

EDUCATION

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SOUTH AFRICA

NOW!



South Africa then

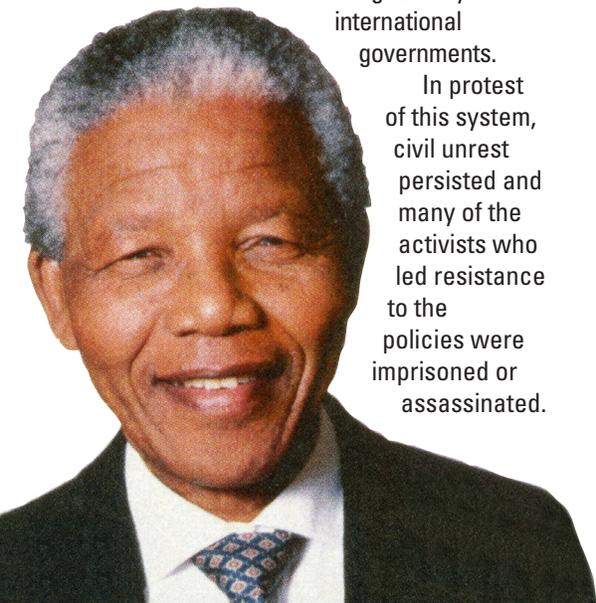


Apartheid

Beginning in 1948, South Africans lived under Apartheid, a rigid policy that segregated the nonwhite population. The policy regulated the movement of black South Africans within the cities, promoted unequal housing, authorized segregated public facilities, and denied millions employment opportunities and access to equal education. The Group Areas Act of 1950 established residential and business sectors in urban areas and strengthened the existing “pass” laws, which required nonwhites to carry identification papers. Unable to participate in the national government, nonwhites, established various black African “homelands,” which were partly self-governing. However these units were still politically and economically dependent on the mainstream, local South African governments and were not recognized by international governments.

Apartheid was a policy of segregation and discrimination that divided South Africa racially for almost half a century.

In protest of this system, civil unrest persisted and many of the activists who led resistance to the policies were imprisoned or assassinated.



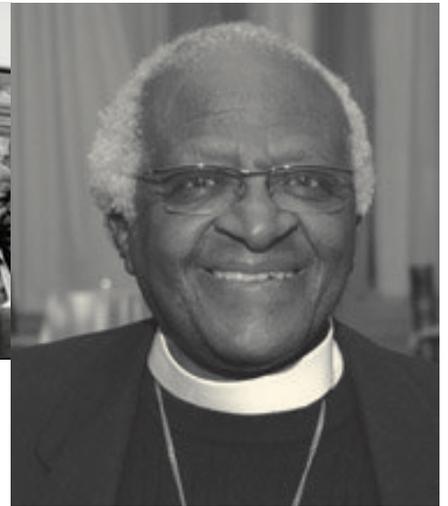
The Sharpeville Massacre

On March 21, 1960, more than 5,000 people converged on the local police station in the township of Sharpeville, offering themselves up for arrest for not carrying their passbooks. The police responded by unleashing gun fire on the crowd, killing 69 of the protestors. The event became known as The Sharpeville Massacre. It was during this time, in the early 1960s, that Nelson Mandela, along with several of his fellow **African National Congress** leaders, was arrested and began serving a 28 year imprisonment on Robben Island.

The Soweto Uprising

The Soweto Uprising took place on the morning of June 16, 1976, when thousands of students from the African township of Soweto, outside Johannesburg, gathered at their schools to participate in a protest against the introduction of **Afrikaans**, the language of the white South African minority. That day, two students, Hastings Ndlovu and Hector Pieterse, died from

Released from prison in 1990, Nelson Mandela helped demolish Apartheid. He was the President of South Africa from 1994-1999.



Archbishop Desmond Tutu

police gunfire. Hundreds more sustained injuries during the subsequent chaos that engulfed Soweto. The shootings in Soweto sparked a massive uprising that soon spread to more than 100 urban and rural areas throughout South Africa.

