

# Apartheid policy in South Africa

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## Abstract

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

**Keywords:** *Apartheid politics, racism, racial conflict.*



## A. INTRODUCTION

South Africa is one of the oldest nations on the African continent. Many tribes became residents, including the Khoi, Bushmen, Xhosa, and Zulu tribes. The Dutch explorer known as Afrikaner arrived there in 1652. At that time, Great Britain was also interested in this country, especially after the discovery of abundant reserves of diamonds. This led to the Anglo-Dutch War and two Boer Wars. In 1910, the four main republics merged under the Unity of South Africa. In 1931 South Africa became a full 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) won a majority in parliament. The party's strategies had created the basis for apartheid (which was adopted in 1948), a means of protecting the country's economic and social system with white domination and racial discrimination. However, the British government has often warned the whole affair of apartheid in South Africa. In 1961, after white elections, South Africa was declassified as a republic. From the 1960s, the "Big Apartheid" (Big Apartheid) was implemented, this policy 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, with encouragement from other nations and intense opposition from various anti-apartheid movements, particularly the African National Congress (ANC), the National Party government under President F.W. De Klerk lifted the Banning of the African National Congress and Other Left Politics parties and the release of Nelson Mandela from prison. Apartheid law began to be scrapped on a

perlands and non-discriminatory elections were first held in 1994. The ANC party won a big victory and Nelson Mandela was named South Africa's first black president. South. Although power is in the hands of black people, millions of its people still live in poverty.

## **B. METHOD**

In 1948, the National Party was elected to power. This worsened the implementation of racial segregation undertaken under colonialism. Dutch and British provisions, and the South African government following since the formation of the union. nationalist government.

Proponents of the existing systemic separation of skin color, classifying all people into three competitions, developmental rights and restrictions for everyone, such as graduation laws and residency restrictions. The white minority controls the overwhelming majority of taller blacks. The isolation system together became known as Apartheid. Apartheid, racial segregation policies previously followed in South Africa. The word apartheid means "separation" in the language of Africa and it illustrates the racial rigidity that governs the division between the minority white population and the majority white population. The Apartheid National Party was introduced as part of its campaign in the 1948 elections and with the victory of the National Party, which entrenched apartheid in South African political politics until the early 1990s. while there is no legal basis for apartheid, socially, economically and politically the division between white and black South Africa continues to exist. The People's Apartheid Act is classified according to three major white racial groups; AIDS, or black Africans and people of color, or people of mixed ancestry. Then Asians, or Indians and Pakistanis, were added as a fourth category. Laws determine where members of each group can live, what jobs they can keep, and what kind of education they can receive.

The law prohibits contact social relations between races, allows segregation of public facilities, and denies representation of non-whites in national governments. People who openly oppose apartheid are considered communists, and the government has strict security laws in place that have turned South Africa into a police state. (SOURCE: Davis, Richard Hunt. "Apartheid." Microsoft® Student 2008 [DVD]. Redmond, WA: Microsoft Corporation, 2007.) The conflict in South Africa has many roots in racism. Architect of apartheid, Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd when he was Prime Minister of the Republic of South Africa, embraced apartheid ideology which was reinforced by the Constitution. The point is: "The central tenet of apartheid was that each group should develop separately and achieve self-reliance within its domain. and the African races. rica; 2) white is a civilized race; 3) white interests must be above black interests; 4) white races are Afrikaners and whites in the English language Afrikaners argue that separation is important to their survival The struggle of the majority of black Africans against the domination of white minorities is a major and ultimate conflict in Asia. The international community actively encourages it. However, the white group is numerous and too strong enough while the black power

is so weak and divided to quickly change the status quo from within. even neighboring South African countries are too poor and weak. The wealthy white world is so interested in mining products stored on Earth in South Africa that their attitude is ambiguous and the pressure of insufficient decisiveness from the outside. (Source: Book on the development of international relations in Africa by Dr. Abdul Hadi Adnan)

