

UNIT 6: RISE OF AFRICAN NATIONALISM

Background

Nationalism comes from the word nation. A nation is made up of people who share cultural and social background and have in the common ancestry in historical terms.

Nationalism gives individuals a sense of belonging to a given state or country

It's defined as a statement based on common cultural characteristics that binds people together as one nation.

African nationalism grew out of the desire among different African communities to fight to independence from their colonial masters. Early nationalism in Africa was with the right from the period of European colonizers it had to manifest itself in African rebellion and resistance which were staged across the continent. However in spite of the fact that they were all defeated they formed the foundation for future resistances.

Factors that promoted African nationalism

Racial segregation: where Africans were discriminated against the whites because of their skin/ it affected Africans socially and economically.

Colonial labour laws: Africans were subjected to harsh labour conditions. Africans underpaid, overworked and introduction of K system.

Trade Union Movements: Trade unions were the 1st large organization used for fighting for better working conditions of Africans. They they were used as foundations of political parties. They nurtured the leadership who were instrumental in the freedom struggle.

Over – taxation: there was introduction of various forms of tax to be paid by the Africans.

Independent churches: these churches **had broken away** from the mainstream mission churches due to discrimination by the whites on issues of African culture, mode of worship and non-promotion of black Africans to high position of leadership in church.

Colonial economic policies: the policy was meant to disadvantage the Africans, resulting into many of being squatters on the land that was once theirs and pushed to reserves which were not productive.

Western education: Christian missionaries provided education to Africans brought out the colonial period Africans educated in mission schools joined colonial public services while others went to the nationalist activities in African.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Africans ex soldiers in the 1st and 2nd world war gained fighting skills and also interacted with people from other countries who enlightened them about struggle for independence.

The pan African movement which supported independence for African countries, they made Africans realize that they shared a common problem a situation which led to be used as a basis for national unity.

The UNO stressed one way of maintaining peace through decolonization.

Lenist – Marxist influence were against colonization. They argued that colonization was exploitation of the poor people by the rich.

Socialist and labour parties. They were against colonies in Europe.

Indian independence in 1947, inspired leaders to agitate for political independence.

GHANA (Gold coast)

Portugal was the pioneer European nation to colonialism as settlement in gold coast in 1482.

Portuguese mainly interested in **ivory** and gold was of the item that was produced in plenty in the gold coast by African community.

Portuguese named the country the gold coast in reference to the 1st gold deposits in the area.

Factors for growth of nationalism in Ghana

✓ Effects of World War II the African war veterans were ready to lead their people against colonial rule because the colonial government refused to compensate the ex-soldiers for participating in the war.

- ✓ Africans not represented in the way they could air their grievances.
- ✓ Africans demanded wider franchise (right to vote) majority of Africans allowed to participate in politics.
- ✓ The trade unions contributed to nationalism since they enlightened workers on their rights.
- ✓ Africans were not given quality education.
- ✓ High prices of essential commodities in the towns.
- ✓ Africans were colonized import and export licences.
- ✓ They got inspirations from pan-African movement.
- ✓ There their morale was boosted by the UNO, which supported decolonization.

Causes of Ghanaian nationalism

Nationalism in Ghana began in 1868 in response to British colonization.

Before the 2nd World War Ghanaian nationalism was modest but after the 2nd World War it became radical and demanded for complete independence.

It was characterized by formation of political parties. The 1st party was National of Gold Coast started by Akofu Addo in 1941.

1947 several parties merged together to form United Gold Coast Convention (UGCC).

During the ACCRA riots in 1948, British soldiers killed two of the Christian service men who were marching to the governor's castle to present a petition since their pensions were quite insufficient due to high inflation. This caused riots which spread to other parts of the country.

29 African men were killed and Nkrumah and his colleagues known as the big 6 were arrested they included Nkrumah, Danguah, William Forster, Akoto Addo, Ajei and Obotsebi Lamptey.

The Watson Commission under the leadership of Andrew Alton Watson was set up and reported that oppressive social, political and economic conditions were the major cause of riots.

A new constitution was recommended to cater for Ghanaian interest.

In 1949, the Coussey Commission was appointed of Nkrumah who was radical.

It recommended a semi-responsible government and executive council and a nationally elected assembly with elections to be held in 1951.

In 1949, Kwame Nkrumah formed Convention People's Party. He rejected the Coussey Constitution, demanded for independence and government support from the masses.

In a speech at a political rally in Accra held on 8th Jan 1950 Nkrumah advocated for the action through legitimate political action.

News paper and educational campaigns

The Constitution application of boycotts strikes and non-cooperation based on the principles of absolute non-violence. He had borrowed these protests from the teaching of Mahatma Gandhi on non-violent resistance.

The government declared a state of emergency Kwame Nkrumah and CPP officials were arrested.

