

### • **THE BRITISH OCCUPATION OF THE CAPE**

- The British were the second Europeans to occupy the Cape of Good Hope (South Africa) after the Dutch.
- They occupied the Cape twice.
- The British first occupied the Cape between 1795 and 1802 and returned it to the Dutch under the peace treaty of Amiens of 1802 signed between Britain and France under Napoleon I.

- The British occupied the Cape for the second time in 1806 and ruled it up to 1910 when the Union of South Africa was attained.

### • **REASONS WHY THE BRITISH WERE INTERESTED IN THE CAPE COLONY BETWEEN 1795 AND 1806**

- Why were the British interested in the Cape colony between 1795 and 1806?
- Why were the British interested in the Cape colony by 1795?
- The formation of the English India Company in 1600 (17<sup>th</sup> century) cleared way for the occupation of the Cape.
- The British desire to control the profitable Indian trade and its items like spices, opium and silver which were highly demanded in the European markets.
- The collapse of the Dutch East India Company (DEICO) in 1795 paved way for the British intervention and occupation of the Cape since it created an administration vacuum.
- The British wanted to protect the sea route to India through the Cape in order to protect her commercial empire and interest in the Middle East and the Far East.
- The need to overcome the stiff competition from other European powers like Spain, Portugal and Holland made the British to take over the Cape so as to stop them from dominating this trade.
- They were attracted by good natural harbours at the Cape which were suitable for the British merchant ships to anchor or land safely without being disturbed by the strong winds.
- The strategic location of the Cape i.e. it was half way the journey between Asia and Europe encouraged the British to take over the Cape from the Dutch.
- The need to obtain revenue for the British by taxing the merchant ships going to India encouraged British to occupy the Cape.
- The British were attracted by the fertile soils which would make the growing of crops easy.
- The desire to establish a calling station or resting place or refreshment point for the sailors from Britain to India made the British to occupy the Cape since the journey from Europe to Asia was too long and tiresome.
- The good climate at the Cape i.e. the Mediterranean type of climate influenced the British to occupy the Cape because it favored human settlement as well as agriculture.
- The industrial revolution in England created the need for raw materials from South Africa. Therefore, the British wanted to get raw materials for their industries.

- There was also the desire to get markets for the manufactured goods from Britain which made the British to develop interest in the Cape since many people had settled at the Cape.
  - The desire for prestige or glory made the British to develop interest in the Cape colony. This was because there was a general belief that the more colonies one had abroad, the more respect one would get.
  - The British took over the Cape for humanitarian reasons i.e. they wanted to save the Africans from enslavement by the Dutch farmers.
  - The British wanted to spread Christianity in order to promote equality and brotherhood among the different races in South Africa.
  - The French Invasion of Holland in 1793 worried the British and therefore forced them to occupy the Cape before the French could do so.
  - They also wanted to use the Cape as a defence post or military base to protect the British against their enemies especially France.
  - The British fear that the French or 'Napoleonic Wars' in Europe would spread to South Africa and disorganize her trade led to the British occupation of the Cape.
  - The request made by King William IV of Holland to the British government to protect her overseas possessions (territories) including the Cape made the British to take over the Cape. This was because of the good relationship between Holland and Britain.
  - The need to protect the British nationals or citizens like farmers and traders who had already settled at the Cape by 1806 led to the British occupation of the Cape.
  - It was a period of scramble for Africa and therefore the British were among the imperial powers that wanted to acquire more colonies outside Europe, hence forcing them to occupy the Cape.
- ### • **HOW THE BRITISH OCCUPIED THE CAPE**
- How did the British acquire the Cape from Dutch?
  - How did the British occupy the Cape between 1795 and 1806?
  - The British occupied the Cape twice.
  - The British first occupied the Cape between 1795 and 1802 and then returned it to the Dutch through the peace treaty of Amiens signed in 1802 between Britain and France under Napoleon I.
  - The British reoccupied the Cape in 1806 and ruled it up to 1910 when the union of South Africa was formed.
  - The British occupation of the Cape was through force or conquest and later through diplomacy by entering into agreements with other European powers like France.
  - The British occupation of the Cape came from French Invasion of Holland in 1793 during the revolutionary wars between France and the rest of Europe which forced the Dutch King William IV to run to England.
  - The Dutch King William IV who had fled to England requested the British Crown or government to safe guard the Dutch overseas possessions including the Cape.
  - During this confusion, the DEICO administration collapsed making the Cape colony to have no administration and this forced the British to occupy it in 1795 up to 1802.

- In 1795, the British sent a fleet of war ships and gained control of the Cape from the Dutch.
- During this period, the British did not carry out serious activities because they had just been requested to occupy the Cape colony and therefore they made no reforms or changes.
- In 1802, France and Britain signed the **treaty of Amiens** which restored peace temporarily between the two countries.
- By this treaty, Britain was to withdraw from the Cape and the French forces were to leave Holland which they all accepted.
- The Cape was therefore returned to the Dutch in 1802 and this marked the first British occupation of the Cape.
- Thus, from 1803 to 1805, the Cape was under the Batavian rulers of Holland.
- In 1806, Europe again faced wars caused by France. During these wars, France again invaded and occupied Holland with the help of the Batavian rulers and this action threatened the British commercial interests in the Far East.
- The French invasion of Holland in 1806 worried the British who thought that the French might take over the Cape colony which was strategically located on the sea route to India.
- In 1806 therefore, the British under the leadership of **General Richard Baird** took over the Cape from the Batavian rulers (Dutch).
- In 1815, the Vienna settlement which was signed in Austria officially recognized the British occupation of the Cape in South Africa.
- The Dutch were compensated 700,000 pounds.
- The British stayed at the Cape till the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- During this period, very many changes or reforms were introduced at the Cape.
- **THE CAPE UNDER THE BATAVIAN RULE OR REPUBLIC (1803-1806)**
- Describe the Dutch administration of the Cape between 1803 and 1806.
- Explain the changes that took place at the Cape between 1803 and 1806.
- Describe the achievements of the Batavian rule at the Cape between 1803 and 1806.
- Explain the achievements of Jan Janssens between 1803 and 1806.
- The Batavian Republic was the new Dutch government formed in Holland by revolutionary France in 1793.
- The Batavians took over the Cape after the treaty of Amiens of 1802 signed between Britain and France.
- This treaty demanded that the Dutch Cape colony should be handed over to the Dutch and the process was formalized in 1803 under the Batavian administration.
- The Batavian rulers remained in charge of the Cape from **March 1803 to 1806** when they were removed by the British forever led by General Richard Baird.
- During this time, the Cape was placed under the administration of General **Jan Janssens** who served as Governor.
- General Jan Janssens was assisted in the administration of the Cape by a Commissioner General called **Jacob Demist Abraham**.

