

# ***THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION***

## **Basic concepts**

**CAPITALISM**: Economic system based on **private ownership of wealth**

Capitalists own the land and factories and means of production

Their main aim was to make a **profit** while **exploiting** the working class

**SOCIALISM**: Philosophy which argue that the **wealth** of the country should be **distributed equally** amongst the citizens of the country

The working class must **overthrow** the capitalists by means of a **revolution**

**COMMUNISM**: Economic **system based on state ownership of the economy**

No private ownership allowed.

Once all the citizens have what they need, there was no need for state

This is a **classless society** where everyone works together for the good of the community

**MARXISM**: Karl Marx believed that History was a process of change brought about by a **class struggle** between the capitalists and the working class (**proletariat**).

He was influenced by the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the working class – exploitation

The **proletariat** would overthrow the capitalists

The land and businesses would be controlled by the state

No private ownership would be allowed

# WHY WAS THERE A REVOLUTION IN 1917?

## CONDITIONS IN CAPITALIST RUSSIA

**AGRICULTURE:** 96% of population was peasants who owned 1% land

Peasants exploited - had no rights

1861 received land but had to repay the state over 49 years

Could not produce enough food to feed themselves and to pay taxes

Used old fashioned farming methods → low productivity

**INDUSTRY:** Wealthy nobles → owned most of the land

→ occupied high positions

Urban working class → were exploited – led to popularity of Marxism

→ Poor housing / long working hours

Workers advocated revolution to get rid of the ruling class

**POLITICAL:** Tsars → were autocratic rulers – opposed to change

→ used the Okrana to imprison/exile opposition

Rasputin influenced tsars – lost credibility

**OPPOSITION:** Social Revolutionaries --- Kerensky--- support from the peasants

Social Democrats → Bolsheviks → Lenin--- support from urban workers

Followed the ideas of Karl Marx

Believed that a small group should lead

Mensheviks → Followed the ideas of Karl Marx

In favour of democracy

## THE 1905 REVOLUTION

Tsar ignored the growing unrest in his country

1904 declared war against Japan – hoping that this would unite the people and bring to an end to the strikes

The Russians were humiliated by the Japanese → this led to an increase of unrests and demands for change

The war led to a shortage of food and a rise in prices

This led to the uprisings and strikes in St. Petersburg

In 1905 father Gapon led a march to the Winter Palace to hand over a petition

They demanded: better working conditions

A parliament chosen by the people

Freedom of speech

Soldiers opened fire and killed hundreds of protesters (Bloody Sunday)

Mass action occurred throughout the country → burnt homes of landlords

Workers went on strike

Workers formed soviets (workers' council) and organized more strikes

Okrana suppressed the soviets → Lenin fled into exile

The Tsar responded by giving the people → freedom of speech

→ A дума (parliament) to advise him

## THE IMPACT OF WW1

Russia not prepared for WW1 → ill equipped  
→ Suffered heavy defeats – led to low morale/deserting  
→ Led to severe **food shortages – led to strikes**

Tsar took command of the army → Alexandra (German princess) took charge of the country  
She was controlled by Rasputin and ignored the advice of the Duma

Russia defeated at Tannenburg → led to strike in St Petersburg  
→ Soldiers joined the strike  
→ **Tsar Nicholas 11 abdicated**  
→ Provisional Government appointed to run the country  
→ Soviet controlled St. Petersburg

Provisional government was controlled by Kerensky who supported the interest of the middle class  
Absolutism gave way to democracy ---- **but the capitalist economy was kept in tact**

## THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION

The Provisional government failed → to solve the food shortages  
→ To introduce land reforms  
→ To stop the war

Lenin returned from exile and issued his April theses: “**Peace, land and bread** “  
“**All power to the Soviets** “

Kornilov tried to restore the tsar regime – he was suppressed with the help of The Bolsheviks

This strengthened the credibility of the Bolsheviks

Lenin now secretly planned to overthrow the provisional government

24 and 25 October 1917 the Bolsheviks took control of transport and communications

On 26 October they stormed the Winter Palace and seized power.

Lenin and the Bolsheviks - **established a Marxist state**

**Banned all forms of capitalism**

Signed a peace treaty with Germany to **consolidate their Position**

Gave the peasants land

**Cheka** was established to eliminate all opposition

# STALIN'S FIVE YEAR PLANS

## The First Five- Year Plans (1928-1933)

Aims: all forms of private ownership / **capitalism abolished**

Economy placed under **state control**

Economy developed by a series of Five Year Plans

**Illiteracy eradicated**

**Agriculture mechanized and collectivized**

The rapid industrialization of Russia.

A state planning commission, the Gosplan, was empowered to direct the economic activities of the country.

The main aim of the Gosplan was to: control the means of production make recommendations to the government on issues regarding to the import and export of raw materials for manufacturing.

## Agricultural Reform

Farms **collectivized and mechanized**

**Two types of farms:**

**(1) State farms (labourers paid a state salary)**

**(2) Collective farms -** Peasants became state workers

**Kulaks resisted** collectivization by - killing stock

Refusing to sow

**Stalin killed them /deported to Siberia**

**Approx. 4 million peasants killed/sent to Siberia**

He used violence to enforce communism

1928 production levels increased

Peasant and wealthy farmers who refused to sell their extra products were heavily taxed.