During imprisonment Newspapers campaigned for his independence in 1951 a general election was held CPP won and Nkrumah allowed to form a government and became leader of government business.

1954, NLM (National liberation movement) merged to complete two more elections held in 1954 and 1956 and CPP won on 6th March 1957, the country attained political independence under CPP and Kwame became 1st PM and changed country's name from Gold Coast to Ghana.

Methods used by Ghanaian Nationalist in their struggle for independence.

- ✓ Made use of public rallies.
- ✓ Channelled their grievances through trade unions.
- ✓ Used protests and demonstrations against the colonial government.
- ✓ Use of international forums e.g U.N.O
- ✓ Participated in Constitution negotiations e.g Coussey Commission. Wrote through publications e.g Accra Evening News through which they articulated their grievances.

- ✓ Participated in the pre-independence election i.e 1954, 1956

Problems faced by Ghanaian nationalism.

- ✓ Disunity among Africans.
- ✓ Rivalry among political parties e.g CPP and UGCC imprisonment and arrest of African Nationalist
- ✓ Lack of finance to fund their activities.
- ✓ Brutal killing of Africans.
- ✓ Poor means of transport and communication
- ✓ Leadership wrangles – Nkrumah went out of UGCC.

ROLE played by Kwame, CPP for struggle for independence.

- ✓ He was a leader of CPP and organized all activities. CPP gain support from former, the elite and the unemployed in Ghana hence uniting Africans in struggle for African national liberation.
- ✓ CPP used non-violent methods to persuade the government for freedom e.g use of newspaper, campaigns, boycotts, strikes and non-cooperation with the whites.
- ✓ CPP won elections in 1951 and formed 1st government before independence.
- ✓ Nkrumah's leadership from 1951 was marked by better cocoa prices, the primary condition and construction of new transport means.

Reasons why Ghana achieved independence earlier than other African countries.

- ✓ Rapid economic and social changes which were caused by the extensive cultivation of cocoa.
- ✓ Large group of educated elites spearhead decolonization. Kwame populist leadership unity required for nationalism in Ghana.
- ✓ Participated in the Pan-African Manchester conference of 1945 that resolved that all countries have a right to self-determination.
- ✓ Ghana was comparatively a small country in size was also well served with a good transport and communication system. Therefore made the most of information from one area to another faster and effectiveness.
- ✓ Presence of a few European settlers in the country compared to other countries like South Africa. These made the struggle for independence not to be bloody or have any complication.

How the attainment of Ghana independence contributed to liberation of other African countries.

- ✓ When Kwame was installed president Nkrumah declared that the independence of Ghana was meaningless unless the rest of Africa was freed of colonial yoke.
- ✓ Inspired other African countries to fight for political liberation. Supported liberation movement in Africa both morally and material e.g Guinea and Nigeria.
- ✓ Nkrumah wanted the aid of African countries even after independence when they were threatened by former colonial e.g Patrick Lumumba of DRC in 1960 – 1961.

NATIONALISM IN MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique was a Portuguese colony.

In 1951 the government of Portugal declared Mozambique its and took over administration from Portuguese companies until 1975.

Factors for the growth of Nationalism in Mozambique.

- ✓ Increased settlement of Portuguese citizens in Mozambique by 1960, they were about 200,000.
- ✓ Land alienation by European settlers.
- ✓ Forced labour: forced Africans to work on their farms and trees as slaves.
- ✓ The administration forced Africans to pay taxes.
- ✓ The Portuguese imposed many restrictions on Africans limiting their freedom of expression and intellectual advancement e.g General Salazar ensured strict censorship of press.

- ✓ The Portuguese practices racial discrimination.
- ✓ Portuguese administration replaced traditional leadership arbitrary. Portuguese settlers didn't respect African culture since a good number of settlers were unmarried, they often ungendered the African by making African women their mistress without honouring the customs of local people.
- ✓ The security police treated Africans with great quality inadequate medical facilities for Africans.

Methods used by Nationalist in Mozambique to struggle for independence.

- ✓ Mass media nationalist wrote articles to the newspapers expressing their grievances.
- ✓ Formation of political association's e.g Frelimo (front for liberation of Mozambique).
- ✓ Use of guerilla movement (devolutionary committee of Mozambique strikes by social workers and peasants).
- ✓ Government support from other countries like Tanganyika, Russia and China (Frelimo built school and health centres as well as gaining support from Africans).
- ✓ Use of international organization e.g OAU.

Problems experienced by Nationalist in Mozambique.

