

## Varying transitions to freedom in Africa -- South Africa

- A. Tainted by clash of white/black citizens
  - 1. Dutch Afrikaners given control by British
    - a. Practiced apartheid – extreme racial segregation
  - 2. Diamond/gold resources make it most industrialized/richest in Africa
  - 3. Extreme pressure on S. Africa to change
    - a. Internal unrest
    - b. Economic problems
    - c. Extreme international pressure
  - 4. Nelson Mandela became sympathetic dissident while imprisoned
- B. **Nelson Mandela**
  - 1. While still in college he joined the African National Congress in 1942
  - 2. He banded together with the other few young rebellious members and came up with some conclusions:
    - a. They needed to transform the ANC into a mass movement
    - b. They would derive their strength and motivation from the illiterate millions of working people.
    - c. They were tired of the "old guard's" ways of polite protests
    - d. Rather they embraced a radical African nationalism grounded in the principle of national self-determination → people banding together by race, culture, and language to determine for themselves what their government should be
- C. In 1948 the all-white elections voted in the policy of **Apartheid**.
- D. Now the ANC advocated as official policy:
  - 1. Boycotts
  - 2. Strikes
  - 3. Civil Disobedience
  - 4. Non-cooperation
- E. **The ANC's Goals**
  - 1. Direct parliamentary representation for all South Africans . . . black, colored, or white
  - 2. Redistribution of land
  - 3. Trade Union Rights
  - 4. Free education for children
  - 5. Mass education programs for adults
- F. **Mandela resigns from the ANC** → He predicted the mass removals, political persecutions, and police terror.
- G. **The beginning of jail terms**
  - 1. Mandela organizes the MK, the military wing of the ANC
    - a. The MK's goals are to launch a campaign of sabotage against government and economic installations.
    - b. In 1962 he leaves the country with others of the MK for military training
  - 2. When he gets back he is arrested for leaving the country illegally and inciting a strike
  - 3. While in prison, he is charged with sabotage and sentenced to life imprisonment.
  - 4. He was offered his freedom several times if he would: renounce his political alliances; agree to never speak of political issues again; move and stay in the homeland of Transkei; → he refuses
- H. **Release and freedom**
  - 1. Finally due to political pressure S.A. released him in 1990 → Mandela agreed to the suspension of armed struggle.
  - 2. The government re-writes their constitution in 1993
  - 3. Mandela is elected president in 1994 . . . serves until 2003