Mechanization and scientific farming were introduced on a large scale.

Profits were divided three ways among the state, workers and a reserve operation fund to support community services such as schools, recreation centres and hospitals. Agriculture began to prosper.

## **Industrialization**

All private ownership abolished

Factories produced according to state quotas

Emphasis on development of heavy industries - iron and steel

Propaganda was used to inspire workers and to stress the significance of working together for a better future.

Coal – to melt iron and steel

1500 new factories built

Workers worked long hours

Dnieper Dam hydro-electric power station constructed

Huge towns and industrial centers were built

Compulsory education created a skilled workforce

All children between 3 and 16 received compulsory education

This indoctrinated the youth with communist beliefs

Flats were built to solve the housing shortage

Cars were built in Moscow

Oil discovered at Baku

### **Elimination of private enterprise**

Private traders and wealthy farmers were progressively taxed until they could no longer afford to run their businesses.

In December 1932, the First Five-Year Plan was completed.

Rapid industrialization had been achieved, although the quality was poor compared to western countries. Many basic industries were established and new industries such as plastics and synthetic rubber also came into being. The foundations had been laid for the development of Russia as a major industrial and political world power.

### **Education and Transport**

Thousands of new schools were built to provide basic education for all children

Education was made compulsory.

Adult literacy classes, which were also emphasized, reduced the rate of illiteracy rate from 50% in 1924 to 20% in 1939.

Education was structured around mechanical and engineering lessons.

New railway lines were built and the old ones upgraded to help move raw materials, manufactured products and agricultural produce.

The building of networks of hard-surface roads, and canal systems to link rivers for practical navigation became essential.

### **The Second and Third Five-Year Plan (1933-1938)**

Importance was placed on the improvement of efficiency and techniques in industry.

Light factories were built to provide more consumer goods in order to raise the standard of living of the Russian population.

Consumption increased dramatically, but growth and development of heavy industries remained the government's priority.

The most important successes were achieved in the machine making industry.

Russian people made huge sacrifices by working long hours

Stalin used encouragement, discipline and terror to achieve its aim

By 1940 Russia was the world's second largest industrial power

The Third Five-Year Plan of 1939 to 1942 was interrupted by the Second World War.

# CRISIS OF CAPITALISM – THE GREAT DEPRESSION

## KEY QUESTION: WHY DID AMERICA EXPERIENCE A PERIOD OF PROSPERITY

### **GOVERNMENT POLICY**

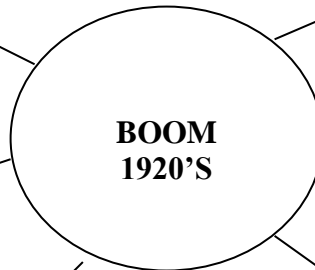
Encouraged big businesses  
In favour of free enterprise  
Little or no government intervention  
Fordney-McCumber act high tariffs on imports  
Cut taxes-people more money to spend  
Did not allow trade unions

### **MOTOR INDUSTRY**

1926 Ford Model T at \$295 produced  
This stimulated other industries  
Created demand for rubber/glass/steel  
Boosted petrol/oil transport industries  
This created more jobs

### **NEW TECHNOLOGIES**

1921 radio broadcasting started – demand for radios  
Availability of electricity – demand for electrical goods  
Movie industries attracted many people  
Mass production – goods produced cheaply  
This encouraged demand – created jobs



### **HIRE PURCHASE**

Advertising stimulated demand  
Finance companies gave credit  
People paid installments + interest

### **WAGE RISES**

1920 average wage doubled  
This boosted demand

### **SHARES**

Ordinary people bought shares on hire purchase  
Hoped for rise in price- sell-make profit  
Millions became shareholders  
This boosted investment and willingness to spend

## **KEY QUESTION: THE CAUSES OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION**

The Great Depression was a worldwide business slump in the 1930's  
It began with the collapse of the Wall Street stock market in the U.S.A  
It caused a sharp decrease in world trade and effected almost every nation  
It had serious consequences and led to some countries changing their leaders and type of government

### **CAUSES**

**Agriculture:** After war farmers saddled with surplus products, because Europe produced again.  
Farmers could not pay bonds, laid off workers, many were ruined.

**Isolation Policy:** USA imposed high tariffs on imported goods, other countries did the same.  
USA businesses could not sell their surpluses abroad

**Over speculation:** Ordinary people were allowed to buy shares on the "margin".  
This pushed prices up, in decline, panic sales followed and shares became worthless.  
Speculators, banks and investors were financially ruined

**Over production:** More goods were produced than people could afford to buy.  
Factories lowered prices, made smaller profits, laid off workers.

**Easy credit and extravagance:** Advertising and hire purchase urged people to spend.  
People were buying beyond their capacity to pay.  
Banks offered unwise loans to public for speculating.