- The Governor was the Head of the administration and was given powers to appoint and dismiss the government officials.
- The Governor also made the laws of the colony and settled criminal and civil cases or matters.
- The senior posts in the government were held by the Batavians but the British remained dominant in the lower posts of the civil service.
- The Batavians made reforms in law, freedom of worship, education etc. which made the Cape administration less conservative and smoother. These reforms included;
- The judicial system was reformed and a high court was created. This remained independent from the executive.
- Appointment in courts of law was based on merit unlike before.
- For proper administration, the Cape colony was divided into districts, leading to the formation of local governments.
- Each district had a government representative called a **LANDROST**.
- The landrost acted as a magistrate, settled minor cases, kept peace and also acted as a link between the government and the settlers.
- The landrost was assisted by six leaders when handling the civil cases or matters.
- The districts were further subdivided and each sub-division was headed by a **Veld Kotnot**.
- The Batavian administration promoted agricultural development by introducing new agricultural projects which reduced poverty. For example, the Merino sheep was imported from Spain.
- Trade restrictions were removed and the farmers or settlers were free to trade with other Batavian or Dutch colonies in all crops.
- The Batavian government allowed or extended freedom of worship to all religious groups at the Cape though the Dutch Reformed Church remained outstanding.
- During their rule, the KhoiKhoi got back some of their land which had been taken away by the Dutch settlers and were also treated fairly.
- Slave labour was reduced and the Batavians started encouraging white labour.
- The government promoted formal education and extended equal educational services to all districts in the colony.
- However, during the three years of the Batavian rule the Dutch still regarded the Africans as an inferior race and therefore racial separation continued.
- The Batavian rule was short lived due to the outbreak of war between Britain and France in Europe.
- During this war, the Batavians became friends of the French and enemies of the British, a factor that led to the second British occupation of the Cape in 1806 and this marked the end of the Batavian government at the Cape.
- **REASONS WHY THE BATAVIANS LOST CONTROL OF THE CAPE IN 1806**
- Why did the Batavians lose the Cape after 1805?
- Why did the Batavian rule at the Cape come to an end?
- In 1806, the British sent General Baird with a fleet of 61 warships which brought to an end the Batavian control of the Cape.

- The Batavians lost the Cape due to internal and external factors which included the following;
- The British were stronger than the Dutch. For example the British navy amounted to 61 superior warships which the Dutch could not fight and so they lost the Cape.
- The Batavian rulers lacked a modern army. The army was not facilitated by the administration which was more interested in carrying out reforms in other sectors at the expense of the army.
- The Batavian administration was not so friendly to the Africans and therefore they could not support it in fighting against the British, hence their defeat.
- The Batavians lacked any European ally (friend) because they had openly supported the French during Napoleon I's rule and this led to their defeat by the British.
- The British were determined to conquer and occupy the Cape because the British citizens at home were pressurizing their government to add the Cape on their empire.
- The British wanted to protect the many English citizens like farmers that had already settled at the Cape.
- The British wanted to establish a defence post at the Cape so as to be able to challenge the enemy ships especially those of France.
- The British wanted to turn South Africa into a calling station or refreshment point.
- The British wanted to protect their commercial Empire in the Far East through acquiring South Africa against France under Napoleon I.
- The Batavian government had financially become bankrupt and therefore they could not prevent the British from occupying the Cape.
- The collapse of the treaty of Amiens of 1802 when France invaded Holland in 1805 also encouraged the British to occupy the Cape from the Batavian rulers.
- **THE BRITISH REFORMS OR CHANGES AT THE CAPE (1806-1843)**
- Describe the changes introduced by the British at the Cape between 1806 and 1838?
- Describe the reforms introduced by the British at the Cape up to 1834.
- The British were the **second Europeans to occupy** the Cape of Good Hope or South Africa after the Dutch.
- They occupied the **Cape** twice from **1795-1802** and **1806 - 1910**.
- In **1806**, the British **under General Blard took over** the Cape for the second time.
- Later, they made **reforms** in the Cape colony in the economy, religion (church) language, press, judiciary, administration and the general welfare of the slaves as noted below;
- **Changes (reforms) in the economy or finance**
- These reforms were aimed at improving the chaotic financial and economic situation of the Cape.
- In 1825, the English paper money or pound was introduced hence replacing the Old Dutch Rix dollar which had fallen in value.

- Land reforms were also introduced by the British for example, for one to own land in the colony, had to be bought, surveyed, fenced mapped and documented and therefore one had to obtain a title for it.
- In 1828, the African Land Registration was put in place and the Hottentots (Khoikhoi) were given back their land.
- The British removed restrictions on trade and therefore freedom of trade was established in the Cape colony. The Dutch farmers were now free to sell their products to any company or traders.
- The government greatly reduced expenditure on the salaries of the civil servants or government officials so as to control inflation.
- The expenditure on public works was also reduced to control inflation in the economy.
- The policy of giving financial assistance to the intending immigrants to the Cape was also stopped by the British as a way of regulating government expenditure.
- **Reforms in religion or church**
- The British extended freedom of worship to all religious groups in the Cape colony.
- The Africans were also given freedom of worship and therefore they were given equality before God.
- Even the Roman Catholic Church members were given the right to worship.
- The influence of the Dutch Reformed Church was reduced as a result of the introduction of the Anglican Church. As a result, the Dutch Reformed Church priests were no longer important in the colony.
- The British government became responsible for paying the salaries and wages of the church leaders (priests) like other civil servants.
- The government officials were stopped from attending the church council meetings or synods.
- **Reforms in language and education**
- The British favoured the policy of Anglicization of the Cape colony i.e. they made the colony more English or British.
- By this policy, English language gradually replaced the Dutch language.
- In 1828, English language was made the official language, hence replacing the Dutch language. Therefore, English was widely spoken in the Cape colony.
- English was to be used in all public places like schools, market areas, courts and parliament which made the Dutch unhappy.
- The teachers who taught English to the students were given rewards to encourage the spread of the language.
- The English education system or curriculum was introduced in the Cape colony and public schools were established in the Dutch settled areas like Stellenbosch, Graaff-Reinet and other places.
- English was later used in the printing of newspapers and magazines like the "commercial advertiser" the Grahamston Journal and the "AfrikaanZuid"
- **Reforms in the press**
- The British introduced freedom of the press and therefore the old restrictions were removed and the press was liberalized.



- In April 1828, a liberal law requiring all newspapers to deposit or pay 300 pounds before getting permission was passed. Thus many newspapers were printed both in the English and Dutch languages like the "commercial advertiser" the "Grahamston Journal" and the Afrikaan Zuid".
- However during the time of Charles Somerset, press censorship was encouraged.
- **Reforms in the judiciary**
- The British legal system or English law was introduced at the Cape. This replaced the old Roman harsh law of the Dutch which believed in "an eye for an eye" and "a tooth for a tooth" system to justice.
- The civil cases remained under the Dutch law but the criminal cases were judged basing on the English law.
- The British introduced the Black circuit or mobile courts in 1812 and in those courts, the Africans worked as interpreters.
- These courts **tried the Boers Masters** and also listened to the African complaints against injustice by their Boer masters.
- Later, the 50<sup>th</sup> ordinance was introduced in 1828 and it came to be known as the charter of justice.
- The charter contained a number of judicial reforms and a supreme court was put in place.
- All judges were to be appointed by the British government and were supposed to be independent and judge cases in a free and fair way. Therefore, the governor could not dismiss the judge.
- The judges were paid salaries by the British government which appointed them to be in charge of its judicial affairs of the Cape.
- Later, only qualified or professional judges and lawyers were allowed to preside over cases and work in the courts of law.
- Courts sessions or hearings were made public and people were free to attend the court proceedings.
- In 1828, trial by jury was also introduced through the charter of justice.
- **Reforms in administration or government**
- The English governors ruled the Cape like Bourke and Sir Charles Somerset (1814-1826) as well as Benjamin Durban (1834-1838) who were answerable to the colonial secretary in London.
- In 1825, an advisory council was put in place in the Cape colony. It was composed of the governor, chief justice and the colonial secretary.
- The council was to advise the government on administrative issues.
- Later in 1827, some Dutch settlers were allowed to sit on the council i.e. they were given two seats on the council.
- Municipal councils were also setup to run the municipalities or urban centres.
- Later in 1834, the British government introduced the legislative council to replace the advisory council.
- The legislative council had powers to the debate and pass bills and laws in the Cape colony.

