later changed to ANC. The national anthem of the ANC was *nkosi sekeleli Africa, morena buloka sechaba Sa hesu* and was sang in 1912.

AIMS OF THE ANC

- To fight against race prejudice
- To fight for equality before the law
- To achieve the unification of all tribe
- To fight for voting rights

→ To fight for the provision of better social services such as education and health facilities.

→ To fight against the pass system.

Among the grievance of the ANC were the Africans were against the formation of the Union of South Africa.

This was because the Act of the Union denied them civil and political rights. ANC was also protesting against that the suppressive laws the New Union parliament passed.

The 1913 Natives Land (Act that led to the formation of Native reserves)

The ANC also protested against the pass laws that were passed



METHODS OF RESISTANCE BY AFRICAN NATIONALISTS

The earliest African nationalists used nonviolence method that inspired by Mahatma Gandhi to achieve their aims.

They used passive resistance e.g. by refusing to cooperate with government authorities.

The African nationalists also used petitions and sending delegations to express their grievances to the British government.

Some of the examples of other nationalist movement that formed African nationalism were:

The Industrial and commercial Workers Union – this was a trade union movement that was formed by **Clement Kadalie** in 1919.

This movement appealed to workers especially in the mining industry. This was a protest movement against all forms of exploitation and discrimination in the work places. ICWU handed some political elements that weakened it as a labour movement. Clement Kadalie and ICWU place an important role in the rise of African nationalism in South Africa.

African Independent- though these were religious movements, the African independent churches also provided the earliest forms of resistance to white domination. The independent churches had political elements e.g. they encouraged African leadership in all sectors of life. These churches also contributed to the rise of African nationalism.

DEFINITION OF APARTHEID

Apartheid was an ideological philosophy which was created by Afrikaner nationalists in the 1930s and enshrined in the South African constitution in 1948 by the National Party led by Dr. D.K. Malan. This after Malan's National party won the elections of 1948 in the union of South Africa.

Apartheid is an Afrikaner term meaning “**being apart or segregate or separated**”. It also meant separation of races or racial segregation.

The South African Government also called apartheid as **Separate development**. Apartheid had its own roots in the racial supremacy which was held dear by the Boers.

The chief architect of apartheid is Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd who became the native affairs secretary in 1950, who thought the separation of races may complete by 2000 with the Boers emerging dominant.

Apartheid was racial segregation of races in politics, education, employment, residential areas, transport, marriage and cultural.

Apartheid was also aimed at guaranteeing permanent white control and domination over blacks in South Africa.

The white also desired to limit African opportunity in land ownership, political representation, education and employment.



Black Africans using different stairs in a building [above]

CONSOLIDATION OF APARTHEID

The period between 1910 and 1948 saw the white community of South Africa consolidating its power over the non-white in all aspect. The South African government passed a series Acts in its quest to dominate and exploit non-whites. Ultimately, the Acts tilted the balance of power in favour of the minority whites. The Act of Union South Africa in 1910 introduced racist policies which aimed at eliminating African participation in South African politics.

EARLY ACTS AIMED AT RACIAL SEGREGATION

1. 1911 Mines and workers Act- prevented Africans from performing skilled and semi-skilled jobs through segregation. It also outlawed strikes by Africans.
2. 1912 Defense Act- prevented the African from joining the south African defense forces to ensure easy control of Africans

3. 1913 Native Land Act- ensured separation of races geographically with Africans confined to Native reserves which become simple labour reserves for white farmers and miners
4. 1920 Native Affairs Act- was passed to segregate in politics
5. 1924 Industrial Conciliatory Act- denied Africans collective bargaining at places of work.

The most intensive efforts to introduce segregation in South Africa was between 1910 and 1924 during Botha and Smuts. It relaxed during the war due to the need to win the war by allied powers in Europe. After 1948 an intensive shift to segregation as apartheid policy.

IMPLEMENTATION OF APARTHEID

ACTS THAT INTENSIFIED APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA AFTER 1948

In 1948 the National party under Dr. Malan won elections in South Africa and intensified racial segregation in form of **apartheid**. Between 1948 and 1988, terrible restrictions and hardships were experienced by non-whites. About 231 apartheid laws were passed by parliament in order to implement apartheid as a policy. These laws affected the employment, residence and movement of non-whites.

INTENSIFICATION OF SOCIAL CONTROL

1. **The Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act of 1949** banned marriages between whites and non-whites, so as to ensure the preservation of the white races.
2. **The Immorality Act of 1950** made sexual contact between black and white illegal.
3. **The Group Areas Act of 1950** by which each race was made to live in its own designated area.
4. **The Abolition of Passes Act** simply strengthened the pass laws. Blacks had to carry different passes which were consolidated into a

reference book. Even women were made to carry reference books when travelling outside the reserves.

