

Apartheid Politics in South Africa

Okuma Lelo

University of Kinshasa, DR Congo

Email: okuma1@gmail.com

Abstract

Racial discrimination is a very big problem and is found in several countries such as the United States, Britain and the most dominant in South Africa with Apartheid politics. Therefore, South Africa is the focus of the fight against racism towards the realization of justice. The word Apartheid means "separation" in African language and it describes the racial rigidity that governs the division between the white minority population and the majority white population. The struggle of the majority of black Africans against the dominance of white minorities is the main and final racial conflict. The international community actively encourages it. However, the white group was quite a lot and was too strong while the black power was so weak and divided, that in the end a person named Nelson Mandela would appear who was active in fighting for the elimination of Apartheid politics in South Africa, on the grounds that racial crises and conflicts would arise. what happened there was soon over and South Africa became a conducive country.

Keywords: Apartheid Politics, Racism, Racial Conflict.



A. INTRODUCTION

South Africa is one of the oldest nations in the African continent. Many tribes have become residents, including the Khoi, Bushmen, Xhosa and Zulu tribes. The Dutch explorer known as the Afrikaner arrived there in 1652. At that time Britain was also interested in this country, especially after the discovery of abundant diamond reserves. This led to the Anglo-Dutch War and two Boer Wars. In 1910, four major republics were merged under the Union of South Africa. In 1931, South Africa became a complete British colony.

Although this country was under British rule, they were forced to share power with the Afrikaners. This division of power continued until the 1940s, when the pro-Afrikaner party, the National Party (NP) gained a majority in parliament. The party's strategies had created the basis of Apartheid (which was passed in 1948), a way to guard the country's economic and social system with white domination and racial discrimination. However, the British government often thwarted the whole business of Apartheid in South Africa. In 1961, after white elections, South Africa was declassified as a republic. Beginning in the 1960s, the 'Grand Apartheid' (Big Apartheid) was implemented, this politics emphasizing the alienation of the territory and the tyranny of the police. The oppression of blacks continued until the end of the 20th century. In February 1990, due to encouragement from other nations and intense opposition from various anti-Apartheid movements especially the African National Congress (ANC), the National Party government under the leadership of President F.W. De Klerk withdrew the ban on the African National Congress and parties

Another leftist politics and the release of Nelson Mandela from prison. Apartheid law began to be deleted on a perlands and elections without discrimination were first held in 1994. The ANC party won a great victory and Nelson Mandela, was appointed as the first black President in South Africa. Although power was in the hands of blacks, millions of its population still lived in poverty.

B. METEHOD

In 1948, the National Party was chosen for power. This compounded the implementation of racial segregation embarked on under colonialism Dutch and British provisions, and the South African government that follows since the union was formed. Nationalist Government Proponents of the existing systemic separation of skin color, classifying all people into three competitions, development rights and restrictions for each, such graduation laws and residence restrictions. The white minority controls the very majority of the larger black. The system of isolation became known together like Apartheid. Apartheid, racial segregation policies followed previously in South Africa. The word Apartheid means "separation" in the language Africa and it illustrates the racial rigidity that governs the division between the white minority population and the majority white population. The Apartheid National Party was introduced as part of their campaign in the 1948 elections, and with the victory of the National Party, which set Apartheid into South African political policy until the early 1990s. Even though there is no legal basis for Apartheid, socially, the economy, and the political divide between white and black South Africa continues to exist. The Apartheid Act of people is classified according to three major white racial groups; aids, or black African and colored, or people of mixed ancestry. Then Asians, or Indians and Pakistanis, were added as the fourth category. Laws are determined where members of each group can live, work they can maintain, and what type of education they can receive. The law is prohibited from contact social relations between races, authorized to separate public facilities, and deny non-white representation in national governments. People who openly oppose Apartheid are considered communist and the government has passed stringent security laws in force that turned South Africa into a police state. (SOURCE: Davis, Richard Hunt. "Apartheid." Microsoft® Student 2008 [DVD]. Redmond, WA: Microsoft Corporation, 2007.) Conflict in South Africa has much roots in racism. Architect Apartheid, Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd when he was Prime Minister of the Republic of South Africa, adopted the ideology of Apartheid which was strengthened by Constitution. The point is: "the central tenet of Apartheid was that each group should develop separatly and achive autonomy in its area. " It was elaborated in four ideas: 1) The African population consists of four races, namely the white, colored, Indian, and African races. rika; 2) white is a civilized race; 3) White interests must be above black interests; 4) white races are Afrikaners and whites in English language. Afrikaners argue that separation is important for their survival. The struggle of the majority of black Africans against the dominance of white minorities is a conflict the main and final asial. The international