- **Reforms in the general welfare of the slaves (slavery)**
- **Charles Somerset** championed the struggle for the human rights of the Africans. He therefore introduced **social reforms** in the colony all aimed at stopping slavery and improving the life of the former slaves around the Cape Colony.
- He started by ordering for the **registration of all slaves** in the colony in 1816. Therefore, there was registration of all the slaves in the Cape colony and no one was supposed to be a slave unless he or she was registered.
- The unregistered slaves were declared free men and women.
- He ordered for the reduction in the number of slaves in the colony.
- He set up a slave protector in every district of the colony.
- Slaves were then protected from Boer mistreatment and cruelty.
- The working hours for the slaves were reduced to avoid exploitation by their Boer masters.
- The Christian slaves were given freedom of worship and were therefore allowed to attend church services on Sunday.
- Even Sundays were made resting day for the slaves.
- The slaves were given the right to complain against exploitation by the Boers.
- They were also allowed to ask for **paid employment**.
- They were given the right to choose their bosses for whom to work.
- They were given the rights even to sue their Boer masters in courts of laws in case of mistreatment.
- The slaves were allowed to give evidence in the courts of law against their masters and appeal to the courts of law if they were not paid.
- In 1817, a school for the slave children was established which helped to reduce illiteracy among the Africans.
- In 1817, the 50<sup>th</sup> ordinance was put in place by the British which restored the civil rights of the slaves (Africans).
- In 1812, the **apprenticeship** code or law was also passed which stated that all slave children born on the Boer farm were to be catered for by their masters for ten years.
- In 1834, there was liberation of slaves or slavery was abolished and therefore became illegal which returned joy and happiness among the slaves.
- The slave masters were promised compensation after abolishing slavery.
- The slaves who wished to remain working for their masters were allowed but they had to be paid.
- The slaves were therefore given more freedom and liberty in the Cape colony by the British.
- **Reforms in Settlement**
- The British encouraged urban settlement and development of **retail shops**.
- **Reforms in games and sports**
- Games such as **crickets, horse racing** and hunting were encouraged or introduced.



- In conclusion, the Boers were generally hurt by the reforms or the reforms affected the Boers negatively majority and these effects were social, political, and economic in nature.

#### • HOW THE BRITISH REFORMS AFFECTED THE AFRICANS

- How were the Africans (slaves) affected by the British reforms?
- The Africans gained more freedom and liberty since they were treated as human beings.
- The Africans got back their land from the Boers.
- There was a reduction in the working hours and therefore the Africans got a chance to rest.
- The Africans gained paid employment (jobs), thus improving their standards of living.
- The Africans left the Boer farms where they were harshly treated and opened up their own farms.
- The Africans (slave children) acquired western education from the public schools that were established by the British.
- The Africans were given accommodation and it became expensive for the Boers to retain the African as slaves.
- Freedom of worship was given to the Africans. For example, the slaves were allowed to attend Sunday services.
- The African slaves got registered after 1816 and were freed after 1834.
- The 50<sup>th</sup> ordinance restored civil rights and they were declared equal to the Boers or whites.
- The African freedom of movement was restored as the pass-laws were abolished.
- The Africans became interpreters in the courts of law and were free to report their Dutch masters for any form of mistreatment.
- The Africans were able to form families and have children since they were given freedom to any without consulting their Dutch masters.
- Many Africans moved to live in towns like Cape Town where they took up new life styles and better standards of living.
- Intermarriages between the whites and the Africans took place which led to an increase in the coloured race.
- The natives and the coloured people at the Cape were brought under the British influence.
- The Africans were allowed to practice farming and also carry out trade with the whites, hence reducing poverty.
- The Africans were given representation in the Legislative council and the House of Assembly. This enabled them to speak out their own problems.
- The Africans were hated more by the Boers and this eventually led the famous Great Trek in 1835 as the Boers started running away from the Cape Colony into the interior of South Africa so as to set up their own governments.
- **HOW THE BRITISH REFORMS AFFECTED THE BOERS (SLAVE MASTERS)**
- The British changes affected the Boers negatively leading to the following political, social and economic effects;

- The Boers lost their independence and freedom to the British.
- The Boers lost their land that they had grabbed from the Africans due to the new British land regulations.
- It led the growing enmity between the Boers and the British.
- The reforms led to the increased Boer nationalism in South Africa.
- There was undermining of the Boer language after it was replaced by the English language.
- The Boers lost control over their economic activities in South Africa like trade, commerce and agriculture as the British took control of the economy.
- There was loss of revenue, thus leading to poverty among the Boers.
- The Boer currency (Dutch rix dollar) lost value and was replaced by the paper money (pounds).
- The Boers lost their privileged position and superiority as they were made equal to the Africans by the British.
- The Boers lost slave labour on their farms as the Africans were free to get paid employment anywhere.
- The Boers lost money due to the unfair compensation for the loss of slave labour.
- The Boers were raided by the Africans since the British stopped protecting them against the Africans. Therefore, the Boers fought many wars with the Africans.
- The Dutch legal system was replaced by the British legal system where every one was equal before the law.
- There was loss of valuable property like cattle by the Boers.
- The influence of the Dutch Reformed Church at the Cape declined as it was replaced by the British missionaries.
- The Boers lost control over education since it was given to the missionaries by the British government at the Cape. This made the Dutch to remain backward in terms of education.
- **THE REACTION OF THE BOERS TO THE BRITISH REFORMS AT THE CAPE**
- How did the Boers react or respond to the British reforms at the Cape?
- The reaction of the Boers was negative i.e. the Dutch (Boers) did not welcome the new British reforms.
- The Boers disliked the British legal system which gave equality to all people including the non-whites before the law.
- The Boers disliked the provision of education to the Africans by the British missionaries.
- The Boers opposed the policy of promoting equality between the whites and Africans.
- The Boers hated the introduction of English as an official language because it undermined the Dutch language.
- The Boers were not happy with the introduction of the black circuit courts because they wanted to continue mistreating the Africans.
- They opposed the introduction of work contracts between the masters and African servants since it prevented them from exploiting cheap labour.