5. Population registration act of 1950-

6. **The Separate Amenities Act of 1953** divided public services such as buses, trains, post offices, beaches, parks between Europeans only and non-Europeans only.

7.

Intensification of Economic Control

1. **The Prevention of Illegal Squatters Act of 1951.** It gave government powers to remove Africans from white areas or white lands.
2. **The Native Labour of Settlement of Dispute Act 1953.** Made it illegal for Africans to form or join trade unions.
3. **The Industrial Conciliatory Act was amended in 1956** to have the racially mixed unions to be segregate. The Minister of labour was empowered to safeguard job reservation for whites.
4. **The Bantu Labour Act 1964** banned strike action, breaking of contracts and Africans were not allowed to bargain.

Effects of apartheid laws on non-whites

- Thousands of coloured suffered most because population registration act, most of them failed to qualify as whites.
- Classified families lost their homes and property.
- African were put in unproductive areas
- African were given sub-standard social services. E.g. education
- No African was free from police due to pass laws
- African were also deprived of right to live and work in urban areas
- Black homelands become overcrowded and impoverished
- Married couples were forced to divorce to racial classification laws.

→ Africans were forced to leave urban areas.

Apartheid and the Bantustan Policy

The *Tomlinson Commission of Inquiry of 1955* considered the development of Bantustans within the Union of South Africa. The findings of the commission led to the enactment of the *Bantu Self-Government Act of 1959*, which also led to the creation of the Bantustans or the so called *self-governing African homelands or tribal lands*

According to the *Promotion of the Bantu Self-Government Act* all African societies belonged to the Bantustans.

They were no longer South African citizens.

Africans were forcibly removed from the so called white areas and pushed into Bantustans which were impoverished.

- The place for an African was the Bantustan. Only Africans, needed for employment, were allowed into white cities.
- The South African Commonwealth of Africans was administered by the South African government.
- Traditional rulers became heads of the Bantustan states and were assisted by indunas and councilors.
- The tribal authorities were supervised by a white Minister of Bantu administration, development and Bantu education.
- The minister was advised by a *Bantu Affairs Commission* appointed by Pretoria.
- Africans were not free to rule themselves.
- A *Commissioner General* (white) represented the government in each Bantustan.

- The representation of Africans in parliament by whites was abolished since the Africans were no longer citizens of South Africa.
- The Bantustan government controlled education, agriculture, forestry, roads and works, home affairs, judiciary and finances.
- The South African government wrote and amended the Bantustan constitution, gave subsidies, controlled foreign affairs, defence matters, internal security, postal services, railway, immigration, currency, banking, customs and exercise, health and information sector.
- Most important areas were controlled by Britain.
- English and Afrikaans were the official languages recognized by the government.
- The Bantustans were officially created after 1970 although legislation came out in 1959.
- They were constituted on ethnic lines. The rational was to emphasize ethnic borders and to divide and rule Africans much more easily.
- The rational was to emphasize ethnic borders and to divide and rule Africans much more easily.
- The Bantustans were as follows: Transkei (Xhosa), Ciskei (Xhosa), Kwazulu (Zulu), Lebowa (Sotho, Ndebele, Pedi), Venda (Venda), Gaza-Nkulu (Shangani, Tsonga), Bophuthatswana (Tswana).
- Bantustans were created in mountainous, hilly areas.
- The terrain was rugged and punctuated by deep valleys.
- Most of the areas were uncultivable.
- Agriculture was in a poor state due to infertility of the soil, severe droughts, overpopulation e.g. 500 people per square kilometer.

- Overgrazing, inadequate arable land, soil erosion, lack of capital and market etc.
- Much of the infrastructure was underdeveloped, poor housing, poor transport network, inferior education, lack of recreation facilities

This separate development as envisioned by **Dr Hendrick Verwoerd**, the then Prime Minister wanted Africans to fight for their rights within the Bantustans.

- This would ensure permanent separation of races in South Africa.
- Suffice to say the South African regime created the Bantustans simply to create a cheap labour reservoir for white owned industries in South Africa and to pre-empt the ever rising tide of African nationalism.
- It can also be argued that the Bantustans strengthened African resistance to the apartheid regime as Africans feared to lose their South African roots.

Protest Movements of the 1940s

Mass action on the rand in the 1940s met with some initial measure of success and set the scene for the decade to come.

The Alexandra bus boycotts of 1940-46 prevented the bus company from raising bus fares.

Blacks demonstrated their economic power as thousands chose to walk the 20 kilometers to and from work in Johannesburg rather than pay the increased bus fares.