community actively encourages it. However, the white group is quite numerous and too strong while the black power is so weak and divided to change the status quo quickly from within. Likewise South African neighboring countries are too poor and weak. The affluent white world is so interested in mining goods stored on Earth in South Africa that their attitude is ambiguous and insufficient decisive pressure from the outside. (Source: Book on the Development of International Relations in Africa by Dr. Abdul Hadi Adnan)

C. DISCUSSION

Racial discrimination is a very big problem and is found in several countries such as the United States, Britain and the most dominant in South Africa with its Apartheid politics. Therefore, South Africa is the focus of the anti-racism struggle towards the realization of justice. At the end of World War II, the state of the world changed, the privilege began to be alienated, especially that privilege associated with skin color. If in previous centuries European nations scrambled to occupy and control areas that were not white (regions outside Europe), but now precisely after World War II they began to scramble to release their colonial territories with give independence one by one, even though it is often done in a hasty manner without preparation, as necessary and without thinking about what will happen to you these regions if the relationship between the authorities and their subordinates (colonial territory) was severed suddenly. But such a thing did not happen in South Africa the white people there were instead trying to strengthen their privilege and power without regard to the world's prospect which was greatly increased. Because white people in southern Africa are large enough to exceed 5 million and have lived for centuries, have multiplied, have extensive family ties so that there is no area for them to return home. Therefore, they have developed their own politics and claim themselves as "White African tribes" and reside there. White people are not willing to see that they must be equalized and rights its dignity with black people / African natives. Therefore, they have two alternatives: they continue to govern blacks as if nothing happened or give them a certain autonomy. These two alternatives are run by a party, the National Party led by Daniel Francois, who is very large and is in several Malan. The party won the elections in 1948 with the Apartheid system. The victory of the National Party is not a coincidence, but is a result of the South African situation itself. In the agrarian period the people developed a system of economic and social stratification based on race in which the white minority occupies the top spot and the black majority occupies the bottom, while the places between them are colored and the Asian (Indian) class. When the white position was threatened due to the development of the white industry, they did their utmost to save and strengthen it. With that intention the National Party also formulated the Apartheid program.

Apartheid's political process and in South Africa

1. Racial Policy

The essence of Apartheid according to Tony Beaumont in his book *South Africa After Siege* is that each group should develop separately and achieve autonomy in its area (each group must develop itself separately and must achieve their respective regional autonomy). This is elaborated in four ways, namely in the stratification of the population in the order of whites, colored people (mixed), Asian descent (here usually Indians), and Bantu people (native blacks); white skin is a civilized race; white interests over black; and white English. Apartheid's ideological thinking as explained in the previous section underlies the Group Areas Act in 1950. Dwellings are separated based on existing racial stratification. Leather people many live in the northern border region to the eastern border of South Africa. For black people who are outside their area for more than 72 hours without special permission from the Native Labor Officer, they will be jailed.

In the black area, regional distribution was then carried out based on existing ethnic groups. These areas were then called Homelands (homeland) or Bantustans (Bantu areas). Ten of these regions were eventually established, namely Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Gazankulu, Kangwane, Kwandebele, Kwazulu, Lebowa, Qwaqwa, Transkei, and Venda. These areas constitute only 14% of South Africa and are intended for 72% of Bantu people. Because it is regional autonomy, economic development in Homelands is not good. The resources in the area are also not many so they cannot meet the needs of the community. Not to mention the increasing number of population every year, making Homelands become dense and dirty. Unlike the conditions in the area that belonged to white people. Their area is large with few inhabitants. Not to mention the abundant natural resources, such as diamonds, manganese and gold. White skin at that time was very prosperous. Not only are the housing issues differentiated, the problems of work, education, and marriage are also discriminated against. Black people generally only become laborers, but because they increase in number each year, they gradually become unemployed. Not all blacks are educated. Even if it is equipped, the education also differs in the lessons. This is based on the Bantu Education Act. For marriages, interfaith marriages are also prohibited for them.