Divest

In conjunction with these protests, Archbishop Desmond Tutu succeeded in establishing an international economic embargo that aided in ending **apartheid**. This became known as the disinvestment or divestment movement. Institutions were encouraged to remove financial stock from companies that were doing business in South Africa. Colleges and universities, local and state governments, and fellow companies wanted stock sold because they saw themselves as partial owners of companies working within a racist, oppressive political system. This ignited international pressure and by the late 1980s, then President F. W. deKlerk started to lift apartheid laws and began negotiating the release of Nelson Mandela and his colleagues from prison.

South Africa now!

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his year marks the 20th anniversary of democracy in South Africa. The establishment of a new democratic government led by **Nelson Mandela** in 1994, meant that all South Africans would have access to education, housing, healthcare, electricity, and the right to vote. As a means for further uniting the country, the South African government established a new constitution outlining the basis for the construction of a democratic, non-racial, non-sexist, united and prosperous society based on justice, equality, the rule of law and the inalienable human rights of all. They also created a new flag and merged the two previous national anthems, *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika* and "*Die Stem*," into one.



Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika means "Lord Bless Africa" in Xhosa.

Die Stem, an Afrikaans term, translates into "The Call of South Africa".

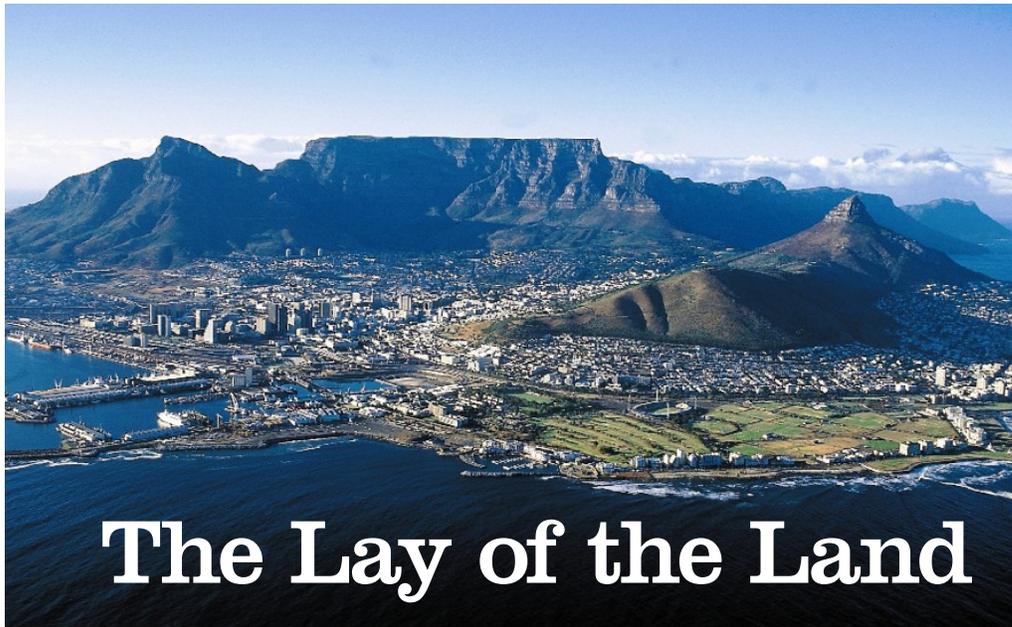


Sweet Harmonies - The Soil

The Soil is an **a cappella** group from Soweto, a Black township near Johannesburg. The group consists of Buhlebendalo Mda, Luphindo Ngxanga, and Ntsika Fana Ngxanga. Their sound is referred to as "Kasi Soul", an eclectic mix of musical genres such as jazz, hip-hop, Afro-pop and Afro-soul. The Soil's brand of a cappella is distinctive: a rhythmic vocal bass line, with constant beat boxing while the remaining voices contribute to the choral and polyphonic accompaniment. They describe this sound as "melodic medication". The Soil write and perform music in both Xhosa and English, each taking a turn as soloist. Similar to their influences, Miriam Makeba and Brenda Fassie, The Soil sings about daily experiences living in South Africa and the importance of community, love, and family.

Did you know...

South Africa is a multilingual country with 11 official languages: English, isiZulu isiXhosa, isiNdebele, Afrikaans, siSwati, Sesotho sa Leboa, Sesotho, Setswana, Tshivenda, Xitsonga.