- They opposed the British administrators for demanding a lot of taxes yet they were not providing enough services.
- They complained about the Dutch rix dollar and its replacement with the British pound.
- The Boers opposed the freedom of worship granted to all the people at the Cape including the Africans.
- The Boers opposed the British land policies which prevented them from acquiring more land while enabling the Africans to recover their stolen land.
- The Boers opposed the abolition of pass documents put on the Africans since they never wanted to move without permission.
- The abolition of slavery in 1834 annoyed the Boers who had lost their slaves, thus denying them a chance to get free labour.
- The Boers hated the missionary teachings of brotherhood and equality which had made them to be equal to the Africans.
- The Boers lost their economic status since they could no longer exploit the African resources freely.
- The Boers finally resolved to migrate into the interior of South Africa in protest against the British reforms which came to be known as the Great Trek.
- **THE BLACK CIRCUIT COURTS**
- These were mobile African courts set up in 1816 to control the Boer mistreatment of the blacks.
- The black circuit courts moved from village to village handling cases raised by the African slaves who were mistreated.
- The charge sheets were always drafted with the assistance of missionaries especially Van Der Kemp.
- Some Africans served as interpreters in these courts which helped them to serve the interests of the Africans.
- **REASONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BLACK CIRCUIT COURTS:**
- To deal with the Boer injustice (unfairness) towards African slaves.
- To empower the African slaves with more freedom.
- They were formed to listen and answer African complaints against the harsh Boer masters.
- To end the racial conflicts or tension between the Boers and the Africans and enable them to accommodate one another.
- They were formed to fight for equality of all people before the law.
- They were formed to end the Boer exploitation of the African slaves.
- They were set up to ensure that the African labourers are paid better salaries.
- They were set up to promote African dignity or respect.
- They were formed to enable the African slaves choose their masters or employers to work for.
- They were formed to provide equal trade opportunities between the whites and the blacks (Africans).
- They were formed to assist the Africans get back their land that had been stolen by the Boers.

- They were formed to ensure that the slave did not get education.
- They were formed to protect and accommodate the run away slaves.
- They were formed to give the Africans freedom of movement by removing the pass laws.
- **EFFECTS OF THE BLACK CIRCUIT COURTS**
- The slave working hours were reduced and Sunday was recognized as a day for resting.
- The Africans were able to select their masters/employers.
- The Africans enjoyed better working conditions which improved their status.
- The Africans were given freedom of worship
- The Africans managed to obtain paid jobs on the white man's farms.
- The African rights and freedoms were restored as they were considered equal to the whites.
- The African children were able to join schools and obtain education.
- There was rural-urban migration of the Africans as they wanted to acquire better paid jobs in towns.
- Registration of slaves was arranged and encouraged by the Africans.
- The Africans got back their dignity (respect).
- The Africans were able to regain back their land which had been taken away by the Boers.
- Slavery was abolished in 1834 and the Africans were liberated from suffering.
- The Boers were greatly affected after losing African labour and they decided to organize the Great Trek in the 1830's.
- **THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ORDINANCE OF 1828**
- What factors led to the passing of the 50<sup>th</sup> ordinance of 1828
- The 50<sup>th</sup> ordinance was passed by Governor **Bourke** in 1828 in the influence of the missionaries as a law aimed at changing the life the slaves at the Cape.
- It was also strongly supported by Dr. John Phillip, a missionary and defender of African rights.
- It was to give the Hottentots and other free persons at the Cape the same rights as the whites.
- **REASONS WHY IT WAS PASSED**
- The pressure from the missionaries especially from the London missionary society led by Dr. John Phillip and Vander Kemp. These condemned the slavery attitudes of the whites.
- The growth of the humanitarian bodies which campaigned for equality among the races.
- The role of people like **Clarkson** and **William Wilberforce** who campaigned for the respect of human rights was also important.
- The shipping of slave trade in the British Empire put the British at the fore front of fighting for African rights.
- The role played by the Aborigines committee which was formed by the liberal British parliament to handle African affairs.

- The passing of the 49th ordinance earlier on by the British that had allowed the Africans East of Kelskamma to come in the Cape as contract workers was another reason.
- The British wanted to restore full rights to the Africans in South Africa for example;
- It was passed to allow Africans freedom of movement that had been taken away by the Boers.
- It was passed to allow Africans to own land.
- It was passed to provide justice to all people including the Africans.
- It was passed to provide equal trade opportunities to all people including the Africans.
- The British wanted to end Boer exploitation of the African labour.
- It was passed to provide protection to the African slaves.
- It was intended to end the Boer harshness towards the Africans and to create brotherhood between the Boers and Africans.
- In conclusion, the law was warmly welcomed by the Khoikhol.

#### **EFFECTS OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ORDINANCE**

- The Africans were protected from the Boer masters.
- They were given equal trade opportunities.
- The Africans acquired their land back.
- The Africans became happy after gaining their land back.
- The Africans were given freedom of movement.
- The Africans were given a chance to choose the people they wanted to work for.
- The Africans were given equal rights with the white (Boers).
- The Africans enjoyed better working conditions.
- The Africans got paid jobs for example as court interpreters.
- It led to the abolition of slavery later.
- The African working hours were reduced.

#### **LORD/GOVERNOR CHARLES SOMERSET (1814-1826)**

- How did Charles Somerset improve the status of the Africans at the Cape between 1814 and 1826?
- Charles Somerset was born in 1767 in England in the town of Badminton to Henry Somerset the 5<sup>th</sup> Duke of Beaufort.
- He started his career as a soldier and later he became the British Cape governor or administrator from 1814-1826.
- He was a sympathetic administrator towards the slaves at the Cape especially the coloureds and the Khoikhol.
- He decided to introduce a number of reforms in order to make their lives better.
- He first ordered for the registration of all slaves at the Cape in 1816.
- He also proposed that all slaves that had not been registered be left free.
- He put a register for slaves in every district to document all the existing slaves into district and the slaves who had not been registered were declared free men.
- In 1817, Somerset established a school for the African slave children to enable them acquire formal education.
- He also reduced the working hours for slaves.

- The African slaves were granted a resting day on Sunday to enable them attend prayers.
- He also established Black Circuit courts to investigate the African complaints against their Dutch masters.
- He influenced the Dutch farmers to provide better working conditions to the slaves at the Cape.
- He restored hope to the freed slaves and made arrangements for them to obtain protection.
- He promised compensation to the Dutch masters for the loss of cheap labour.
- He encouraged mixed marriages between the Africans and whites especially the Boers who had rejected it for a long time.
- He asked the Boers to return the African land which they had grabbed at the beginning.
- He encouraged liberty and brotherhood among the African communities.
- He abolished the pass system to enable the African slaves more freely wherever they wanted.
- He encouraged the Africans to seek for paid employment and he promised them protection against the cruel harsh Dutch masters.
- He supported the passing of the 50<sup>th</sup> ordinance which gave the Africans freedom by restoring their civil rights.
- He attempted to solve the conflicts on the eastern boarder between the Boers and the Xhosa through peaceful means. For example, he separated the Xhosa from the Boers through a clear boundary.
- He ordered for the hanging of a Boer farmer and four other Dutch masters after they had refused to appear before a black circuit court. This incident was described as the **Slatchers Nek Incident** of 1816.
- In 1826, Lord Somerset was recalled to London and by 1834, Sir Benjamin Durban was appointed governor of the Cape up to 1838.
- He also suppressed a rebellion organized by the Boers over the killing of their people.
- **GOVERNOR BENJAMIN DURBAN (1834 - 1838)**
- He governed the Cape from 1834 to 1838.
- He was mainly concerned with organizing the Frontier security to stop the Kaffir Wars.
- He sent a missionary Dr. John Phillip to the Xhosa to arrange for Durban's meeting with them.
- He supervised the abolition of slavery in 1834.
- To reduce on the tension in the colony, he allowed the Boers to keep the freed slaves as apprentices (trainers) and allowed the apprenticeship period not to exceed six years.
- He also arranged for the compensation of the Boers for the loss of their slaves.
- He got so much devoted to the abolition of slavery to the extent that he almost forgot about the Frontier Wars, thus making the Xhosa to feel abandoned which forced them to attack the Boers.