2. Resistance to Apartheid

The famous mass movement was when there was a national demonstration on March 21, 1960 led by the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC). They were protesting against Apartheid, which was increasingly bad for them, especially the work problem. Existing demonstrators in front of the Sharpeville police station. They are burning things. The police are worried they will become more. After the situation became chaotic, the police finally opened fire. Even when the crowd tried to escape, the police still shot. 69 black people died, including women and children, and more than 180 people were injured. One week later, the

action increasingly rebelled. Marches, strikes and unrest throughout the country. The government declared an emergency at the time. 18,000 people were arrested. ANC and PAC were finally banned after this incident. The two parties only move underground, more than that they will be exiled. The Sharpeville Massacre tragedy was condemned by the international world. The UN Security Council blames the South African government for the Sharpeville Massacre. The UN General Assembly considers Apartheid as a crime against humanity.

The South African government is taking political steps at home. Previously the South African government issued the Self-Government Assistance, which provided a limited representation seat for black citizens to be able to develop their regions to become ready for independence. This was followed up by the Bantu Homelands Consociation Act, where the black area could have its own national flag and song. The prohibition is that they cannot have an army, enter into relations with other countries, own a weapons factory, and make laws governing post, telecommunications, finance, and immigration. The most developed Bantu area is Transkei. At the request of PM Matan-zima, in 1976 Transkei was freed. but that was condemned by the white dominion which remained unshakeable. other black. United States and Britain In its development, criticism not only responded negatively, they assumed it came from within, but from abroad as well. if they support the independence of Tran - they all call for the dismissal of the skei, it means they are justifying the course of the practice of Apartheid in South Africa. Apartheid. The UN General Assembly itself declared independence illegal.

In other parts of the world, in India, there was a black student movement by the South African Student Organization (SASO) in 1972. There were bloody clashes with the police there. In 1973, black laborers went on strike. They demanded improvements in fate and higher wages. This time there was no backlash from the government. Instead, the government raised their wages because they were considered too low. The government also recognizes the need for training opportunities for workers to improve the quality of work more efficiently. But it was different in the event three years later. A major confrontation between demonstrators and South African police took place in Soweto, near Johannesburg and Pretoria on June 16, 1976. Thousands of black high school students demonstrated against the government governing certain subjects to be taught in Africa, which was seen as the language of oppression. At least 575 people died. Riots and confrontations between police and students spread across the country. This led to a new phase in the liberation process where black youth became very involved. Many black youths tried to leave the country to join the liberation movements, some also remained and worked with underground resistance movements. Between September 1984 and March 1986, it was alleged that more than 1,000 people were killed. Many clashes occurred, not only between blacks and whites, but also between blacks themselves. Older blacks feel better off cooperating with whites, but young people reject them. Despite the many social upheavals, the supremacy of

The Role of Nelson Mandela in Apartheid Politics

Nelson Mandela is a great statesman of South Africa and even the world is consistent with his struggle against the racist Apartheid regime. Born on July 18, 1918, the original name given by his parents was Rolihlala Mandela, but because his teacher had difficulty reciting, then was given the name Nelson, the name of the British Captain at that time, later in his struggle he was also known by the name Madiba. Nelson was the first person from his family to enter school. Growing up, Nelson was once a lawyer, before finally he plunged into politics and became the chairman of the ANC, a forum for the struggle of black Africans to demand equal rights, in which Nelson vigorously opposed the Apartheid regime. Nelson Mandela quickly became acquainted with the equality movement at that time, it also indicated that he quickly became acquainted with the leaders of equality, especially Oliver Tambo. Initially the struggle he waged along with the party he led, the ANC was peaceful struggles, that's why in August 1958, the ANC broke out, with the separation of Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe, who thought the ANC was not radical, and less assertive in opposing, critics The ANC then established the Pan African Congress (PAC), as a forum for its struggle. Meanwhile, Mandela himself continued to fight without violence by leading a campaign to demand the National Convention to create a new South Africa Law that was just and anti-discrimination in May 1961. But when the government refused, Mandela campaigned for strikes, which then responded with violence and brutality by the regime. It was only in June 1961, the initial turning point of Mandela's awareness and the black African nation, because Apartheid violence had truly become structural violence, therefore there was no meaning to the struggle carried out peacefully, when the struggle was always confronted with bullets, so Nelson thinks when violence and non violence are the two choices that must be taken, and prefers real movements with lives at stake. Sabotage was also taken, in response to the extreme violence of the Apartheid regime. The violence itself had previously taken place on March 21, 1960, when the massacre took place in Sherpeville, and ended with the slaughter of thousands of lives and resulted in the banning of the ANC and the radical right wing fragment of PAC. Even though the movements against Apartheid continued to increase, and there were even clashes, it did not temporarily shake the white government to immediately abolish the regime. Nelson Mandela himself continued to launch a protest movement organized through the ANC which he led, which later also became a mass demonstration movement, boycott, strike, and burning black passports. Not enough, he then founded and led the ANC's military wing, viz Umkhonto we sizwe, most recently, when in court, Nelson claimed to sabotage the army, and planned as well draw up guerrilla warfare, which then also indicated that in his struggle against Apartheid, the ANC too committed human rights violations, his report to the truth and reconciliation commission. Nelson Mandela himself carried out armed resistance in underground movements, by attacking industrial centers. He