The Lay of the Land

South Africa, officially called the Republic of South Africa, is situated at the southern tip of Africa. Six countries surround South Africa. To the north are Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe; to the east are Mozambique and Swaziland; in the center of the country lies Lesotho. South Africa boasts a

the Indian Ocean, the climate ranges from extreme desert heat to lush subtropical temperatures. The southwest part of the country has wet winters and hot, dry summers. The coldest place in South Africa is Sutherland in the western Roggeveld Mountains, where midwinter temperatures can reach as low as 5 °F. The hottest weather can be found in South Africa's interior where temperatures can reach over 100°F. South Africa has an amazing variety of natural beauty and an abundance of wildlife, birds, and plant species.

Top: **Table Mountain National Park** is one of South Africa's natural wonders; bottom: South Africa's national bird is the **blue crane**.

population of roughly 52 million people. The country is divided into nine provinces: Western Cape,

Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Cape, Free State, North West, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo. Its major cities are Cape Town located in the Western Cape Province, Johannesburg located in The Guateng Province, and Durban which is a part of the KwaZulu-Natal. South Africa's climate is diverse. In the east, along the Mozambique border and

Words To Know

Apartheid - A system of segregation or discrimination on grounds of race.

Afrikaans - A person born, raised, or living in South Africa whose first language is Afrikaans and whose ancestors were Dutch.

Township - A racially segregated area in South Africa established by the government as a residence for people of color.

A capella - A harmonizing way of singing without instruments. Also refers to using the voice as an instrument.

Homeland - A territory set aside for black inhabitants of South Africa as part of the policy of apartheid for the purpose of concentrating the members of designated ethnic groups, thus making each of those territories ethnically homogeneous.

Call-and-response - A succession of two distinct phrases usually played by different musicians, where the second phrase is heard as a direct commentary on or response to the first.

Mama Africa

Miriam Makeba, also known as Mama Africa, was a South African singer who popularized African music in the United States and around the world. In

addition to being a Grammy Award-winning singer, she was a civil rights activist who petitioned against Apartheid.

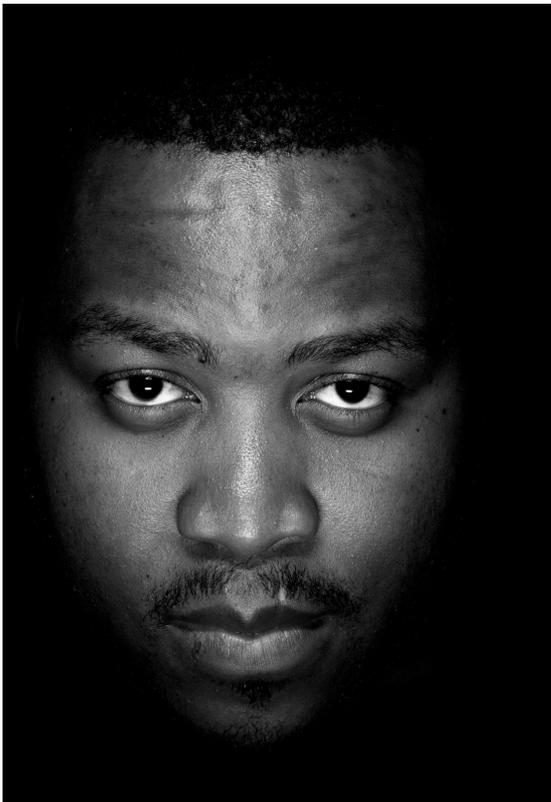
Because she did so, her citizenship was taken away and she was forced to leave her country. Makeba was able to return to South Africa when apartheid ended. She is perhaps best known for a song called "Phata Phata", which became a worldwide hit.





Meet the Artist:

Boitumelo 'Tumi' Molekane



Born in Tanzania in 1981 while his parents were in exile, Tumi Molekane returned to Soweto, South Africa in 1992. Formerly known as MC Fatboy, Tumi is an MC/Poet who has done countless work on the Johannesburg and world hip-hop scene. He founded his own record label, Motif Records, in 2006.

