**Apartheid in South Africa 2 – Resistance and End**

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| **Aim:** | **Date:** |
| **Key Words:**  **1.**  **2.** |  |

**A. Important People**

Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela, a native South African, was the most important figure in the anti-apartheid movement. He used both peaceful and violent methods. Even though Mandela never killed anyone personally, he gave orders to attack government offices and other public targets. In 1962, Nelson Mandela and others were arrested and charged with starting a terrorist organization. He plead guilty to acts of public violence, including organizing a car bombing that killed 19 people.

Desmond Tutu

Desmond Tutu was a South African [Bishop](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bishop) who travelled and spoke out against apartheid. He even compared apartheid to Nazism and as a result, the government took away his passport and publicly criticized him. He became famous around the world as someone who spoke for peace and human rights. He was not punished for his actions by the South African government because he was non-violent and was a religious leader.

*If you were a black South African, which leader would you rather follow – Mandela or Tutu? Explain*

**B. Protests and Massacres**

The African National Congress (ANC) was a political party founded in 1912 in South Africa. It argued against apartheid. In the 1940s and 1950s it promoted strikes and civil disobedience against apartheid. Nelson Mandela was one of the leaders of the ANC.

Sharpeville Massacre:

On March 21, 1960, the ANC organized thousands to gathered in Sharpeville and marched toward police headquarters, where they planned to be arrested for not carrying their passbooks. The police fired upon the protesters, killing 69 people and injuring 180. Afterwards, the government banned the ANC and imprisoned many of its members including Nelson Mandela. Worldwide protests started to free Mandela.

“What is important about Sharpeville is not that seventy died; Nor even that they shot in the back, retreating, unarmed, defenseless and certainly not the heavy caliber slug that tore through a mother’s back and ripped through the child in her arms killing it. Remember Sharpeville bullet-in-the-back day because it epitomized [was a perfect example] oppression….”

- Sharpeville (Poem), (1960)

Soweto Massacre:

In 1976, Soweto was the scene of another massive uprising. Students were protesting school policies that limited the education of blacks. In the end, 600 students were killed, and more protests began to spread throughout South Africa.

“Army helicopters … dropped tear-gas canisters on the crowd. Dozens of buses were stoned and set afire next morning as the rioting continued…Vandalism, looting and random fires caused at least $2.5 million worth of damage… the unrest spread to … other neighboring townships …Some whites, though, saw Soweto as a warning that the … unfair structure of South African society cannot be long endured.”

-Times Magazine, (June 28, 1976)

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| *Place* | *Methods used by protestors* | *How was it a turning point?* |
| *1. Sharpeville* |  |  |
| *2. Soweto* |  |  |

**C. The World Responds**

By the late 1980s, South Africa was under enormous pressure to change. For years, bishop Desmond Tutu**,** advocated an economic boycott of the country. Many nations of the world imposed trade restrictions on South Africa. Between 1964 and 1992, South Africa was barred from the Olympics and most international sport competitions. The United Nations accused government leaders of human rights violations as well.

"The brutal policy of apartheid is applied (shown) before the eyes of the nations of the world. The peoples of Africa are compelled to endure the fact that on the African continent the superiority of one race over another remains official policy.”

-Che Guevara, speech to the United Nations as Cuba's representative, (December 11, 1964)

*How would these international actions impact South Africa:*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Politically?* | *Economically?* | *Socially?* |
|  |  |  |

**D. The End of Apartheid Timeline**

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| --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Event** |
| 1989 | White South Africans elected a new president, Frederik Willem de Klerk. |
| 1990 | Frederik Willem de Klerk: Legalizes the ANC and releases Nelson Mandela from prison after 27 years |
| 1994 | First elections where people of all races could vote. Nelson Mandela elected president |
| 1996 | New Constitution was passed – guarantees equal rights for all citizens and forbids discrimination.  Considered one of the best constitutions in the world |

"Peace does not flourish where there is ignorance and a lack of education and information. Racial, class and religious intolerance and prejudice are peace’s mortal enemies."

-Frederik Willem de Klerk

*Do you think the end of apartheid was caused more by local or international authorities?*

**E. South Africa Today**