**Trusts:** Giant firms dominated the bus. world by forming trusts  
They kept wages low and prices high  
This depressed demand because people could not afford to buy products

### **THE EFFECTS**

**Unemployment:** by 1933 unemployment stood at 16 million  
There was no social security for those who lost their jobs  
Breadlines and soup kitchens became a common sight

**Homelessness:** unemployed could not pay bonds and were evicted  
They erected shelters called Hoovervillies

**Closure of banks:** banks unable to pay investors  
Investors withdrew money, banks forced to close

# Social Darwinism

## What is Social Darwinism?

Social Darwinism is a philosophy that advocates that **some human races are biologically superior** to others and that the strongest should survive and that weak and unfit should be allowed to die

The strongest nation was the **fittest**, therefore the best, and consequently **had an inherent right to rule**.

Social Darwinism applied the 'survival of the fittest' to human 'races' and said that 'might makes right'.

Not only was survival of the fittest seen as something natural, but it was also **morally correct**.

It was therefore natural, normal, and proper for the strong to thrive at the expense of the weak.

**White Protestant Europeans had evolved much further and faster than other "races."**

So-called 'white civilized' industrial nations that had technologically advanced weapons had the **moral right to conquer and 'civilize' the 'savage blacks' of the world**.

Social Darwinism was used to justify imperialism, colonialism, racism and poverty.

## What is eugenics?

Eugenics is a more extreme form of Social Darwinism, which is linked to the racist doctrines of Nazi Germany.

Eugenics refers to the **study of human improvement by genetic means**.

Galton believed in: the idea of planned human betterment through **selective mating**

a system of arranged marriages between men of 'distinction' and women of wealth to produce a 'gifted race'

**mental qualities (such as genius and talent) are inherited.**

**Conscious intervention to avoid over-breeding by "less fit" members of society and the under-breeding of the "more fit" ones.**

## What is Genocide?

Genocide is the act of **killing or destroying, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group**.

It also includes the deliberate and calculated enforcement of conditions of life to bring about **its physical destruction in whole or in part**, imposing measures intended to **prevent births within the group and forcibly transferring children** of the group to another group.



## **Social Darwinism in Australia**

The indigenous or 'first people' of Australia were labelled 'Aborigines' by the British settlers.

Aborigine is a Latin word from 'ab' meaning origin, and 'origine' meaning from the beginning.

They account for about 2.5% of the modern Australian population.

The Aboriginal population of Australia at the time of European settlement has been estimated at between 300,000 and as many as 1 million.

They lived in small communities with social and religious customs in common.

Like all other societies, their technology, food and hunting practices varied according to the local environment.

Most lived in the southern and eastern regions.

From the late eighteenth century, during the powerful and imperialist British conquest the indigenous population was dispossessed of their land and died in very large numbers.

The British began its colonization of Australia in 1788.

Massacres accompanied the expansion of their frontier.

Although many indigenous communities resisted the settlers, the Aboriginal people of Australia suffered one of the biggest attempted exterminations in history.

Between 1788 and 1900, the indigenous population of Australia had been reduced by 90%.

The disappearance of the Aborigines in southeast Australia was so rapid that it was believed that they would all soon die out.

Apart from loss of access to land, and death by violent force of arms, infectious diseases like chickenpox, smallpox, influenza and measles killed many.

Indigenous Australians had a deep spiritual and cultural connection to the land, so being forced off traditional land, caused the disintegration of social cohesion.

In the first part of the twentieth century, the racial theories of Social Darwinism were popular in Australia and were used to justify settler treatment of the indigenous Australians, as 'subhuman', 'primitive' and an 'inferior race'.

The Aborigines Protection Act 1909 established camps to provide a place for the 'doomed race to die off' as Aborigines would 'inevitably become extinct'.

Settler policy allowed many Aborigines to be treated like experimental animals.

In the 1920's and 30's thousands of indigenous people in communities all over Australia, were subjected to 'scientific' investigation into brain capacity and cranium (skull) size.

Children of mixed Aboriginal and European descent were labelled 'half-castes' and a threat to so-called 'racial purity'.

A policy based on eugenics theory had these children taken away from their parents 'to breed the blackness out of them'.

Between 1910 and 1970 up to 100,000 Aboriginal children were taken forcibly from their families.

Parents were not told where their children were and could not trace them, and children were told that they were orphans.

The racist government assumed that the Aborigines were 'dying out' which would solve the 'problem'.

The 'assimilation program' was introduced to eliminate those of mixed descent.

This was done by the forced removal of Aboriginal children from their families.

These children are often called the 'Stolen Generations'. Settler policy believed that white, Christian families and boarding schools was the best environment in which to raise Aboriginal children.

They believed they were doing what was 'protecting them' and was 'best for them', whether the children or their parents liked it or not.

A National Inquiry was set up in 1995 and found that forcible removal of indigenous children was a gross violation of human rights.

It was racially discriminatory, and an act of genocide.

# HOW DID HITLER COME TO POWER IN 1933?



Hitler promised strong government.

Hitler, like many other groups believed that the Weimar Republic was weak. Hitler promised to get rid of the Treaty of Versailles by taking back land and re-arming.

Hitler's propaganda made people believe that the Weimar politicians had stabbed Germany in the back in 1918.



Hitler appealed to all classes:

**JUNKERS** (aristocrats) – feared Communism and wanted re-armament. Hitler promised both.

**MIDDLE CLASS** – wanted law and order and feared communism.

**WORKING CLASS** – wanted jobs. Hitler promised to end unemployment.

**CHURCH** – supported Hitler because Communists were atheist.



Hitler began his rise to power in 1923 when he attempted the Munich Putsch. Although his attempt failed he used his trial to gain publicity.