- Due to this, he was forced to push the Xhosa beyond River Keiskama and gave the land between river Keiskama and river Kei to the Boers as compensation.
- He even led them in their war against the Xhosa in 1834.
- He introduced local government institutions like municipal councils at the Cape.
- He reduced government expenditure thus reducing the dependence burden of the Cape colony.
- He also laid a solid constitutional foundation for the Cape.
- His generous policy of giving the Boers land that belonged to the Africans made him popular among the Boer colonists.
- He encouraged many missionaries to go to the Xhosa areas to negotiate for peace.

#### • **THE GREAT TREK OR AFRIKANER OR BOER EXODUS (1835 – 1845)**

- The Great Trek was a large scale or mass movement of the Boers from the Cape Colony to the interior of South Africa.
- The Great Trek is also historically known as the **Afrikaner Exodus or Boer migration** which took place between 1835 and 1845 (1830's – 1840's).
- It can also be defined as a **general Boer negative** reaction against the liberal British reforms at the Cape.
- The Boer trekkers started off their journeys from the areas of Graaff Reinet, Uitenhage and Grahamstown in 1835.
- The Trekkers moved at different periods under different groups and leaders such as **Louis Trigardt, Jan Van Rensburg, Andries Pretorius, Sarel Cilliers, Gerrit Maritz, Hendrick Portgeiter and Plet Retief.**
- It was called the Great Trek because it constituted an episode of great historical significance in the history of South Africa.
- The Great Trek involved more than 14,000 Boers who moved from the Cape Colony into interior of South Africa.

#### • **CAUSES OF THE GREAT TREK**

- What led to the Afrikaner Exodus in 1835?
- Explain the causes of the Great Trek?
- Why did the Boers migrate from the Cape into the interior of South Africa?
- The causes of the Great Trek were both long term and short term.
- There was plenty of unoccupied or vacant land in the interior of South Africa which encouraged the Boers to move into the interior to occupy the free land.
- The Boers were nomadic pastoralists who moved from one place to another looking for water and pasture for their animals, hence their migration.
- The Boers had love for adventure as they wanted to discover new areas that existed beyond their homeland.
- Some migrated because it was fashionable i.e. during those days, it was **fashionable** to move and therefore they had to move into the interior.
- The need for fertile soils in the interior i.e. the Cape soils had become infertile and dry, hence forcing them to migrate into the interior.
- They were also looking for favourable climate that would favour their economic activities like agriculture.
- The population at the Cape had increased which led to pressure on the land and therefore the Boers migrated looking for new areas of settlement.
- The role played by the scouts like **Erasmus** who had surveyed the interior also influenced the Boers to migrate into the interior.
- The Boer racial prejudice inspired the Boers to migrate since they believed they were God's chosen race and therefore they never wanted to mix up with the Africans.
- The **Mfecane crisis** or trouble had created a vacuum in the interior of South Africa especially in Natal which attracted the Boers to settle there.
- The Boers wanted to get independence from the British and establish their independent republics or homes away from the British interference.

- The Boers wanted to preserve their traditions and cultures which forced them to migrate into the interior.
- The long term enmity between the Dutch and the British forced the Boers to migrate into the interior.
- The rebellious nature of the Boers forced them to migrate into the interior of South Africa.
- The Boers were annoyed because of **Anglicanisation** of the Cape i.e. making the Cape Anglican which led to a reduction of the influence of the Dutch Reformed Church where by its ministers became civil servants.
- The introduction of the **British legal system** at the Cape i.e. the *English Laws* replaced the *Dutch Laws* which annoyed them, hence forcing them to migrate into the interior.
- The introduction of English as the official language which replaced the Dutch language annoyed the Boers, hence the Great Trek.
- The introduction of the British or **English Pound** which replaced the **Dutch Rix Dollar** annoyed the Boers, hence forcing them into the Great Trek.
- The British liberal policies that emphasized equality, brotherhood and liberties annoyed the Boers, thus leading to the Great Trek.
- The Boers hated the British education system and hence they moved away from the Cape.
- They were also unhappy with the apprenticeship Code that allowed the African children that were born on the Boer farms to be educated by the Boer masters.
- The British had also failed to provide protection (security) to the Boers against attacks from the Africans which forced them to migrate into the interior.
- The freedom of the press introduced by the British where by the new reporters wrote many bad things about the Boers also annoyed them, hence leading to the Great Trek.
- The registration of all slaves at the Cape that was introduced by the greatly annoyed the Boers, hence leading to the Great Trek.
- The Boers hated the British policy of allowing the Africans (slaves) to get paid jobs or employment.
- The Boers hated the removal of the passes by the British which gave freedom of movement to the Africans.
- The introduction of the Black Circuit Courts in **1812** which gave the Africans powers to report or sue their cruel Boer masters annoyed the Boers, hence the Great Trek.
- The **Slacher's Nek Incident** of 1815 – 1816 in which the ring leaders of the Boers who were rebelling were hanged by the British caused the Great Trek because the remaining Boers could not wait to be hanged.
- The passing of the 50<sup>th</sup> Ordinance of 1828 which restored the civil rights of the non-whites was hated by the Boers, hence the Great Trek.
- The decision taken by the British at the Cape to reduce the salaries of the Dutch officials annoyed the Boers, hence the Great Trek.
- The influence of the British missionaries in South Africa caused the Great Trek. For example, they preached equality of all races as well as brotherhood.

