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PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENT

GRADE 12

HISTORY P2

ADDENDUM

JUNE 2025

This addendum consists of 10 pages.

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QUESTION 1: HOW DID THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT (UDF) RESPOND TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THE TRICAMERAL PARLIAMENT BY THE WHITE-DOMINATED NATIONAL PARTY GOVERNMENT?

SOURCE 1A

The extract below explains constitutional reforms introduced by Prime Minister PW Botha in the South African Parliament in 1983.

PW Botha had been the Minister of Defence, and his rise to power enabled the army to increase its influence over the repressive (harsh) activities of the government. However, Botha was also backed by big Afrikaner businesses, which wanted to reform apartheid. Botha symbolized both the repression and the reform sides of government policy.

A significant reform measure was the legal recognition of African trade unions in 1979. Another was the government's growing recognition of the permanence of an urban African population.

At the political level, government leaders proposed a departure from the principle of whites only electorate. Plans were put forward for a 'tricameral' parliament, or a parliament of three chambers. The constitution had laid down that the existing House of Assembly (Whites) would be absorbed unchanged in the new dispensation, a general election was not necessary. For the other two chambers, the House of Delegates (Indians) and the House of Representatives (Coloured), elections were held on 22 August and 28 August respectively. This meant that Indian and Coloured people would be given the vote. Africans would still not have the right to vote.

Reform plans such as these led to sharp divisions within the National Party. In 1982, a sizeable group of right-wingers broke away, under the leadership of Andries Treurnicht, to form the Conservative Party.

[From Apartheid to Democracy South Africa 1948–1994.]

SOURCE 1B

The source below highlights the origins of the United Democratic Movement (UDF) and the mass campaigns against black local authorities and the tricameral parliament.

From the 1970s and into the early 1980s, people across South Africa began to organize community-based groups to oppose the many hardships that apartheid created in their lives. These groups brought together people with similar concerns - sometimes as residents of the same township, at times as women's groups, or student groups, or church groups, or as workers in a factory or an industry. The apartheid government continued to repress banned liberation movements, but its efforts to smash these "grassroots" groups were less effective. By focusing on immediate community problems, these groups survived and multiplied.

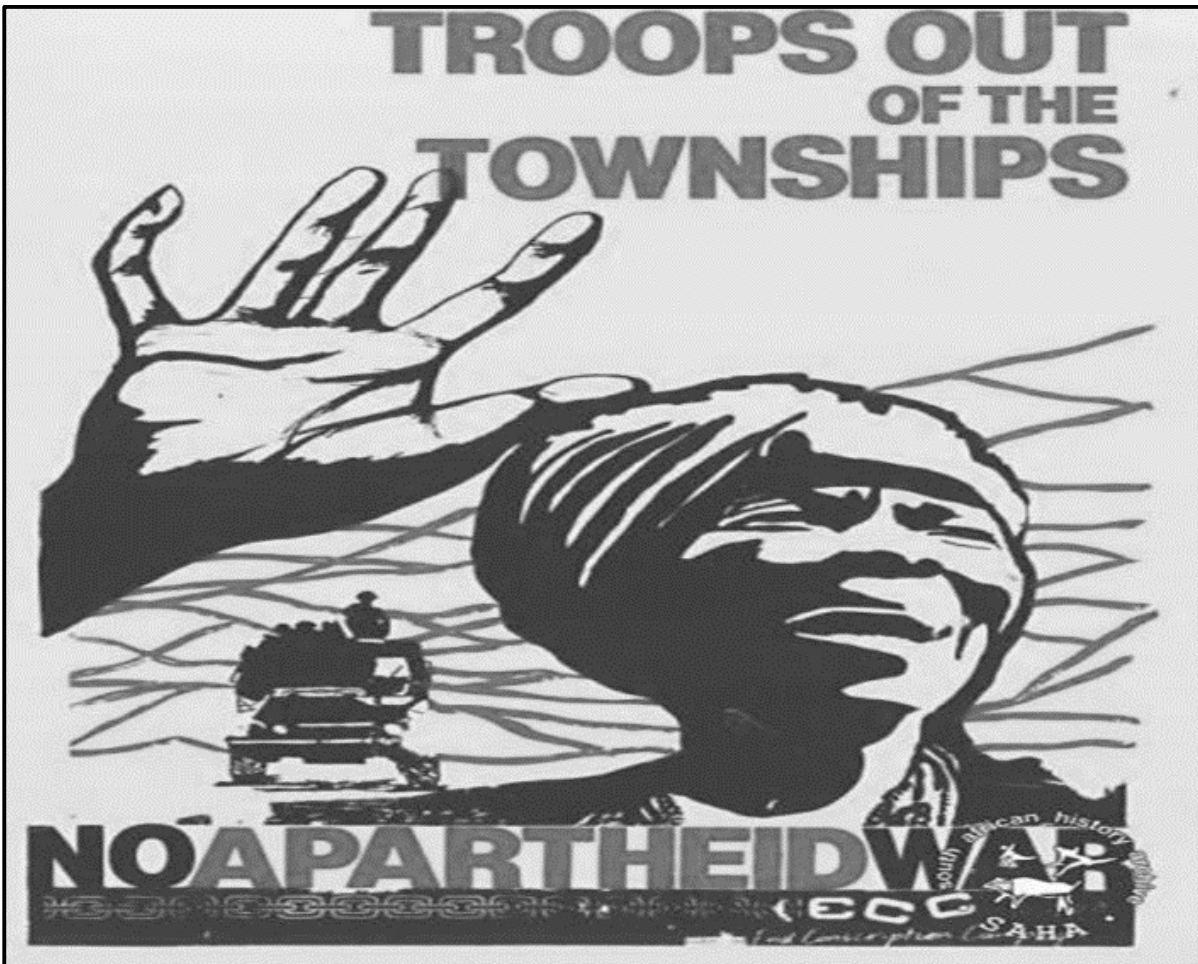
In January 1983, a number of these community-based groups held a conference to oppose the South African Indian Council - the Anti-SAIC Conference. In his closing speech at the Anti-SAIC Conference, Dr Allan Boesak, then president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, said; we cannot accept a 'new deal', which makes apartheid work even better. We cannot accept a future for our people when we had no say in it. And we cannot accept a solution which says yes to homelands, the Group Areas Act, to laws which makes us believe that we are separate and unequal.