was in hiding for several years, because the regime regarded him as dangerous. Nelson was arrested in 1964 and sentenced a lifetime with Walter Sisulu. When the court decided the sentence, Nelson stated that he was willing to die for equal rights. 18 years after being in prison at Robben Island, Mandela was offered parole and would be granted asylum to Transkei, but he refused, he just wanted to be free without conditions and freedom from detention as free people for equal black rights. Finally, for 27 years he was detained, Nelson Mandela was released unconditionally, after President Frederik Willem de Klerk sought total reform and negotiations with the ANC and would hold free elections in 1994 where Mandela's party won the election, and he became a black President First South Africa, The initial tasks were to seek national reconciliation so that there would not be recurring conflicts between races, especially mutual vengeance, in turn a commission, namely the truth and reconciliation commission.

D. CONCLUSION

To form and enforce Apartheid's policy, the South African Parliament adopted a series of extraordinary legislation that allowed full separation between racial groups at every stage of life, systematically cutting human rights and basic freedoms from all non-whites and protecting the security forces from legal limitations. Millions of non-whites, including Indians, Pakistanis and black groups, are forced out of "white" territory to enter segregated parts of various cities in South Africa. The Apartheid Nationalist Party's policy continued and intensified under Malan's successor, Prime Minister Hendrick F. Verwoerd. In 1961, the government severed relations with the British Commonwealth and declared the country to be the Republic of South Africa. In the year of 1983, along with increasing racial tensions, Verwoerd is killed.

REFERENCES

1. Adnan, Abdul Hadi. (2008). Development of International Relations in Africa. Bandung: Space.
2. Agus, B. (2013). APARTHEID POLITICS IN SOUTH AFRICA.
3. Christian, A. P. (2014). The role of Nelson Mandela in the Anti-Apartheid Movement in South Africa 1994-1999. GLOB AL & POLICY JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, 2 (1), 104-112.
4. Dipoyudo, Kiridi. (1983). Africa in upheaval. Jakarta: CSIS
5. Davis, Richard Hunt. (2007). Apartheid, Microsoft® Student 2008 [DVD]. Redmond, WA: Microsoft Corporation.
6. Lemon, Anthony, O'Meara, Patrick, and Winchester, N. Brian. (2007). South Microsoft® Redmond, Corporation.
7. Lewis, S. R. (1990). The economics of apartheid (pp. 127-134). New York: Council on foreign relations Press.
8. Maull, H. (Ed.). (2013). Südafrika: Politics-Gesellschaft-Wirtschaft vor dem Ende der Apartheid. Springer-Verlag.

9. Sharpeville Massacre. (2007). Microsoft® Student 2008 [DVD]. Redmond, WA: Microsoft Corporation.
10. Wenzel, C. (2013). Südafrika-Politics der Bundesrepublik Deutschland 1982–1992: Politics of the Apartheid Gegen ?. Springer-Verlag.
11. Yusna, V. (2013). The Development of Apartheid Politics during the Reign of Frederik Willem De Klerk in 1989-1994 (Doctoral dissertation, Indonesian University of Education).