- The missionaries also provided education to the Blacks or Africans which annoyed the Boers because it made the Africans stubborn and arrogant, hence forcing them into the Great Trek.
- The missionaries also provided protection or accommodation to the run-away slaves as their mission stations became homes for the run-away slaves which also annoyed the Boers.
- They also moved because the missionaries were marrying the Africans. For example, Van Der Kemp married a fourteen year old **Malagasy** slave girl.
- The Boers also hated the policy of giving the Africans freedom of worship. For example, the Africans were free to attend church services on Sunday.
- The British new land reforms like mapping, surveying, fencing, renting and documentation of the land greatly upset (annoyed) the Boers, hence forcing them to move.
- The failure by the government to provide enough social services to the Boers like transport, education and security annoyed them, hence forcing them to migrate.
- The removal of trade restrictions or trade liberalization by the British greatly hurt the Boers since the Africans were now free to sell their products to any company or any one.
- The abolition of slavery in South Africa in **1834** by the British annoyed the Boers since they lost cheap labour and yet they were not adequately compensated by the British.
- The four rumours that prevailed for example that the British were going to force the Boers to intermarry with the Africans, serve in the army forcefully, leave (abandon) their Dutch Reformed Church and lose all the land to the Khoi-khoi scared them, hence forcing them to migrate.
- The role provided by the able leaders like Louis Trigardt, Jan Van Rensburg, Hendrick Portgeiter, Piet Retief and Gerrit Maritz among others inspired many trekkers to move, hence the Great Trek.
- The loss of land by the Boers around the Province of Queen Adelaide (between Keiskama and Fish rivers) which was returned to the Xhosa during the Kaffir Wars annoyed the Boers, hence the Great Trek.
- **THE COURSE OF THE GREAT TREK** (Leave a space of half a page and fix the map provided to you)
- **THE COURSE OF THE GREAT TREK**
- Describe the course of the Great Trek up to 1840's
- Explain the movement of the Boers between 1853 and 1845
- Describe the migration and settlement of the Boers from the Cape into the interior of South Africa.
- The Great trek started in the Cape colony and it took place between the 1830's and 1840's.
- The Boers migrated from the Cape Colony into the interior of South Africa in three major groups led by different leaders in different years.
- Among the great trek leaders included Louis Trigardt, Jan Van Rensburg, Hendrick Portgeiter, Sarel Celliers, Piet Retief and Gerrit Maritz.

- The Boers left the Cape using Ox-wagons to carry all their properties into the interior.
- The trekkers avoided the coastal areas and followed the middle grassland (veld) west of the Drakensberg Mountains.
- The first group to leave the Cape Colony was led by **Louis Trigaradt and Jan Van Rensburg**.
- They left the Cape in **November 1834** from the district of Graaf Reinet.
- They moved eastwards and then northwards crossing River Orange and River Vaal.
- The members of this group were few in number and they left the Cape unprepared for the difficulties ahead of them. As a result, most of them died on their way.
- They proceeded up to Zoutpansberg in Northern Transvaal and they tried to settle along river Limpopo where the Africans killed most of them.
- Other members lacked enough food and others were killed by the tropical African diseases.
- It is therefore not surprising that out of the 100 trekkers who left the Cape in the first group only 27 survived.
- The survivors decided to continue with their journey until they reached **Maputo port** in Mozambique.
- The second group which was the largest, left the Cape colony in **1836**. This group was led by **Hendrick Portigelter and Sarel Celliers**, and they continued their journey north wards.
- They were later joined by **Gerrit Maritz** from Graaf Reinet and they moved east wards towards the Ndebele Kingdom which was headed by **Mzilikazi**.
- Before entering the Ndebele Kingdom, they tried to settle along River Orange but failed due to the hostile African tribes.
- When they entered the Ndebele Kingdom, Mzilikazi organized his fighters and attacked this group in the village of Vegkop and many of the Boers were killed.
- The Boer trekkers were also prepared for war and therefore in **October 1836**, the Boers fought with the Ndebele in the **Battle of Vegkop of 1836**.
- The Boers were able to defeat the Ndebele by 1837 and Mzilikazi and his people fled north wards into the present day Zimbabwe.
- The victorious Boers decided to establish a new state or republic in the area which they named **Orange Free State**.
- The third group was led by **Piet Retief** and it was the last group of the Boer trekkers out of the Cape colony.
- They moved North East wards and in **1837**, they reached Zulu land where they asked for land from the Zulu leader called **Dingane**.
- Dingane promised to give them land on condition that the Boers recovered the Zulu cattle that had been stolen by his neighbor **Sekonyera**, chief of the **Tlokwa** kingdom.
- Piet Retief managed to trick Sekonyela and easily recovered the stolen cattle.
- This action greatly surprised Dingane and therefore he made plans for Piet Retief to be killed.

- Dingane organized a **bea party** at his capital and invited Piet Retief and some of his colleagues as a way of thanking them.
- While at the party, Dingane killed Piet Retief and all his colleagues after ordering his men to 'kill the Wizards'.
- The remaining Boers elected **Andries Pretorius** as a new Boer leader after the death of Piet Retief.
- Andries Pretorius organized a war of revenge for the death of Piet Retief and in **October 1838**, they attacked and defeated the Zulu warriors on the banks of **River Ncome**.
- Many Zulu warriors were killed and dumped in River Ncome which made the waters of the river to turn red because of the blood.
- This battle was later named the **Battle of Blood River of 1838**.
- The Zulu lost the battle to the Boers with the help of Mpande who was Dingane's brother.
- Dingane was overthrown and fled to Swaziland where he was killed by the Swazi warriors and therefore his brother Mpande become the new king of the Zulu Kingdom.
- After defeating the Zulu, the Boers decided to establish their new republic or state called Natal and they ordered the Africans to leave.

#### THE SUMMARY OF THE GREAT TREK

GROUP	LEADERS	AREAS OCCUPIED	BATTLES FOUGHT	AFRICANS	AFN LEADERS
1 <sup>st</sup> Group Nov 1834	Louis Trigaradt, Jan Van Rensburg	Northern Transvaal, Vaal river, Limpopo Valley and Port Maputo	NONE	AFRICANS LIVING IN LIMPOPO VALLEY	NONE
2 <sup>nd</sup> Group JULY 1835	Portigelter, Gerrit Maritz, Sarel Celliers	R.Vaal, R. Orange, Orange Free State	Vegkop	Ndebele	Mzilikazi
3 <sup>rd</sup> Group OCT 1836	Piet Retief, Andries Pretorius	Natal, Tugela, R. Ncome, R. Donga, Umzimvubu	Blood River	Zulu	Dingane

#### PROBLEMS FACED BY THE BOER TREKKERS

- What problems did the Boer trekkers face during their journey to the interior?
- Diseases like malaria and sleeping sickness attacked and killed many Boer trekkers and this slowed down their movement.
- They faced a problem of geographical barriers like mountains, rivers and lakes which could not easily be crossed.
- There was shortage of food which resulted into the death of many Boer trekkers.



- They faced resistances from the hostile African tribes like the Ndebele and Zulu. This resulted into wars like the Battle of Vegkop of October 1836 and the Battle of Blood River of December 1838.
- They were attacked by wild animals which either injured or killed them. Lions and hyenas also killed their livestock or animals.
- Communication especially with those at the Cape became difficult as the Boers moved into the interior.
- The Boers had inadequate weapons and gun powder especially after fighting the Battle of Vegkop of 1836.
- The Boers also lost their prominent leaders like Piet Retief who was killed by Dingane.
- There was shortage of supplies like medicines by the Boer trekkers which made them to lose their lives.
- The unfavorable climate in the interior especially during heavy rains and drought season affected the Boers since they were not used to such climatic conditions.
- Language barrier was another problem because many Boer trekkers did not understand the African languages.
- The Boers lost their property like cattle and sheep during the Great trek due to the African raids in the interior.
- The Boers trekkers suffered from homesickness because they were far away from their country Netherlands.
- The Boers lacked the geographical knowledge of the interior of South Africa. For example, they did not know what crops grew well on the soils of the new lands.
- They lacked enough funds to facilitate their day today activities as they moved into the interior.
- There was disunity among the Boer trekkers which was brought about by internal quarrels.
- The long tiring journeys made their movement difficult as the Boers always travelled eight kilometers per day.
- Their children lacked good education because there were no schools in the interior of South Africa.
- They faced a problem of the British who kept on following them into the interior, leading to further conflicts. For example, they later annexed the republics of Natal and Transvaal from the Boers.
- **EFFECTS OF THE GREAT TREK ON THE AFRICANS AND THE BOERS**
- How did the Great Trek affect both the Africans and whites?
- The Great Trek left negative and positive effects on the people of South Africa.
- **EFFECTS ON THE BOERS**
- It resulted into the formation of new Boer Republics in the Interior of South Africa which were independent like Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal.
- It increased the enmity between British and the Boers which later led to wars between the British and the Boers like the First Anglo-Boer War of 1880-1881, the Jameson Raid of 1895 and the Second Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902.