In prison he wrote Mein Kampf setting out his ideas.

More importantly, he changed his ideas about how to gain power.

He decided to take power legally, using the democratic system, which he then planned to destroy.



Between 1924 and 1928 Hitler re-organized the Nazi Party.

Branches of the party were set up all over Germany.

Some of the socialist elements of the 25 Point Programme were dropped.

The Nazi Propaganda machine became more effective under Dr Goebbels.

However, in the election of 1928 the Nazis only won 12 seats in the Reichstag.



1929 – The Wall Street Crash caused a world-wide economic depression.

Hitler began to campaign across Germany using a plane.

Huge Nazi rallies spread the message.

The Nazi share of the vote began to rise.

Steel barons Krupp and Thyssen gave the Nazis huge amounts of money.

The SA became more violent, breaking up Communist and other party meetings.



In 1932 Hitler challenged Von Hindenburg for the Presidency. Hindenburg won, but Hitler came a close second!

From 1930 Chancellor Brüning failed to solve the problems caused by the depression.

Article 48 was used more and more frequently.

Chancellor Von Papen and Schleicher did not have the support of the Reichstag.

Von Papen persuaded Von Hindenburg to appoint Hitler Chancellor to keep Schleicher out.

Von Papen told Von Hindenburg that Hitler could be controlled.

This was a serious error.

**On 30th January 1933 Hitler became Chancellor of Germany**

# Anti-Semitism in Nazi Germany

At the time the Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933, there were **500 000 Jews** living in Germany.

They saw themselves as Germans, who **differed** from other Germans **only in religion**.

Hostility towards Jews had existed for hundreds of years in Europe.

**Jews were often used as scapegoats when things went wrong and were blamed for no reason.**

Anti-Semitism was therefore not unique to Nazi Germany. The Nazis extended the ideas of Anti-Semitism and Social Darwinism that were popular in Europe at the time.

Anti-Semitism was a major part of Nazi Party ideology.

The false Social Darwinist theory of a hierarchy of human beings claimed that some groups of people were born with superior talent, ability and worth.

In his book Mein Kampf Hitler argued that the **German 'race' was superior to all others**.

He **wrongly described gentile (ie non-Jewish) Germans as the 'Aryan race' or 'Herrenvolk' ('master race') and believed they had a duty to control the world.**

**Jews were blamed for all Germany's troubles and were demonised by Nazi propaganda, even though Jews made up less than 1% of the German population.**

The popular stereotype and Nazi propaganda created the myth that Jews were rich, when in fact Jews were not particularly wealthy.

In Poland, for example, 3 million out of 3.3 million Jews were killed during the Holocaust, more than 50% of them lived in poverty.

## How did Hitler take away the rights of the people of Germany?

### Anti-Jewish Nazi laws and decrees

Hitler wanted to make Nazi Germany Judenrein (free of Jews). In the early years, the policy of Judenrein did not include genocide.

Rather, anti-Jewish oppressive measures were slowly introduced to exclude Jews from all aspects of German life.

Anti-Semitic laws went hand in hand with state violence and terror.

By 1939, discriminatory laws and decrees grew longer and longer and included the following:

- Jewish businesses were boycotted
- All Jews had to wear a yellow Star of David badge to make them easy to identify
- Jews were dismissed from the civil service
- Jews were expelled from all schools and universities
- Jews were stripped of all citizenship rights
- Marriage or sexual relations between Jews and 'Aryans' was forbidden
- Jews were forbidden in certain places (for example, Jews were forced to sit on separate benches, were not permitted to use public facilities, travel on trams, or attend opera, theatre or cinema, were not admitted to restaurants, hotels, shops or hospitals)
- In some places bakeries would not sell bread to Jews
- After June 1938, the Nazis began the systematic expropriation of Jewish property

Jews were the main targets of genocide. But the following people were also considered 'inferior' and 'undesirable', and were sterilized, sent to concentration camps or killed:

- Sinti and Roma (gypsies)
- Mentally and physically disabled patients
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Black people and people of 'mixed marriage' (mixed marriage of mixed race?)
- Criminals
- Opponents of the Nazis

## **How did his racial policy lead to persecution and genocide?**

### **The Final Solution**

In 1941 the Nazis changed their Anti-Semitic policy to **systematic annihilation**, which they called the '**final solution to the Jewish question.**'

They decided to **murder every Jewish man, woman and child in Europe.**

A group of policemen called Einsatzgruppen became special mobile killing squads.

Men, women and children were **rounded up and shot by firing squads into mass graves.**

But shooting by firing squads was inefficient and too personal for the killers.

**Mass 'extermination' by gas** was planned as it was an efficient and cost effective method of murdering large numbers of Jews, and the **construction of special killing centres** began in the second half of 1941.

**Six 'Death Camps' were established – all were situated in Poland.**

Auschwitz-Birkenau, Majdanek, Chelmno, Belzec, Sobibor and Treblinka, were constructed for the purpose of killing.

Reinhard Heydrich (second in command to Himmler in the SS) coordinated the activities of all Nazi government structures to implement the 'Final Solution'.

**Gas vans and gas chambers were constructed at the death camps.**

**Zyklon B gas was used.**

The Nazis kept meticulous records of their plans and activities associated with the annihilation of the Jews.

