

Studying history o country u hve nevr seen, dont knw.  
Importance o ths.

Also wll find answrs to questions: why blk majority  
in SA hve submittd so long. Why 1st country o Af  
continent to hve W minority rule.

To knw answrs mst knw reasons, to knw reasons mst  
knw history.

### 1. BEFORE 1910 THERE WS NO SA

Whn colonists came to Sthn A, fought & conquered  
separate tribes. No SA nations. Hw nations are  
formd (everywhere).

Conquest poss bcos fought & conquered separate tribes.  
Col conquered Xhosa, Tembu, 1877 Pondoland annexd,  
10 yrs latr, Zululnd.

Tribes defeatd by sophisticatd weapons bt also by  
own divisions - by tribalism. Only Basuto under  
Moshoeshoe unitd quarrelng tribes into a nation -  
altho eventually forcd to seek Brit Protection, Leso

At same time, colonialsts changng nature o rural  
agricultrl society, forcng tribesmn to wk on  
diamnd diggngs, gold mines o Reef. So separate  
tribes came to recognise selves nt only as Zulus or  
Xhosa, bt also as Africns.

4 colonies (nw provinces)

CAPE limitd numbr Afs o votrs role - qualifications  
OFS & TV - 'no equality i Church or State'

NATAL: Natal farmr<sup>s</sup> to N Affairs Commission:

T ntve is t most tractable man going, as long as he  
knws u hve yr foot o hs neck . . . I think t thing  
tt shld b used very freely is t lash, fr it is  
bodily pain tt t ntve fears.'

By 1909 clear Brit preparng to hnd ovr blk popul  
to W minority rule.

3 editors: Rev Waltr Rubusana, Jon Tengo Jabavu,

Rev Jon Dube + various Af orgs met & while they approved union of 4 states, protested ag colourbar in proposed constitution - restricted vote to Ws, even depriving AfS the right to be elected to Parl.

## 2 UNION OF SA IS FORMED

1909 All-W national convention rep 4 provinces met in bfx, did not even consider Af protests. Final responsibility rested with Brit parliament, so Af deputation went to Brit to protest. Told decision rested in SA - did not even consider Af protests.

Brit parliament passed bill establishing Union 'respectfully & earnestly' begging W SA, soon or later to modify its provisions.

Process of depriving AfS of rights then began. Colonial greed. New SA cabinet: 1 of 1st acts prevent Af employment in certain jobs, restricting them to low-paid labour, protecting W workers. Soon, breaking contracts or striking illegal.

Another Act disarmed Af constabulary, put them in short trousers & Af mounted police retitled 'police boys'. Proud, independent AfS thrown into 'fantastic new world of kitchen boys, mine boys, garden boys, cleaners, pass-bearers, vagrants, forced to earn wages to pay tax, turned into criminals if failed to pay or produce a pass. Their chiefs turned into servants of W govt, sons of Chiefs often into domestic servants. In essence, their humanity was denied.'

*Process of making inferiority - culture, art, history - analogy with Women*

## 3. FORMATION OF ANC - THE PEOPLE UNITE BUT LAND IS LOST

Pixley Ka I Seme - attorney - returned to SA from USA, dreamed of rebuilding Zulu nation, now forced to think in wider terms. Called 3 other Af lawyers.

'The demon of racialism, the aberrations of the Xhosa-Fingo feud, the animosity that exists between the Zulus & the Tongas, between the Basuto & every other native must be buried & forgotten . . . We are one people. These divisions, these jealousies, are the cause of all our woes & of all our backwardness & ignorance.'

T 4 young lawyers called a conf. See MB 24 'In Jan 1912 . . . in p. 25 . . . Origin of Nkosi Sikelele



collective oppression.

## THE POSITION OF WOMEN

In 1912, W completely peripheral.

Pixley ka Seme, who had played leading role in convening ANC conf, "Chiefs of royal blood and gentlemen of our race . . ."

1912 call was for equal rights for all civilised men. Not until 1940s did ANC come out unequivocally in support of a universal suffrage that would include women.

Importance of use of language - 'the new man' (10th anniversary)

But in 1913 African women burst onto the public political stage in a fierce campaign against passes. Women's exemption until 1950s but not in O.F.S. Local authority instituted system of permits. 6th June 1912, 600 women marched to Town Hall. "We have done with pleading. We now demand".

34 convicted & given jail sentence with option of fine. They chose not to pay fine. Action followed in other centres - jails became too full.

This was first large-scale entry of black women - in terms of modern, non-tribal structures, into political arena.

The struggle continued until 1920's, when passes for women were dropped. (until 1956)

Resulted in emergence of Bantu Women's League, Charlotte Maxeke affiliated to ANC, but women not accorded equal rights in ANC

## 6 THE LAND ACT

MB 21/30

The Native Land Bill, 1 year after formation of ANC, was to put an end to the right of Africans to their land in their own country. 1 million Whites given 90% while 4 million Africans would have 7.3% - rights of freehold ownership only in the reserves.

ANC organised protest meetings, deputation to the minister & appealed to the British Governor-General. Petitions representing 100s of 1000s were rejected by parliament. On 20th June, 1913 the African awoke to find himself

a pariah i t land o hs birth' (Plastje)

Congress decided nthg left bt to appeal to HM Gvt & apprise t Brit public o t kind o gvt rulng SA' Many attempts to dissuade dep frm going. Invitd by G-G i Capetown to meet hm - to b urgdt to go. General Botha hmslf condescended to meet dep. Whn they told hm o hardshps, he replied tt he & hs friends hd refraind frm evictng their own ntves.

In Ldn, saw Colonial Sec who said PM o SA hd assurd hm ntves hd too mch land already He told thm to speak to their own Parl.

## 7. THE TACTICS OF THE TIME

Cant judge their tactics by today's knwledge & undrstandg. They were reformist & oftn unrealistic, tryng to obtain humane ideals i a wrld o powr. Ideologies develp out o their own era, & nationl & clss consciousness develpd i t course o t struggle In 1912, ANC leadrs at 1st actd on assumption tt Brit meant wht they said, & tt evn a qualified vote in all provinces wld enable thm i time to achieve just society without violence. They thought t numbr o 'educated' & 'civilisd' Afs wld increase. Bt their aim o creatng a single unified people out of many ethnigrps ws t greatest challenge - to build one nation. Multi-lingual papr, Abantu-Batho (discontinued 1930) carried message o unity & freedm thru out land.

had And leadrs were mostly professionls & chiefs & gvt servnts, they either known or seen defeat o kingdms & chiefdoms. Constitutionl methds were logical at tt time, while stll creatng unity b4 ANC hd bcome effective force. T \*spear\* ws nt t solution - they hd usd spears ag guns & faild. They saw only solution in learnng & knowledge.

They cld nt yet comprehend nature o new society. It ws t nature o tt society, of t social & economic forces brought into being, tt pushd ANC frm its reformist principles, wth hesitatn vision & no clear goals, into a radical & revolutionary body. And to take up t spear, bce again, nt as an ineffectual weapon ag. t oppressors, bce as a symbl o t advanced & sophisticated armd strugg

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