### C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Racial discrimination is a very big problem and is found in several countries such as the United States, Great Britain and the most dominant in South Africa with its policy of apartheid. Therefore, South Africa is at the center of the fight against racism towards achieving justice. At the end of World War II, the state of the world changed, privilege began to be alienated, especially that privilege associated with skin color. If in previous centuries European nations rushed to occupy and control areas that were not white (regions outside Europe), but now, precisely after the Second World War, they have begun to struggle to liberate their colonial territories and give independence one by one, even if it is often done in a hurry without preparation, as much as necessary and without thinking about what will happen to these regions if the relationship between the authorities and their subordinates (colonial territory) was brutally broken. But such a thing did not happen in South Africa, rather the white people were trying to consolidate their privileges and their power without taking into account the present and the world which increased considerably. Because white people in Southern Africa are large enough to exceed 5 million and have lived for centuries, multiplied, have extensive family ties so there is no space for them to return home them. Therefore, they have developed their own policy and claim themselves as "white African tribes" and live there. Whites are unwilling to see that they have to be equalized and entitled to their dignity with Blacks/Africans. From then on, they have two alternatives: to continue to govern the Blacks as if nothing had happened or to give them a certain autonomy. These two alternatives are led by a party, the National Party led by Daniel François, which is very important and is found in several Malans. The party won elections in 1948 under the apartheid system. The victory of the National Party is not a coincidence, but is the result of the South African situation itself. In the agrarian era, the people developed a system of economic and social stratification based on race in which the white minority occupies the first place and the black majority occupies the last place, while the places between them are colored and the class Asian (Indian). When the white position was threatened due to the development of white industry, they did everything possible to save and strengthen it. With this intention, the National Party also formulated the program of apartheid.

## **The political process of apartheid and in South Africa**

### **1. Racial politics**

The essence of apartheid according to Tony Beaumont in his book *South Africa After Siege* is that each group must develop separately and achieve autonomy in their area (each group must develop separately and must achieve their respective regional autonomy). This is elaborated in four ways, namely in the stratification of the population into the order of white, colored (mixed), Asian (here usually Indian) and Bantu (black natives); the white skin is a civilized race; white interests over blacks; and white English. The ideological thought of apartheid, as explained in the previous section, underlies the Group Areas Act of 1950. Accommodation is segregated according to existing racial stratification. Leather people live extensively in the northern border region to the eastern border of South Africa. For black people who are out of their area for more than 72 hours without special permission from the native labor officer, they will be jailed.

In the black zone, a regional distribution was then carried out according to the existing ethnic groups. These areas were then called Homelands (homeland) or Bantustans (Bantu areas). Ten such regions were eventually established, namely Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Gazankulu, Kangwane, Kwandebele, Kwazulu, Lebowa, Qwaqwa, Transkei and Venda. These areas represent only 14% of South Africa and are intended for 72% of the Bantus. Because it is a regional autonomy, the economic development of the Homelands is not good. Resources in the area are also scarce and therefore cannot meet the needs of the community. Not to mention the growing number of people every year, making the Homelands dense and filthy. Contrary to the conditions in the region which belongs to the whites. Their area is large with few inhabitants. Not to mention the abundant natural resources, such as diamonds, manganese and gold. The white skin at that time was very prosperous. Not only are housing problems differentiated, but work, education and marriage problems are also discriminated against. Blacks usually only become laborers, but as their numbers increase every year, they gradually find themselves unemployed. Not all blacks are educated. Even if it is equipped, the teaching also differs in the courses. This is based on the Bantu Education Act. For weddings, inter-religious marriages are also prohibited.

### **2. Apartheid Resistance**

The famous mass movement took place in 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 getting worse and worse for them, especially the labor problem. Existing protesters in front of the Sharpeville police station. They burn things. The police fear that they will no longer become. As the situation became chaotic, the police finally opened fire. Even when the crowd tried to escape, the police still fired. 69 black people died, including women and children, and more than 180 people were injured. A week later, the growing stock was rebelling. Demonstrations, strikes and unrest across the country. The government then declared

a state of emergency. 18,000 people were arrested. The ANC and PAC were eventually banned after this incident. Both parties are just going underground, more than that they will be exiled. The tragedy of the Sharpeville massacre has been condemned by the international world. The UN Security Council accuses the South African government of the Sharpeville massacre. The United Nations General Assembly considers apartheid a crime against humanity.

The South African government is taking political action at home. Previously, the South African government released the Self-Government Assistance, which provided a limited seat of representation for black citizens to be able to develop their areas and prepare for independence. This was followed by the Bantu Homelands Consitution 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, possess an arms factory and make laws governing the posts, telecommunications, finance and immigration. The most developed Bantu area is the Transkei. At the request of Prime Minister Matan-zima, in 1976, the Transkei was liberated. but this was condemned by the white domination which remained steadfast. other black. The United States and Britain In its development, critics not only responded negatively, but assumed that they came from within, but also from abroad. if they support Tran's independence - they all call for the removal of the skei - they are justifying the course of the practice of apartheid in South Africa. Apart. The United Nations General Assembly itself declared independence illegal.