The implementation of the 'Final Solution' required **Jews from all over Nazi-occupied Europe to be transported by rail to the death camps in Poland.**

Jews were told that they would be '**resettled**'.

In reality, they were taken to one of the six death camps.

Hundreds of thousands of people were crammed into **sealed cattle trucks or open wagons**, sometimes spending days without food, water or sanitation.

People arrived sick, dehydrated and starving.

**Many died-en-route.**

**By 1945 two out of every three European Jews had been killed.**

# NATIONALISMS - SOUTH AFRICA

## THE RISE OF AFRICAN NATIONALISM

<b>CONCEPTS</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<b>Segregation</b>	<i>A policy that want to keep different groups of people separate.</i>
<b>Negotiation</b>	<i>Conversations and discussion to reach a point of agreement.</i>
<b>Delegation</b>	<i>A group of people representing an organization.</i>
<b>Self-Determination</b>	<i>The right of people to choose their own government.</i>
<b>Moderate</b>	<i>One who chooses a peaceful and manageable solution to political problems.</i>
<b>Conservative</b>	<i>Opposed to change.: moderate</i>
<b>Civil Disobedience</b>	<i>Non-violent forms of resistance involving ordinary citizens.</i>
<b>Concession</b>	<i>To give up in return for certain benefits.</i>
<b>Commemorated</b>	<i>To celebrate the memory, honor, remember.</i>
<b>Extremists</b>	<i>People with radical political or religious views</i>
<b>Sabotage</b>	<i>Something deliberately damaged for a political reason.</i>
<b>Pariah</b>	<i>An outcast or someone who is rejected.</i>
<b>Militant</b>	<i>Extremist</i>
<b>Pragmatic</b>	<i>Dealing with things in a practical way, rather than by following a strict ideology</i>

## **The Rise of African nationalism:**

### **The formation of the African Peoples' Organisation**

The African Peoples Organisation (APO) was formed in 1902 by Dr Abdurahman in Cape Town and consisted of educated Coloureds.

They protested against the exclusion of Blacks from the right to vote

They sent a delegation to London in 1905 to achieve a non-racial franchise and end discrimination and the right to vote to Blacks – Britain ignored this request

### **The formation of the South African National Natives Congress (SANNC)**

The SANNC was formed in 1912 to oppose discrimination and to win political rights for blacks in South Africa

SANNC wanted to unite everyone who were oppressed by Whites

SANNC sent delegation to London in 1914 to appeal against the Native Land Act but was not successful.

In 1923 the SANNC changed its name to the ANC

### **Formation of ICU**

In 1919 Black dock workers formed the Industrial and Commercial Workers Union to address their grievances.

They fought against government policies and enjoyed mass support whilst the ANC had the support of the elite blacks

### **The influence of World War Two on African nationalism**

World War Two broke out in Europe in 1939. South African troops joined the war on the side of the British against Nazi Germany.

Blacks were taught that they were fighting for freedom and democracy.

When they returned they questioned the fact that they did not enjoy the freedom and democracy that they fought for

Africans helped to see the end of discrimination after the war but still suffered discrimination in their own country of birth.

### **Dr Alfred Xuma and the African Claims**

The ANC met in Bloemfontein in 1943 and formed an Atlantic Charter Committee.

Together they produced a politically significant document called 'African Claims in South Africa', which mapped out the way to an equal and racially integrated society in South Africa.

In 1944, Xuma was responsible for bringing the ANC Youth League (ANCYL) members into the executive.

People like Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Oliver Tambo, Govan Mbeki and Anton Lembede introduced a more militant approach to resistance.

Inspired by African nationalism, these young leaders believed that Africans would only be set free through their own efforts and that the masses needed to be engaged in the struggle.

Their ideas gained popular support among the young black urban population.

### **The Atlantic Charter and its influence on African nationalism**

The fight for human rights in South Africa received a boost during the war with the Atlantic Charter (1941).

In the Charter, the British and American leaders, Churchill and Roosevelt, promised to respect the rights of all people and to support those pursuing self-government.

### **Formation of the ANC Youth League**

Young members broke away from the ANC to form the Congress Youth League (Lembede and Mandela)

They accused the ANC of representing the elite and not the masses

The ANCYL responded with a Programme of Action in 1949 calling for boycotts, strikes, and general defiance.

The youth leaders realized that in order to challenge Apartheid, they would need to be more inclusive and work with other anti-Apartheid groups.

The Defiance Campaign of 1952 targeted Apartheid laws like the Population Registration Act, Group Areas Act and the Bantu Education Act.

Although the campaign was eventually crushed by the government, the ANC had made huge gains by mobilizing the masses and this resulted in a significant increase in membership.

### **The Congress of the People and the Freedom Charter.**

In the early 1950s, a multi-racial Congress Alliance was established.

Out of the Congress Alliance came the Freedom Charter, which was approved by a Congress of the People in June 1955.

The Charter stated that South Africa belonged to all who lived in it, black and white, and set out a vision of a future democratic, non-racial state.

The Freedom Charter would become the cornerstone of the new democratic republic of South Africa.

### **The formation of the PAC.**

Some members of the ANC did not accept the non-racial vision of the Freedom Charter.