The **self-help squatter movement of 1944-47** got eventual recognition of their unofficial squatter township south-west of Johannesburg.

Mass action among mineworkers, however, met with tougher opposition. The wages of black mineworkers had remained static during the war despite the rise in prices.

In 1946, **the African Mineworkers Union** led a strike of 70 000 miners in support of demands for a minimum wage and family housing.

But police savagely suppressed the strike, arresting leaders, killing 12 and wounding 1200

The ANC: 'Youth Wing and Programme of Action'

The National Executive of the ANC had failed to take any active lead in the mass movements of the 1940s. This failure stimulated the growth of an important new movement within the ANC;

The Youth League, founded in 1944 by Anton Lembede

The driving forces of the League were a number of young radicals expelled from Fort Hare College, among them two Johannesburg lawyers, **Nelson Mandela and Oliver Tambo**.

Unlike the old ANC leadership, the Youth Leaguers were not afraid of mass action.

By 1949 the Youth Leaguers had been elected to the ANC National Executive, including Mandela, Tambo and Walter Sisulu, an active Johannesburg trade unionist.

Two other influential members of the executive were the prominent black communist trade-unionists, J.B. Marks and Moses Kotane.

Dr. James Sebe Moroka replaced Dr A.B. Sumac as President of ANC and Sisulube became Secretary-General.

With its new executive, the ANC quickly re-emerged at the fore-front of African politics and resistance.

A '**Programme of Action**' was drawn up, which was committed to strikes, boycotts and civil disobedience instead of bargaining with the government.

The aim was national freedom, political independence, the rejection of white leadership and the abolition of all segregationist laws

This was to be achieved through mass action of boycotts, strikes and passive resistance

In December, 1945 the ANC youth league formally and publicly demanded for one – man one –vote, residence, land ownership and freedom of movement.

In 1949 the youth league elected a more military president of ANC, **Dr. James Moroka**.

IN 1952 under Dr. Moroka, Africans and Indians joined in the actions of civil disobedience hoping to remove the pass laws and group Areas act. 8000 protestors were arrested.

In 1952, Albert John Lithuli a teacher and a chief of a small Zulu tribe was elected president of ANC replacing Dr. Moroka. He was a man of peace. His weapon was boycott and strikes.

The Defiance Campaign, 1952-1953

A number of one day strikes and demonstrations during 1950-51 led up to the ANC sponsored '**Defiance Campaign**' which began in June 1952.

All over the country special volunteers deliberately defied petty *apartheid* restrictions.

They courted arrest by sitting on '**white only**' benches using 'white' entrances to stations, post-offices and shops, crowding into 'white-only' first class railway carriages and refusing to carry passes.

But there was still reluctance among the leadership to exploit fully the real strengths of large-scale mass action.

The numbers making their defiant demonstrations were small, utmost a few hundred at a time, while thousands looked on.

There were those within the movement who felt that the Defiance Campaign had not gone far enough.

Wholesale defiance by thousands would have choked the courts and prisons and brought the system to its knees.

As it was by January 1953 eight thousand had been arrested, leaders were detained or banned and the campaign ground to halt.

Peasant Resistance Movement

Peasant resistance intensified in reserves between 1950s and 1960s.

Peasant resistance started from peaceful boycotts of government schemes to political confrontation with security forces.

The middle peasants rejected cattle vaccination, Cattle Deeping and fencing because this was very expensive and interfered with traditional animal husbandry practices.

The peasants also rejected other peasant schemes of forestation and soil conservation because of the coercive nature of the policies

The peasants smashed the fences, Deeping tanks, picketing the Deeping tanks and became hostile to their traditional rulers who supported the schemes.

Africans hated the imposition of the *Bantu Amendment Act* between 1956-1965.

The peasants attacked the collaborating traditional rulers and their headmen.

However, peasant resistance was futile. It only delayed the execution of racial policies of the government.

Women Resistance Movement against apartheid

- Women began to take active roles in resistance alongside men, and the federation of South African Women (FSAW) was founded in 1954 by Ray Simons, Helen Joseph, Lillian Ngoyi, and Amina Cachalia.
- The FSAW quickly became an active multiracial **anti-apartheid** force in alliance with other groups. In conjunction with the ANC, this woman's group directed campaigns against pass laws and quickly fell under government intimidation.