The Anti-SAIC Conference called for a united front to be launched to co-ordinate the mass campaigns against black local authorities and the tri-cameral parliament. The result was the launch of the United Democratic Front (UDF) six months later. In August 1983, representatives from over 475 "grassroots" organisations from across the country came together in Mitchell's Plain in Cape Town to form a single, overarching organisation: the UDF. Within months over 600 organisations had joined in. This heralded a new stage in the mass struggle for the South African liberation.

[From South Africa in the 20th Century edited by B J Liebenberg and SB Spies]

SOURCE 1C

The poster below shows the UDF, and a newly formed organisation called End Conscription Campaign (ECC), demanded SADF troops (soldiers) out of the townships.



[From <https://www.sahistory.org.za> Accessed on 30 January 2025]

SOURCE 1D

The source below discusses the community resistance against PW Botha's Black Local Authorities Act in the 1980s.

PW Botha's reforms also abolished (removed) some apartheid laws, most notably the pass laws in 1986 which had broken down. In 1979 he brought African trade unions within the industrial framework, by allowing them to register. This was to prevent uncontrolled strikes and to facilitate negotiations with the employers. Some jobs previously reserved for whites were now open to all, and private schools and universities could admit students of all races, while theatres and luxury hotels opened to all. The attempts to provide elected local community councils in townships, financed through local rates and rent payments, only increased opposition to the entire system of apartheid. And critics said that Botha's reforms were merely cosmetic and were designed to entrench the pillars of the apartheid system.

A UDF affiliated civic association in the Vaal Triangle decided to support a refusal (boycott) to pay rents, to force the resignation of the local community council, which was seen as made up of government collaborators (people who works for the enemy).

The rent boycott was accompanied by a boycott of schools and a work stay away. A clash with the police followed which inflamed the situation and further violent clashes with the police occurred. In October 1984 the SADF army was sent into the Vaal Triangle townships and the troops searched house to house for guns. This inflamed the situation and intensified the revolts, which then spread to other townships in the East Rand and elsewhere.

In January 1985 the ANC called on South Africans to make the townships 'ungovernable'. Resistance in the 1980s, was more widespread and revolutionary than in the Soweto revolts of 1976 and it drew wider support from almost all sections of the black population now more politicised and organised in a network of community and local associations many of them linked to the UDF.

[From Looking into the Past, edited by Y Seleti]

QUESTION 2: HOW DID THE TRC INVESTIGATE THE DEATH OF ASHLEY KRIEL TO PROMOTE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION?