- ✓ The church in Mozambique viewed FRELIMO as a terrorist organisation.
- ✓ Ideological differences divided African nationalist i.e where as some advocated for socialism, others supported capitalism e.g Uria Simangu, and Lazaro Kawandame.
- ✓ FRELIMO competed for powers with other guerilla movements eg COREMO.
- ✓ The assassination of Frelimo leader Edward Mondlane in 1969 was a serious setback to the movement before Samora Machel took over leadership.
- ✓ The apartheid regions of S.A and the O.D.I regime of southern Rhodesia fought African Nationalist.
- ✓ During the nationalist war, Africans suffered inadequate basic necessities such as food and clothes due to the embargo replaced by the Portuguese.
- ✓ The Portuguese were cruel to African nationalist many arrested and killed.
- ✓ Nations were from many tribes and it was hard to unite them.

TRUNK FOR THE LIBERATION OF MOZAMBIQUE(FRELIMO)

Formed in June 1962 by a coalition of forces opposed to Portuguese rule, living in exile in east and central Africa.

Its leader was Eduardo Chirambo Mondlane who was born in 1920. He resigned as a lecturer and joined FRELIMO in 1962.

Factors that enabled FRELIMO to win the war

- ✓ The country was heavily forested with narrow paths which was ideal with guerilla warfare.
- ✓ FRELIMO fighters were familiar with the topography and had constant information supply from fellow Africans.
- ✓ Many Africans joined in nationalist war.
- ✓ FRELIMO had a strategy of attacking different points at this made the Portuguese to station fragmented troops all over could not withstand guerilla troops.
- ✓ FRELIMO got a lot of support of trained troops, found finances, weapons and vehicle from China and Russia.
- ✓ Got support from OAU and independent African countries like Tunisia.
- ✓ FRELIMO system of admin in liberated areas attracted people e.g they abolished forced labour, excess taxation and built schools and health centres.
- ✓ Ethnicity was eliminated by mixing people of different origin in the same fighting units.
- ✓ Use of Portuguese language was spoken by most people unified fighters.
- ✓ Rhodesia and fought together against Portuguese.
- ✓ African women were recognized in the war and they mobilized fellow Africans to fight Portuguese.

The course of Nationalism in Mozambique.

In 1960 the Makonde people formed the Mozambique African national union. It was the 1st political organisation with its headquarters in Tanganyika MANU organized peaceful protest in June 1960 against forced labour and taxes. When people resisted arrest the governor ordered public to open fire and killed about 600 Africans.

The government banned all African organisations.

In June 1962, FRELIMO was formed with Edward Mondlane being its president.

In 1964 FRELIMO started full scale guerilla warfare with war breaking out at once in for provinces in the North West.

This forced Portuguese to station their troops all over the country and the war lasted for 11 years.

In 1969, Eduardo Mondlane was assassinated and Samora Machel replaced him in 1970.

In 1972, Portuguese defeat FRELIMO after getting support from the South African Rhodesia.

FRELIMO government from ZANU fighters in Zimbabwe and by 1972, FRELIMO has liberated almost the whole of Mozambique.

In Sept 1974, the Portuguese quit held peace talk with FRELIMO and agreed the following provisions.

To establish a government consisting Portuguese FRELIMO ministers.

Provincial government to be in office for months in order to oversee smooth transition of independence.

On 25th June 1975, Mozambique attained independence as Samora Machel as 1st President.

NATIONALISM IN SOUTH AFRICA. (CAPE AREA)

The Dutch settled in the Cape area (S.A) IN THE 17TH

They displaced African communities found there and began settling farming.

After some time they changed their name to Afrikaners and even along different from the Dutch called Africans.

Farmers known as Boers.

During the Napoleonic wars in 19th the British aimed at establishing a colony at the Cape area to safeguard their Indian colony from French.

The Boers moved to interior and established Boers' states namely, Transvaal and Orange Free State.

The British themselves established their colony in Cape Area called Cape Colony.

Formation of Union of South Africa in 1910 because of Boers and British collaboration.

Boers formed National Party

Members include

Loois Betha	B.J Vester
JBNA Hartzen	Peter Botha
Daniel Malan	Handrick Verwoerd
J.G. Strijdom	Fredrick DC Klerk

Most of early N.P leaders were racist who believed in superiority of white.

Daniel Malan introduced the Apartheid policy in 1948 which aimed at separating the blacks from the whites and each race was to parallel to each other.

Hendrick Verwoerd was instrumental in establishing policy homelands for the blacks. This was known as the Bantustans.

Reasons why Verwoerd started Bantustans.

- ✓ Wanted Africans self development to take place in separate homelands wanted to establish industries next to the Bantustans so to provide cheap labour.
- ✓ Wanted to help control African political activities.
- ✓ Wanted to segregate blacks from whites
- ✓ Wanted Africans to be conscious of their separate ethnicity to enhance ethnic division and avoid African unity.

Black homelands in South Africa included.

Tvanskei Ciskei
Kwazulu Bophuthatswan
Soweto

Policy of apartheid collapsed in 1989 during the role of Fredrick de Klerk and won a nable peace prize.