- The Boers lost their property in the course of the Great Trek like wagons, tents and cattle.
- The Boers lost their lives during the Great Trek especially due to the wars that were fought by the Boers and the Africans for example in the Battle of Vegkop of 1836.
- The British kept on following up the Boers the Cape into the interior of South Africa.
- There was introduction of modern or commercialized farming in the interior. For example, plantation crops such as coffee, sugar and cotton were grown at the coast.
- The Boers lost contact with their friends at the Cape since they all migrated to the interior of South Africa without going back.
- The British later annexed (occupied) the Boer republics like Natal in 1843, Orange Free State in 1848 and Transvaal in 1877 which greatly annoyed them.
- The number of the whites in the interior of South Africa increased after the migration of the Boers.
- It resulted into the increased **Boer nationalism** (desire for independence and pride) after their migration into the interior of South Africa.
- Some of the Boer leaders lost their lives during the Great Trek. For example, Piet Retief was killed by Dingane, the Zulu leader.
- It led to the discovery of minerals in the interior of South Africa by the Boer trekkers. For example diamond was discovered in 1867 and Gold in 1884 in the Boer republic of Transvaal.
- It enabled the Boers to get cheap labour from the Africans in the interior that they used to develop their farms.
- It led to the rise of strong Boer leaders like **Andries Pretorius** and **Paul Kruger** who helped to promote the Boer interests in South Africa.
- **EFFECTS OF THE GREAT TREK ON THE AFRICANS**
- It led to endless wars between the Africans and the Boers like the Blood River Battle of 1838 and the Battle of Vegkop of 1836.
- The Africans lost their lives in the Great Trek wars.
- There was depopulation as many Africans were killed due to the wars fought by the Boer Trekkers.
- The Africans lost their properties like cattle and crops due to the wars fought by the Boers trekkers. For example, Dingane lost 19,000 herds of cattle.
- Some African leaders were exiled and subsequently lost their lives in the process of the Great Trek for example, Dingane, the Zulu leader.
- The Africans lost their lands to the Boers for example the Zulu, the Ndebele, the Pedi, and the Swazi.
- It led to the spread of European disease like sexually transmitted diseases and tuberculosis to the Africans due to the forced intermarriages between the Boers and the Africans.
- The Africans became dependant on the Boers for employment after losing their land.
- There was wide spread of poverty as the Africans were paid little or nothing for their labour by the Boers.

- The Africans acquired guns from the Boer trekkers after collaborating with the Boers for example Mosheshe of the Sotho, Mpande of the Zulu and the Tlokwa chiefs.
- African traditional cultures were destroyed by the Boers after introducing their western cultures like religion, language and dressing.
- The Africans were displaced by the Boers trekkers for example the Ndebele, the Sotho, and the Zulu.
- The Africans were sent to reserves. In such areas, they lived a miserable life full of diseases, starvation, overcrowding and death.
- The African technology declined or disappeared as they learnt western technology from the Boers like carpentry.
- The Boers started interfering in the politics of the Africans.
- There was decline in agriculture since Africans spent much of their time fighting with the Boers.
- The African languages were put into writing by the Boers.
- The African chiefs lost their traditional powers and authority to the Boers for example Dingane of the Zulu and Mzilikazi of the Ndebele.
- The Africans lost their independence to the whites.
- The Africans became second class citizens in their own country.
- The Boers started enslaving the Africans in the interior on their farms and homes.
- It led to racial segregation or discrimination in the interior by the Boers which laid a foundation for the Apartheid policy in South Africa which affected the African greatly.
- It led to insecurity in the interior of South Africa because of the wars between Africans and the Boers.
- It opened up the interior of South Africa for European settlement and exploitation of African resources like minerals.
- The Africans learnt new methods of farming like commercial farming from the Boers which later improved their economy.
- In conclusion, the Great trek was a turning point in the history of South Africa. This was because it influenced more Europeans to enter into the interior who later contributed to the development of South Africa.

#### • **THE GREAT TREK WARS OR BATTLES**

##### • **THE BATTLE OF VEGKOP OF 1836**

- It was one of the Great trek wars.
- It was fought between the Boer trekkers of the second group and the Ndebele during the course of the Great trek.
- It was fought on the **19<sup>th</sup> of October 1836**.
- The Ndebele were led by their King Mzilikazi, while the Boers were led by Hendrick Portigeter, Sarel Celliers and the Gerrit Maritz.
- The war was started by the Boers after the Ndebele refused to give them land for settlement.
- The war took place at Marico Quarry between Vaal and Orange Rivers (Vegkop village).

#### • **CAUSES OF THE BATTLE OF VEGKOP OF 1836**

- What are the causes of the Battle of Vegkop of 1836?
- Why did the Boers conflict with the Ndebele in 1836?
- What were the causes of the conflict between Mzilikazi and Hendrick Portigeter in 1836?
- The determination of the Ndebele to defend or maintain their independence forced them to fight the Boers in 1836.
- The Ndebele were naturally warriors i.e. they were war-like which encouraged them to resist the Boers.
- The Boers were struggling to acquire land which forced them to attack the Ndebele, hence causing the battle.
- The two groups (Boers and Ndebele) had large numbers of cattle which attracted them to raid each other, hence the war.
- The leaders of the Ndebele had registered earlier success in fighting the foreigners which encouraged them to fight the Boers.
- The killing of the earlier Boers missionaries forced the Boers to fight a war of revenge. For example, Erasmus who was a Boer missionary had been killed by the Ndebele.
- The Ndebele called the Boers 'Wizards' which annoyed them, hence causing war.
- The Boers were confident of defeating the Ndebele because they had enough weapons to fight the Ndebele.
- The support given to the Boer trekkers by the **Barolong** chief called **Moroka** encouraged the Boers to fight the Ndebele under Mzilikazi.
- The Ndebele had arrested and kidnapped three American missionaries and some Boers, whom the Boers wanted to rescue through the use of force, hence leading to war.
- The Boers were confident with their military tactic of the 'Laager System' which could enable them to defeat the Ndebele easily.
- The Great trek which made many Boers to go close to the Ndebele caused the war.
- The act of assembling the Boer commandos in the Ndebele land threatened Mzilikazi, hence forcing him to fight them.
- **EFFECTS OF THE BATTLE OF VEGKOP OF 1836**
- What were the effects of the Battle of Vegkop of 1836?
- The Ndebele were defeated which led to the loss of independence of the Africans to the Boers.
- It led to the loss of lives among the Ndebele since many Ndebele warriors were killed during the war.
- There was destruction of property among the Ndebele people especially gardens and houses.
- The Ndebele lost over 10,000 heads of cattle to the Boers.
- The Ndebele were displaced from their cradle land and pushed up to present Zimbabwe.
- It led to the decline of economic activities such as trade and commerce.