- These organized and staged public demonstrations and actually participated in the main stream challenges against the apartheid government.
- Women protestors blocked deep-tanks, beer halls and schools.
- They boycotted schools, buses, shops in urban and rural areas.
- The women became active participants in protests due to absence of men activities
- Women staged demonstrations against pass laws in 1955 that required them to carry passes and registration book.
- The women who stoned government officials were sent to distribute the reference books and they burnt the reference books.
- The Black Sash *Organisation* was formed by white women in 1955 to fight National Party removal of coloured voting rights (these were their children).
- The organization gave free legal advice to Africans.
- In 1956, the *Federation of South African Women* organised 20, 000 female protesters against apartheid in Pretoria.
- The protest was led by Lillian Ngoyi (African President) and Helen Joseph (white Secretary).
- The two women were arrested and jailed.
- In 1959 government attempted to eradicate illicit liquor trade in Durban and compelled the female brewers to retaliate.
- The women were involved in destroying equipment in beer halls. They also clashed with the police.

The Congress Alliance,

Following the suppression of the *Defiance Campaign*, the ANC elected as its president General Chief Albert Luthuli, a former teacher and chief of a small Zulu clan. Almost immediately, Luthuli was banned by the Government.

Meanwhile the Communist Party (CPSA) had become a banned organization under the *Suppression of Communism Act (1950)*. It dissolved itself secretly reformed as the SACP under the leadership of an Afrikaner lawyer, Bram Fischer

Former black CPSA members were already working actively within the ANC.

A number of white communists joined the new white radical political party, the *Congress of Democrats*. At the same time the *Indian Congress (SAIC)* began to associate itself more closely with the majority black population in their common struggle against apartheid. SAIC Leaders played a prominent part in the *Defiance Campaign*.

In 1955 the main opponents of apartheid came together to form the *Congress Alliance*.

This consisted of the ANC, the *Indian Congress*, the recently formed *Coloured People's Organisation*, the non-racial *South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU)* and the radical *Congress of Democrats*.

The *Congress Alliance* drew up a '*Freedom Charter*' which laid down the principles for a free and democratic South Africa.

At a '*Congress of the People*' held at Kliptown near Johannesburg on 25 and 26 June 1955, the articles of the *Freedom Charter* were read out and adopted.

Of the 3000 delegates at Kliptown, two thirds were Africans and the remaining one third was made of Indians, coloureds and whites

The *Charter* proposed a non-racial South Africa with equal rights and justice for all.

The country's mineral wealth, banks and monopoly industry would be nationalized and the land shall be shared among those who work it.

The Government reacted to the *Congress Alliance* and the growing pace of protest movements by arresting 156 of the country's leading opponents of apartheid and putting them on trial for treason.

The '*Treason Trials*' began in December 1956 and continued until the last thirty were finally acquitted in March 1960.

The prosecution attempted to prove that the '*Freedom Charter*' was a communist document.

It failed to prove its case and all 156 were eventually acquitted.

What the trials succeeded in doing was strengthening support for the ANC'S and the *Alliance organisations*.

PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS

Within the ANC, not everyone was happy about the freedom charter and the ANC alliance with other non-black people.

Some of the youth leaguers broke away and formed **Pan African Congress (PAC)** with Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe as its president in 1959.

They called themselves as Africanist who saw themselves carrying on the spirit of the founder of the Youth League (Anton Lembede).

The Africanist believed that Africans should stand alone against the government's racist laws.

The Africans should be proud of their own culture and reject white culture and foreign ideologies.

By the end of 1959, PAC had about 25000 members mostly rural based migrant workers neglected by ANC.

THE SHAPEVILLE MASSACRE 21ST MARCH 1960

When most of the political leaders were acquitted after the defiance campaign treason trial, the ANC and PAC planned for renewal of mass defiance of apartheid.

In December 1959, they announced plans for a massive anti-pass campaign in March 1960.

The ANC proposed a single “Day of Protest” on 31st March 1960 which pass would be publicly burned.

In an attempt to win popularity and mass support, the PAC deliberately chose ten days earlier, on 21st March 1960. Unlike the single day, PAC protest, had to go on until the government remove the pass laws.

Blacks would march on to the police stations in their thousands and demand to be arrested because of not carrying passes.

On 21 march as planned Sobukwe and others walked to Orland police station and were arrested.

Between 3000 and 5000 people marched on to Sharpeville police station and demanded to be arrested for not carrying passes.

The police responded by opening fire on un armed protestors killing 60 and wounding about 180. Mostly were shot on the back as they fled.

Similar incidents of shooting occurred at Langa near Cape Town and Nyanga.

There are two factors that led to the failure of the PAC protest. Firstly PAC failed to organize mass protest and secondly, the protestors did not realize the violence reaction of the police.

The results of the Sharpeville massacre was that the world at large condemned the South African government action and the apartheid system which led to the conflict.

In the cape local police suspended pass laws curb the situation.

On 30th march, before the ANC protest, the government declared state of emergency.

ANC AND PAC were officially banned and thousands of ANC and PAC members were arrested.

The UN also planned to isolate South Africa to force the government to reverse the apartheid policy.