SOURCE 2A

The source below explains the primary reasons for the establishment of the TRC by the new democratic government under Nelson Mandela.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of South Africa was established through the Adoption of the Promotion of National Unity and Reconciliation Act (1995). Its mandate was to investigate the gross human rights violations that occurred under apartheid between March 1960 and May 1994, after Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as president. The TRC was to provide amnesty for politically motivated violations, which required perpetrators to disclose the truth about their role in these abuses as part of the process of reconciliation between perpetrators and victims. The TRC sought to provide a platform for victims/survivors to share their stories, document these abuses in its final report and provide recommendations for redress and measures to prevent future abuses.

During the TRC, the Human Rights Violations Committee collected more than 21 000 victim/survivor statements, which explicitly detailed over 37 672 human rights violations in the period being investigated (Borer, 2009, p.1173). Of the collected statements, 446 contained details on forms of violent abuse that affected those detained by the security forces pre 1994 (TRC 1998b, p.298). When proceedings started the commission had enough valuable ammunition to confront the alleged perpetrators.

[From: *African Transitional Justice Hub – South Africa TRC (1996 - 2002) November 1, 2003*]

SOURCE 2B

The source below is an extract from the SABC – Truth and Reconciliation Report. It focuses on the death of anti-apartheid activist Ashley Kriel.

Mr Ashley Kriel [CT00307], a young activist from Bonteheuwel in Cape Town, left the country in late December 1985, joined the banned ANC. After joining the banned African National Congress, he underwent military training in Angola. He secretly returned to South Africa as a trained cadre (soldier) of the Mkhonto we Sizwe in April 1987. On 9 July 1987 Ashley Kriel was killed by the Terrorism Detection Unit of the South African Police (SAP) in Cape Town. According to Warrant Officer Jeffrey Benzien, the police went to a house where Kriel was staying. Benzien and Sergeant Abels disguised approached the house intending to reconnoitre (observe a place) the place. Kriel allegedly opened the door holding a pistol concealed beneath a towel. A scuffle broke out during which Benzien shot Kriel in the back with Kriel's own weapon.

There is evidence to contradict this version. Firstly, it was established that operational planning was done in the Athlone police station prior to the incident. Secondly, other members of the Security Branch (Police) were concealed in the vicinity. Thirdly, forensic evidence collected showed blood was found in the bathroom and the floor between the bathroom and kitchen door. Fourthly, the bullet entrance wound indicated direct contact with the skin as oppose to passing through Kriel's clothing. Despite applying for amnesty for the killing of Kriel, Benzien [AM5314/97] continued to maintain that the death was accidental.

[From: SABC – Truth Commission Special Report Pg. 455]

SOURCE 2C

The picture below, taken in 1995 shows the TRC commissioners preparing to start the formal hearings into politically motivated crimes committed between 1960-1994.



[Photo taken by Benny Gool – Oryx Media/Desmond Tutu Peace Centre]

SOURCE 2D

This extract from a statement by the Institute for Justice (IJR) implores the TRC to investigate with urgency the death of apartheid activists during the 1980's.

The Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) is supporting the call to re-open the hearings into the deaths of Ashley Kriel, Ahmed Timol, the Cradock four and other anti-apartheid activists. Thirty years after Ashley Kriel's death, IJR implores the Hawks to thoroughly investigate the case, and to leave no stone unturned. The IJR to expose the truth about political crimes and human rights abuses. The IJR believes that mysterious apartheid death cases should enjoy high priority and be investigated with urgency. Kriel died in July 1987 at the house in Hazendal (Athlone Cape Town) and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) subsequently probed his death in the 1990's.

The TRC sought to provide a platform for victims and alleged perpetrators to share their views and evidence. The TRC hoped that these proceedings would expose the truth and promote reconciliation. Information around his death was brought to the commission by the then police captain. Jeffrey Benzien claimed that Kriel had a 22 pistol, and that there was a scuffle between the police and the 20 year-old Kriel which led to the deadly shot being fired, hitting Kriel on his back. The TRC granted Benzien amnesty in 1999 for the death of Kriel, for all of his torture and interrogation methods, which included electronic shocks and suffocating detainees with wet bag's (Wet Bag Method).

[From IJR – Media Statement – 2 February 2018]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Visual sources and other historical evidence were taken from the following:

- From Apartheid to Democracy South Africa 1948–1994.
- From South Africa in the 20th Century edited by B J Liebenberg and SB Spies
- From <https://www.sahistory.org.za> Accessed on 30 January 2025
- From Looking into the Past, edited by Y Seleti
- From African Transitional Justice Hub – South Africa TRC (1996 – 2002) [November 1,2003] www.sahistory.org.za
- From SABC – Truth Commission Special Report Page 455
- Photo taken by Benny Gool – Oryx Media/Desmond Tutu Peace Centre
- From IJR – Media Statement – 2 February 2018 www.sahistory.org.za