

Apartheid: South Africa

1948-1994



South Africa

South Africa is a country blessed with an abundance of natural resources including fertile farmlands and unique mineral resources. South African mines are world leaders in the production of diamonds and gold as well as strategic metals such as platinum. The climate is mild, reportedly resembling the San Francisco bay area weather more than anywhere in the world.



Apartheid- separateness or apart-ness in Afrikaans

A system of racial segregation that operated in South Africa from 1948-1994



Apartheid Laws

- 1950- Amendment to the Immorality Act: criminal offense for a white person to have sexual relations with a person of a different race
- 1950- The Population Registration Act: All citizens register as black, white or coloured
- 1950- Suppression of Communism Act: split S. Africa into different areas according to racial groups.
- 1951- Bantu Authorities Act: Separate gov't structures for black people.
- 1951- Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act: Allowed gov't to demolish black slums

Apartheid Laws Cont....

- 1953- Reservation of Separate Amenities: Prohibited people of different races from using the public facilities such as restrooms, drinking fountain etc.
- 1953- Bantu Education Act: all black schooling under gov't control
- 1956- Mines and Work Act: racial discrimination in employment
- 1958- Promotion of Black Self- Gov't Act: blacks could vote in territorial governments in homelands
- 1959- Bantu Investment Corp.: Create jobs in homeland
- 1959- Extension of University Educ. Act: separate universities for blacks, coloureds and Indians

Apartheid Laws Cont....

- 1967- Physical Planning and Utilization of Resources Act: stop industrial development in white cities and redirect to homeland border areas.
- 1970- Black Homeland Citizenship Act: Changed status of inhabitants of homelands so that they were no longer citizens of S. Africa.

Apartheid and the People of South Africa		
	<i>Blacks</i>	<i>Whites</i>
Population	19 million	4.5 million
Land Allocation	13 percent	87 percent
Share of National Income	< 20 percent	75 percent
Ratio of average earnings	1	14
Minimum taxable income	360 rands	750 rands
Doctors/population	1/44,000	1/400
Infant mortality rate	20% (urban) 40% (rural)	2.7%
Annual expenditure on education per pupil	\$45	\$696
Teacher/pupil ratio	1/60	1/22

Figure 1: Disproportionate Treatment circa 1978. Source: [Leo80]

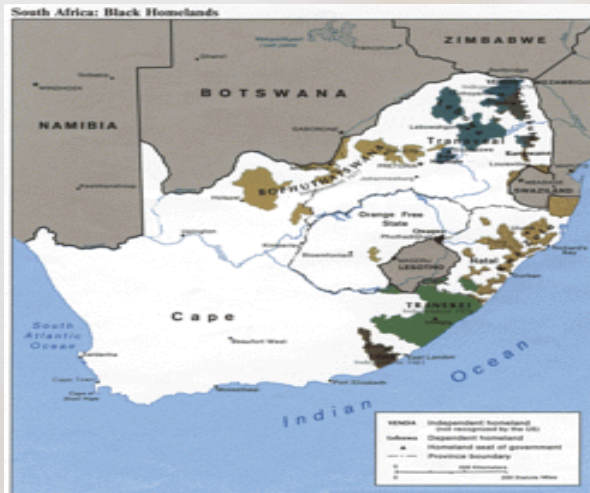
Day to Day Life Under Apartheid

- Non-whites were not allowed to run businesses in white areas
- Only blacks with a pass could enter white areas. Families had to be left behind.
- Police vans roamed white areas to round up illegal blacks
- Black areas rarely had plumbing or electricity
- Black student's education cost the state 1/10 of a white child's
- Ambulances, bridges, cinemas, cinema parking spaces, maternity wards, parks, cross walks, public toilets, taxis churches, hotels, beaches swimming pools and libraries were all segregated.

Homelands and Forced Removal

Goal: blacks would no longer be citizens of S. Africa, but rather be apart of independent homelands

- 87% of land was reserved for whites, coloureds and Indians.
- 13% of the land was divided up into ten homelands for 60% of the population.
- 1960's-1980's: resettlement forced blacks to move to designated group areas. 3.5 million+ forced to move



Classification

Officials would administer tests to determine who was categorized as coloured or black, or coloured or white.

- Different members of the same family found themselves in different race groups.



International Criticism

- UN Security Council Voluntary Embargo- 1963
- Apartheid was condemned by the UN in 1973:
International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid
- UN Security Council Mandatory Embargo- 1974:
Aimed to isolate S. Africa
- S. African sports teams were banned from international events
- By 1980, S. Africa was the only African country with a white government and constitution discriminating against the majority of its citizens

Resistance

- **Sharpeville Massacre- 1959:** A crowd of ANC members went to the local police department singing and offering themselves up for arrest for not carrying pass books. A group of 300 police opened fire on the unarmed crowd killing 69 and injuring 186. Most victims were shot in the back.
- **Nelson Mandela- ANC leader-** sentenced to life in prison for terrorism with 7 others in 1964.
- **Steve Biko- South Africa's Black Consciousness Movement.** Arrested and beaten by police until he went into a coma, he died 3 days later.



Undoing of Apartheid

- 1984- some reforms were introduced
- 1985- S. African gov't declared state of emergency
- 1990- lift bans and restrictions, released Mandela
- 1990-1991: apartheid abolished
- 1992: last whites only vote in S. Africa
- 1993: Constituion w/ freedom of speech, religion and prohibiting discrimination
- 1994: first all-race vote in S. Africa- Mandela wins presidency