These Africanists broke away from the ANC in 1958 and formed the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) in 1959.

Robert Sobukwe was the first president of the PAC.

In its early years, the PAC worked both to win power for Africans alone in South Africa and, as the very name of their organisation suggested, to unite all the African people of the continent.



# **The rise of Afrikaner nationalism and the definition of the Volk.**

## **The rise of the Afrikaans language movement**

In 1910 South Africa gained political independence from Britain under Louis Botha and Jan Smuts, two ex-Boer generals.

Both were committed to reconciling white English and Afrikaans-speaking South Africans.

In 1914 the Afrikaners formed their own party called the National Party under General J.B.M. Hertzog. Hertzog formalized the Afrikaans culture and language.

In 1925 Afrikaans replaced Dutch as an official language and the Bible was translated into Afrikaans.

## **The Afrikaner Broederbond**

The Afrikaner Broederbond (AB) was a 'secret' organisation that was formed in 1918 and played a key role in protecting and promoting Afrikaner identity and nationalism.

Its members were young professionals, teachers and ministers of the Dutch Reformed Church.

Its main aim was to further Afrikaner nationalism in South Africa through culture, to promote Afrikaner businesses and to take control of government.

The Afrikaner Broederbond supported Hertzog and the National Party initially and then threw its support behind D.F. Malan and the Purified National Party (PNP) which was formed in 1934.

Afrikaner Broederbond members dominated the membership of Malan's new party.

Every prime minister and state president of South Africa between 1948 and 1994 was a member of the Afrikaner Broederbond.

## **The Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurvereniging (FAK – Federation of Afrikaans Cultural Societies)**

In the 1930s the Broederbond worked closely with an umbrella organisation known as the Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurvereniging (FAK – Federation of Afrikaans Cultural Societies) to promote Afrikaans culture.

### **The Media**

Die Burger newspaper was started in Cape Town on 26 July 1915 to promote Afrikaner nationalism, with D.F. Malan as its editor.

In 1937, Die Transvaler newspaper was established in the Transvaal, also with the aim of promoting Afrikaner nationalism with H.F. Verwoerd as the editor.

### **The Great Trek centenary celebrations**

A significant event in 1938 was the celebration of the centenary of the Great Trek, which helped to promote Afrikaner unity and pride in their culture.

Strong feelings of patriotism were inspired in many Afrikaners as they witnessed re-enactments of the Great Trek on the streets of Pretoria.

People dressed in Voortrekker clothes and drove ox-wagons from Pretoria to the Voortrekker Monument, which had been built to mark the occasion.

## **Economic affirmative action in the 1920's and 1930's**

The Great Depression had a big impact on South Africa and many Afrikaners were forced off their land and into the cities.

As many of them were unskilled, they found that only low-paying manual labour jobs were open to them.

The 1932 Carnegie Commission of enquiry into white poverty found that between 200 000 and 300 000 whites were 'poor whites'.

Most of them were Afrikaners and it became hugely important for the future of the Volk that these poverty-stricken Afrikaners be rescued.

The Afrikaner Broederbond and the FAK stepped in, along with Afrikaner businesses, to resolve the poor white problem and to promote social upliftment through Afrikaner unity.

Economic upliftment was assisted by two new organisations: the Federale Volksbeleggings (FVB) and the Reddingsdaadbond (RDB, or Rescue League).

These institutions aimed to mobilize capital and encourage businessmen, workers, and Afrikaner commercial farmers to pool their financial resources and regain control of their savings.

Financial institutions like Volkskas and Sanlam were established for this purpose.

The Broederbond also promoted volkskapitalisme (people's capitalism) which aimed to take control of the economy and bring it into line with the needs of the Afrikaners.

Its great achievement was that it accomplished this social and economic upliftment without using state resources.

All "proper Afrikaners" had 10 duties. Among these were: every Afrikaner must become a shareholder in an Afrikaans credit organization; every Afrikaner must be a policyholder of an Afrikaans insurance company; and every Afrikaner must save and invest in an Afrikaans institution.

### **Definition of the Volk (background)**

The "Volk" is the Afrikaans word for "people".

The Volk of the National Party meant white Afrikaans-speaking South Africans. In Afrikaner nationalist ideology, the "Volk" as a whole was more important than the individual.

The Afrikaner "Volk" ideology aimed to unite Afrikaners on the basis of race and language.

They regarded the Volk as a 'nation' as more important than the Afrikaner's economic or social position in society.

### **Volk in relation to class and race issues in education.**

The National Party government wanted to improve the education of the Volk.

There were many working class Afrikaners and the National Party made laws that stated that they were to be educated in whites-only schools.

They were taught in Afrikaans, by Afrikaans-speaking teachers, from Afrikaans textbooks.

Education was aimed at creating unity of the Volk as a 'race'.

Heroic stories of the Great Trek and suffering during the South African War were taught in History lessons.

The Bantu Education Act (1953) created a separate and unequal education system in government schools.

Bantu education served the interests of white supremacy.

It denied black people access to the same educational opportunities and resources enjoyed educational opportunities and resources enjoyed by white South Africans.

A racist educational system meant that black children were schooled to become labourers for whites.

The children of the Afrikaner Volk were equipped to take up skilled and professional jobs.