In other parts of the world, in India, there was a black student movement of the South African Student Organization (SASO) in 1972. There were bloody clashes with the police there. In 1973, black workers went on strike. They demanded lot improvements and higher wages. This time, there was no reaction from the government. Instead, the government increased their salaries because they were considered too low. The government also recognizes the need for training opportunities for workers to improve the quality of work more effectively. But it was different in the event three years later. A major clash between protesters 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 regulating certain subjects to be taught in Africa, which was considered like the language of oppression. At least 575 people have died. Riots and clashes between police and students have spread across the country. This led to a new phase in the liberation process where black youth became very involved. Many young black people attempted to leave the country to join liberation movements, some also stayed and worked with underground resistance movements. Between September 1984 and March 1986, it was alleged that over 1,000 people were killed. Many clashes took place, not only between blacks and whites, but also between blacks themselves. Older blacks feel better cooperating with whites, but young people reject them. Despite the many social upheavals, the supremacy.

## **Nelson Mandela's Role in the Politics of Apartheid**

Nelson Mandela is a great statesman of South Africa and even the world is consistent with his fight 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 in reciting, he was then given the name Nelson, the name of the British captain at the time, more later in his struggle he was also known as Madiba. Nelson was the first person in his family to enter the school. Growing up, Nelson was once a lawyer, before eventually entering politics and becoming president of the ANC, a forum of black African struggle to demand equal rights, in which Nelson vigorously opposed the regime. apartheid. Nelson Mandela became quickly familiar with the equality movement at this time, he also indicated that he quickly became acquainted with equality leaders, notably Oliver Tambo. Initially the struggle he led with the party he led, the ANC was peaceful struggles, that is why in August 1958, the ANC broke up, with the separation of Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe, who thought that the ANC was not radical, and less assertive in opposition, 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 ask the National Convention to create a new South African just and anti-discrimination law in May 1961. But when the government refused, Mandela campaigned for strikes, which then responded with violence and regime brutality. It was not until June 1961 that the first turning point in the awareness of Mandela and the black African nation, because the violence of apartheid had really become structural violence, so there was no sense in the wrestling fought peacefully, when wrestling always faced bullets, Nelson therefore believes that violence and non-violence are the two choices to be made, and prefers real movements with lives at stake. Sabotage was also practiced, in response to the extreme violence of the apartheid regime. The violence itself had already taken place on March 21, 1960, when the massacre took place in Sherpeville, and ended with the slaughter of thousands of lives and the banning of the ANC and the radical right wing fragment of the CAP. Although movements against apartheid continued to grow, and there were even clashes, this did not temporarily shake the white government to immediately abolish the regime. Nelson Mandela himself went on to launch a protest movement organized by the ANC which he led, which later also became a movement of mass demonstrations, boyots, strikes and the burning of black passports. Not enough, he then founded and led the military wing of the ANC, namely Umkhonto we sizwe, most recently when in court Nelson claimed to sabotage the army, and also planned to develop a guerrilla, which also indicated that in its struggle against apartheid, the ANC also committed human rights violations, its report to the truth and reconciliation commission. Nelson Mandela himself led an armed resistance in clandestine movements, attacking industrial centers. He hid for several years, as the regime considered him dangerous. Nelson was arrested in 1964 and sentenced to life with Walter Sisulu. When the court decided on the sentence, Nelson said he was ready to die for equal rights. 18 years after being imprisoned on Robben Island,

Mandela was offered parole and would get asylum in the Transkei but he refused, he just wanted to be free unconditionally and safe from detention as a free person for equal black rights . Finally, for 27 years he was detained, Nelson Mandela was unconditionally released, after President Frederik Willem de Klerk demanded total reform and negotiations with the ANC and was said to have organized free elections in 1994 where the party de Mandela won the elections, and he became a Black First President of South Africa, The initial tasks were to seek national reconciliation so that there would be no recurring conflicts between races, especially mutual revenge, in turn a commission, namely the truth and reconciliation commission.

#### **D. CONCLUSION**

To form and enforce the policy of Apartheid, the South African Parliament passed a series of extraordinary laws which allowed for total separation between racial groups at every stage of life, systematically cutting off human rights and fundamental freedoms of all non-whites and protecting security forces from legal limitations. . Millions of non-whites, including Indians, Pakistanis and black groups, are being forced out of 'white' territory into isolated parts of various towns in South Africa. The policies of the Apartheid Nationalist Party 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 1983, with rising racial tensions, Verwoerd was killed.

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