Check out some popular types of South African music

Kwaito is a popular style of music that emerged in the 1990s. Influenced by music and styles from different eras. Kwaito mixes rhythms from marabi of the 1920s, kwela of the 1950s, Bubble music of the 80's, as well as the mbaqanga/maskhandi of the hostel dwellers, and Imibongo (African praise poetry). The word Kwaito is derived from the Afrikaans word kwaai, which translates to "angry" in English. Kwaito is also influenced by house music but typically at a slower tempo and containing melodic and percussive African samples which are looped. Vocals are generally shouted or chanted rather than sung or rapped. Many consider Kwaito South Africa's contribution to Hip Hop. Arthur Mafokate, is considered "The King" of Kwaito. Both TKZee and Bongo Maffin are important Kwaito groups

Isicathamiya is a traditional Zulu, **call-and-response** musical style most often performed by a choir of South African men. The name also refers to the genre's tightly-choreographed dance moves that keep the singers on their toes. Today, Isicathamiya competitions in Johannesburg and Durban take place on Saturday nights and can go on from the early evening until the following morning with up to 30 choirs performing. Famous Isicathamiya choirs include Dlamini King Brothers and Ladysmith Black Mambazo.

Marabi is a style of music that developed in South Africa in the early 20th century. It was inspired by African-American jazz. This genre came to existence in the shebeens of Johannesburg and is rooted in traditional South African music.

Kwela music is played primarily on a pennywhistle (tin flute). Kwela, meaning "pick up," began as street music. Legend says the term "kwela-kwela" was often the name given to the police vans that roamed the streets, looking to pick up offenders or illegal street gamblers. When a van drove past, all evidence of gambling would disappear quickly, and somebody would haul out a pennywhistle and begin to play innocently. By the 1950s penny whistle music and dance parties were a major recreational activity of urban Africans. Kwela generated its own dance form, called the phata-phata (touch-touch).

Hungry for more?

South African culinary delights are as diverse as its citizens with influences from the Dutch, Indonesian, and local African ethnic groups. A typical Xhosa dish is **Umngqusho**, consisting of **samp**, (a crushed corn kernel, and staple of the South African diet), with lima beans and flavored with herbs, lemon, onions, and chilies. Another simple dish consists of a roasted meat with **pap**, (a white corn (mielies), porridge), and a leafy green called morogo (spinach). **Chakalaka** is a simple vegetable relish made of spicy dish of onions, tomatoes and often beans. It can be served with bread, pap, samp, stews, or curries. A favorite Dutch dessert is **Malva Pudding**, a caramelized sponge cake, made with apricot jam and ginger. Malva pudding is served with either ice cream or custard.



Did You Know?

- Since South Africa is in the southern hemisphere, seasons stand in opposition to those of North America. Summer is mid-October to mid-February. Autumn (fall) in South Africa is from mid-February to April. Winter is from May to July, while spring runs from August to mid-October.
- The world's first heart transplant occurred in Cape Town on December 3, 1967.
- First democratic elections held in 1994.
- Leader of the Indian Peace movement Mohandas Gandhi, who was born in India, lived in South Africa for 21 years. It was during that time that he developed his famous policy of passive resistance.
- Johannesburg has approximately 6 million trees making it the largest man made forest in the world.
- South Africa is home of eight UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) World Heritage sites.
- A colony of penguins live on Boulders Beach, just outside of Cape Town.
- Johannesburg has several nicknames: Jozi, Egoli, Joburg, Joeys, and City of Gold.

Try This

Match the word or name on the left to the definition on the right

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| ___ The Soil | <input type="checkbox"/> a A Black township. |
| ___ Chakalaka | <input type="checkbox"/> b An a cappella group from Soweto, Johannesburg |
| ___ A Cappella | <input type="checkbox"/> c A system of segregation or discrimination on grounds of race |
| ___ Soweto | <input type="checkbox"/> d The usage of the voice as an instrument. |
| ___ Mohandas Gandhi | <input type="checkbox"/> e A vegetable relish |
| ___ Apartheid | <input type="checkbox"/> f A peace leader, from India, who developed the tactic of passive resistance. |

ANSWERS

b The Soil e Chakalaka d A Cappella a Soweto
 f Mohandas Gandhi c Apartheid

Support

South Africa Now! is the companion student study guide for South Africa Now: Tumi and The Soil, an Apollo School Day Live performance presented in partnership with World Music Institute and Community Works.



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