### **Volk in relation to labour**

Many Afrikaner farmers were forced off the land during the economic depression after the First World War and the Great Depression in 1929.1929.

They moved with their families into the towns, but did not have the skills to find well-paying work.

Many South Africans were living in poverty, but special attention was paid to white poverty.

White poverty contradicted the ideology of racial superiority.

The Carnegie Commission (1932) recommended that special protection should be given to white labour.

After 1948, the National Party continued to rescue poor Afrikaners as they were part of the 'volk'.

**New Afrikaner trade unions were formed.**

The Afrikaner Bond van Mynwerkers (Mineworkers) and the Spoorbond were created to look after Afrikaner workers on the railways.

**Volk in relation to religion**

Afrikaner religion comes from Protestant practices of the Dutch Reformed Church of Holland.

They believed that the Dutch Reformed Church should influence government policy and that the Volk should remain 'pure and separate'.

Afrikaner nationalists believed that the Volk were chosen by God to bring civilization and Christianity to 'uncivilized' and 'heathen' black people.

**Constitutional independence from Britain—but still part of the British Empire**

- Recognition of Afrikaans and flag question – in 1924 when Hertzog, leader of the NP became Prime Minister who were a fierce fighter for Afrikaner nationalism
- South Africa's sovereign independence – with the Balfour Declaration at the Imperial Conference in 1926
- Role of the "Volk" – promoted the exclusive interest of "true" Afrikaners "highlighted" events of volks-history.
- Centenary celebration – bind and strengthen Afrikaner nationalism – led to formation of Ox-wagon sentinel.
- Second World War – South Africa fought on the side of Britain – many Afrikaner nationalists did not support this and use violent methods to block South Africa's participation
- 1948 elections – Afrikaner nationalists appealed to Afrikaner voters to vote for the NP – Apartheid.

# Apartheid

CONCEPTS	DEFINITION
<b>CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE</b>	<i>An organised campaign in which people disobey unjust laws.</i>
<b>SUPERIORITY</b>	<i>Advantage, dominance</i>
<b>BANTUSTANS</b>	<i>Another word for 'homeland'.</i>
<b>VOTERS' ROLL</b>	<i>Official list of people who are registered to vote in elections.</i>
<b>MASS MOBILISATION</b>	<i>Organising ordinary people to join in political protests, such as large public gatherings, mass meetings, marchers, and demonstrations.</i>
<b>MASSACRE</b>	<i>When many people are killed in a violent incident.</i>
<b>STATE OF EMERGENCY</b>	<i>A set of emergency laws and regulations which give a government special powers to control political unrest.</i>
<b>UNDERGROUND</b>	<i>In secret.</i>
<b>SOLITARY CONFINEMENT</b>	<i>When a prisoner in jail is not allowed contact with other prisoners.</i>
<b>GUERRILLA</b>	<i>Military activities by activists against government forces.</i>
<b>CLANDESTINE</b>	<i>Illegal and secret.</i>
<b>COMMONWEALTH</b>	<i>An association of nations consisting of the United Kingdom and several former British colonies.</i>
<b>SANCTIONS</b>	<i>Impose a penalty on; inflict punishment on.</i>
<b>QUARANTINE</b>	<i>To isolate (keep apart)</i>

## What was Apartheid?

A policy of separate development' between Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks based on the philosophy that the white race is superior to other races

## Why did the NP adopt the policy of Apartheid?

There were two main reasons why the National Party adopted the policy of Apartheid.

### Racism

Afrikaner nationalists believed in the superiority of the Afrikaner nation. They believed they were chosen to rule South Africa. The Dutch Reformed Church provided a theological justification of Apartheid, claiming that it was God's will and that the Bible supported it.

Afrikaners feared that their existence would be threatened if large numbers of black people were allowed to live among them. Apartheid was a way of preventing this threat from being realised. The National Party adopted this policy, which they considered necessary for the survival of the Afrikaners.

### Cheap black labour

Another explanation is an economic one, which links Apartheid to the need for cheap and easily controlled labour. This suggests that Apartheid laws introduced by the National Party government were designed to secure cheap labour for white farmers and industries.

White people's lives generally became increasingly privileged and comfortable, while black people experienced more and more hardship.

## **Apartheid laws**

The Apartheid government passed hundreds of laws. Here is a summary of just some of them.

### **1. The Separate Amenities Act**

Beaches, parks, toilets and nearly all public amenities were segregated. Whites used the best amenities.

### **2. The Suppression of Communism Act and the Terrorism Act:**

This law banned any political organisation that the National Party believed was supporting communism or terrorism.

### **3. Bantu Education Act:**

Black children received an inferior education. Less money was spent on their schools and they were only taught enough to make them efficient unskilled workers.

### **4. Bantu Self Government Act:**

This set up a system of 'homelands' or 'bantustans' for Africans – one for each 'ethnic' group.

### **5. Population Registration Act:**

This law classified all South Africans into four categories: Europeans (whites), Coloureds, Indians and Africans.

### **6. 'Passes' laws:**

Various laws were passed to make all African men carry 'reference' books or 'pass' books. These passes were used to control the movement of African male workers between the rural and urban areas. If a man was found without his pass, he was arrested. Passes for women were introduced later.