African Nationalism in South African

African nationalism in S.A started as early as the 17th century when Boers 1st Settled there.

African comm. E.g Xhosa, Zulu, Cateshwoya put up strong resistance against British Invetnion.

After establishment of the union of South Africa in 1910, African conditions under the Boer rule continued to deteriorate.

Africans expressed their dissatisfaction with the system by establishing independent churches and forming new political associations.

Reasons for the rise of Nationalism in South Africa.

- ✓ Christian teaching showed that racial segregation was antichristian.
- ✓ Alienation of African land
- ✓ The native land act of 1913 denied Africans the right to purchase the land making the landless problem more serious.
- ✓ Africans who were recruited to work for the Europeans were paid low wages.
- ✓ Discriminative labour regulations such as pass laws and denial of Africans to form trade unions.
- ✓ Racial segregation in provision of basic social amenities facilities such as hospitals and schools.
- ✓ South Africans were influenced by the policy of Pan-Africanism in 1912 there was a meeting of African leaders at B1 Fountain it changed its name to the African National Congress in 1923. The founder members included.

Dr. Pixy Ka Izaka Seme

Rev John Dube of Natal

Thomas Mapikela

Walter Rubusana

Solomon Plaatje

Sam Makgatho.

Initially ANC was a peaceful party whose main objective included

Protect politicians.

Delegations

Representation.

The situation however changed when young men such as Oliver Tambo.

Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu formed the party. The young members for the ANC young league, in 1943.

The league resolved the use of militant action to achieve national liberation. In 1955 the president of ANC Albert Luthuli organised a general party meeting of coloured people of South Africa called the Congress People's Association.

The delegates for the conference came from ANC, South African Indian Congress, South African coloured people organized South African Congress Trade Union.

The Congress adopted the Freedom Charter that South Africa belongs to those who live in it both black and white and which "There should be political equality and power sharing between the different races.

The Freedom Charter showed clearly that the ANC advocated for a multi-racial society. This forced some Africans to move out e.g Robert M. Subukwe and formed the Pan-African Congress (PAC) in 1959.

The PAC Organised mass demonstration in Sharpeville massacre.

Following the massacre a state of emergency was declared PAC and ANC were banned and some of their leaders detained. It was this time that Nelson Mandela formed the military wing of ANC called Umkhonto we Sizwe (the spear of the Nation) while PAC called the difference races.

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The most notable movement during this period was the black consciousness movement.

Steve Biko organized students from secondary and universities to protest against the apartheid regime. He was later arrested and tortured by the whites.

The apartheid regime came to an end in the late 1980s out of increased external and international pressure in the end of apartheid those put in place to allow for the 1st multi-racial elections.

The parties participate in elections include.

ANC led by Nelson Mandela

Inkatha freedom party.

African resistance movement under Eugene Terre Blande.

Nelson Mandela and ANC win with 62% of total votes becoming the 1st Black president of South Africa.

Methods used by African Nationalists in the struggle against apartheid regime.

✓ Formed political parties to unite Africans against apartheid African workers formed trade unions to fight for their e.g SACOTO.

✓ AFRICANS held strikes to protest policies such as pass law used diplomacy by sending delegations to international between such as OAU.

✓ Formed military wings e.g Umkhonto we Sizwe which led to independence.

✓ The church leader's e.g Archbishop Desmond Tutu also preached against apartheid rule.

✓ Used mass media such as radio and TV to protest against apartheid rule.

✓ Some Africans who were in prison went on hunger strikes to fight against apartheid rule.

✓ Used art such as music, films in the struggle for independence.

Methods used by Nationalist in South African in their struggle.

✓ Africans in South Africa formed political parties which united people Trade unions were organized by workers to champion their rights and also had political overtones.

✓ There were demonstrations organized by Africans in South Africa.

✓ The nationalists employed force when it became clear that the colonial government was not listening to peaceful negotiations.

✓ The freedom fighters in South Africa deployed diplomacy in international circles through OAU and the UNO to talking to the white minority rule.

✓ The nationalists in detention and under arrest employed hunger strikes as a weapon against their unjust confinement.

✓ Religious leaders like Bishop Desmond Tutu preached against the injustice of the apartheid system.

✓ The mass media was an essential force in the struggle against apartheid.

Challenges Nationalists forced in the liberation struggle.

✓ Many people in S.A lost their lives during the apartheid rule.

✓ Political leaders were arrested and detained by the South Africa Police.

✓ Many of the nationalists were forced to leave South Africa to avoid being arrested.

✓ African political parties were proscribed or banned by law.

✓ Africans newspapers and journalism was banned.

- ✓ Trade unions in South Africa were banned for they were assured to have political overones.
- ✓ The white minority government created Bantustans which were homelands for Africans.
- ✓ The apartheid regime imposed emergency laws.