### **7. Group Areas Act:**

Special areas were set aside as residential and business areas for particular races. Many people were forced to move under this act.

### **8. The Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act:**

This Act forbade marriages between blacks and whites.

### **9. The Immorality Amendment Act**

Made it illegal for black and white people to have sexual relations with each other.

### **10. The Separate Representation of Voters Act:**

This Act was passed in 1956. Coloured men who had the vote in the Cape were taken off the voters' roll.

# **ANC initial resistance to apartheid 1948-1950s**

## **ANC Programme of Action**

In 1948 the Nationalist Party (NP) won the election, and began to introduce the policy of apartheid.

The ANC reacted immediately to the government's increased introduction of racist and repressive laws, and in 1949 adopted the Programme of Action.

This prompted open defiance against the government, and action against pass and other restrictive laws.

On 26 March 1950 the ANC held a 'Defend Free Speech' convention in reaction to the Suppression of Communism Act passed by the government.

Dr James Moroka gave his first public address. The ANC called for a May Day stay-at-home in demand of the vote.

The strike was successful with more than half the black Johannesburg workforce adhering to the call.

The day however, ended tragically when police started shooting killing 19 and injuring 30.

The ANC declared 26 June as a national day of mourning, to be observed annually as Freedom Day.

## **Defiance Campaign**

In 1952 the ANC launched the Defiance Campaign, which gained support across South Africa from blacks, Indians, Coloureds and few whites.

People were called on to break unjust apartheid laws and offer themselves up for arrest.

The idea behind the campaign was that jails would become too full and the police service would be thrown into chaos.

Many were arrested for using 'white' amenities, not carrying passes and other related transgressions.

## **The Freedom Charter 1955**

With the Defiance Campaign dying out, the ANC, Indian National Congress, Coloured People's Organization and Congress of Democrats (COD), collectively referred to as the Congress Alliance, decided to plan a convention and draft a new constitution for South Africa.

On 26 June 1955 they met in Kliptown and adopted the Freedom Charter

The Freedom Charter was a list of demands for the rights that most South Africans were denied.

Police raids increased after the meeting, and by the end of the year 42 ANC leaders had been banned.

## **Treason Trials**

The Apartheid government did not accept the ideas of the Freedom Charter.

They arrested the leaders of the Congress of the People and accused them of high treason, or trying to overthrow the government.

The prosecution spoke of a conspiracy to overthrow the government and replace it with a communist republic.

The Freedom Charter was seen as part of the conspiracy, and was therefore a document promoting treason.

The defense argued the case, saying that there was no evidence that the ANC was violent.

The trial last for four years, but not a single person was found guilty.

## **Women's March 1956**

On 9 August 1956 about 20 000 women marched on the Union Buildings in Pretoria against the extension of the pass laws to women

In 1957 there was a bus boycott in Alexandra resisting fare increases, and thousands of residents walked the 20km to work until the fares were reduced again.

During the year there were also protests against beer halls, wages and passes, and in 1958 protests were held to coincide with the elections

## **The Intensified resistance against Apartheid**

### **The formation of the PAC**

Some members of the ANC began to move away from peaceful protest. The radicals broke away in 1959 to form the PAC.

### **The Sharpeville Massacre 1960**

In 1960 the PAC held a demonstration against the pass laws. Police opened fire on demonstrators in Sharpeville, killing 69 and wounded nearly 200. Most of those that were killed were shot in the back. This caused international alarm and criticism of the apartheid government, and further increased suppression. A State of Emergency was declared, and in April 1960 the ANC and PAC were banned.

### **The formation of Umkhonto we Sizwe**

After the ANC was banned, the party deliberated on what steps to take next. It was believed at this point that non-violence would achieve nothing. Therefore, in June 1961, the ANC executive agreed to the formation of an armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), which Mandela would lead in a programme of controlled sabotage. On 16 December 1961 MK performed their first acts of sabotage, with attacks on post offices and other buildings in Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Durban. Many other acts of sabotage took place over the next few years. Some members of the ANC, including Oliver Tambo resisted arrest and fled the country in the hope of rebuilding the organisation in exile. Black supporters also left the country for military training.

### **The formation of Poqo**

The PAC formed an armed wing called Poqo, which: means 'pure' or 'alone' in isiXhosa. Had a support base in the Western Cape and Transkei. They embarked on a violent sabotage campaign which included the intentional killing of whites, and blacks who were policemen or chiefs. Lack of support and the government repression meant that Poqo did not survive. By 1968 the military functions of the PAC were taken over by the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA).

### **Rivonia Trial**

The government introduced the General Law Amendment Act of 1963, which allowed the police to detain people for ninety days without charging them and without allowing them access to a lawyer. In August 1962, Mandela was arrested, and in 1963 the police raided the headquarters of the ANC on Lilliesleaf farm outside Rivonia and arrested its leaders. These leaders, together with Mandela and members of other organizations, were accused of sabotage and trying to overthrow the government. The Rivonia Trial, continued until 1964. Mandela, Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba from the ANC, Ahmed Kathrada from the Transvaal Indian Congress and Dennis Goldberg from the COD were found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment in Robben Island. After the Rivonia Trial the ANC in exile faced problems, as all internal structures were in disarray. The government continued with their repressive campaigns after the trial, and by 1964 the revolutionary movements had been broken.