- There was decline in agriculture which led to famine since the crops were destroyed during the war.
- The war caused a lot of suffering to the Africans who were defeated.
- The war led to poverty among the Ndebele due to the destruction of property that it caused.
- The three American missionaries were eventually released by the Ndebele after the war.
- The Boers were able to recover some of their lost cattle and ox-wagons from the Ndebele.
- The Boers gained confidence in using the 'Laager System' in fighting against the Africans and they were later to use it against the Zulu.
- The battle increased the **Boer nationalism** or desire to be independent after defeating the Ndebele.
- Some of the Boers lost their lives since they were killed by the Ndebele for example Erasmus and Jan Van Rensburg.
- It led to the creation of a new Boer republic or state of Orange Free State.
- It increased the hatred between the Boers and the Ndebele since the Ndebele were not happy with the Boer settlement in their land.
- ✕ **THE BATTLE OF BLOOD RIVER, 1838**
  - It was one of the Great trek wars and it was fought between the Zulu and the Boers.
  - It was fought on **16<sup>th</sup> December 1838** between river **Donga** and river **Ncome** (Blood River).
  - The Zulu were led by their king **Dingane** while the Boers were led by **Andries Pretorius**.
  - The battle was fought by the third group of the Boer trekkers who were revenging for the death of their leader **Piet Retief**.
- ✕ **CAUSES OF THE BATTLE OF BLOOD RIVER OF 1838**
  - What were the causes of the battle of Blood River of 1838?
  - Why did Dingane conflict with the Boers in 1838?
  - What led to the Boer-Zulu war of 1838?
  - The Zulu wanted to protect their ancestral land from the Boers who had started grabbing it.
  - The Zulu wanted to **protect** their independence which was threatened by the Boers.
  - There was also the determination of the Boers not to go back to the Cape Colony and suffer again. Therefore, they had to fight the Zulu so as to establish a home of state in Zululand which led to war.
  - The Zulu were **naturally warriors** who always fought foreigners, hence leading to war.
  - The Africans never trusted the whites after a Xhosa refugee called **Jacob Msimble** had warned Dingane about the danger of trusting the whites.
  - The failure of land negotiations between the Boers and the Zulu meant that only war would solve the problem of land ownership between the two parties.

- The Zulu believed that the Boers represented the British and therefore, Dingane wanted to send a clear warning to the British not to involve in the Zulu wars.
- The Zulu wanted to raid the Boer cattle in order to boost their economy which forced them to fight the Boers.
- Dingane was also warned that many Boers were coming to occupy his territory and yet many more were to follow. Therefore, he had to act immediately.
- The Boer's desire to create an independent republic free from the British interference made them to fight with the Zulu who seemed to be an obstacle.
- The killing of **Piet Retief** by Dingane in 1838 annoyed the Boer trekkers, hence forcing them to fight a war of revenge against the Zulu.
- The election of **Andries Pretorius** in 1838 to replace Piet Retief who had been killed gave the Boers courage and determination to fight the Zulu.
- The Boers were arrogant and confident of defeating the Zulu since they had strong guns. This explains why they decided without fear to attack the Zulu on the banks of the Blood River.
- The unfaithfulness of king Dingane who refused to hand over land as earlier promised annoyed the Boers, hence leading to war.
- The Zulu believed that they would easily gain victory after the killing of Piet Retief who was a Boer leader on **6<sup>th</sup> February 1838**.
- The return of Dingane's stolen cattle by Piet Retief created an excuse for the Boers to attack Dingane since they wanted to force him to pay for the work done.
- The destruction of almost all the Boer camps in Eastern Natal in **mid February 1838** and the killing of many Boers encouraged the survivors in Western Natal to fight for their lives.
- ✕ The camping of the Boer Commandos (fighters) along river **Ncome** (Blood River) on **5<sup>th</sup> December 1838** scared the Zulu, hence forcing them to attack the Boers which led to war.
- ✕ **EFFECTS OF THE BATTLE OF BLOOD RIVER**
  - The Zulu were defeated by the Boers by 1838.
  - Dingane was forced to leave his throne and he was replaced by his brother **Mpande**.
  - Dingane fled or escaped to Swaziland where he was captured and killed by the Swazi people under **King Mswati**.
  - It led to the establishment of the new Boer republic of **Natal** in 1839 in Zululand.
  - It marked the beginning of the Zulu loss of independence since the kingdom was weakened and reduced in size.
  - It led to the rise of **Andries Pretorius** who was elected as the new president and army commander of Natal Republic and he later played a big role in the history of South Africa.
  - The whites started interfering in the Zulu politics. For example, they appointed **Mpanie** to become the king and therefore destroyed the hereditary leadership.
  - The battle led to the loss of lives of both the Africans and the Boers. About 20,000 people are believed to have died.
  - There was depopulation in Zulu land and Natal due to the loss of lives.



- The battle led to the destruction of property like houses and gardens.
- It laid a foundation for the **Apartheid policy** in South Africa since the Boers started discriminating the Africans.
- There was a lot of suffering and misery among the Zulu people.
- The Zulu were displaced from their original land since the Boers migrated in large numbers.
- It led to the decline in agriculture since the Africans spent much of their time fighting, thus leading to **famine** in Zululand.
- There was decline in **trade and commerce** since the Africans never had time to engage in serious trade.
- The Zulu royal family was divided, thus leading to conflicts between Dingane and Mpande.
- **REASONS WHY THE AFRICANS WERE DEFEATED IN THE GREAT TREK WARS.**
  - Why did the Boers defeat the Ndebele during the Battle of Vegkop of 1836?
  - Why did the Boers defeat the Zulu in the Battle of Blood River of 1838?
  - The Africans were defeated because they had inferior weapons like spears, arrows and stones.
  - The Africans had a weak economy or they were poor to finance a major war against the Boers.
  - The Africans were defeated because they were disunited yet the whites cooperated during the wars.
  - The outbreak of natural calamities like drought and famine weakened the Africans, hence leading to their defeat.
  - The Africans had **poor leadership** which could not enable them defeat the Boers who had strong leaders.
  - The Africans were defeated because they had poor military training.
  - Some Africans were betrayed by their fellow Africans who collaborated with the Boers.
  - The Africans had poor military tactics compared to the Boers who used the "**Laager System**".
  - The death of some African leaders like Dingane weakened the African fighters, hence leading to their defeat.
  - The Africans especially the Zulu lacked support from their African neighbors since they were unfriendly to them.
  - The Africans believed in traditional beliefs and magic which betrayed them.
  - The outbreak of diseases like sexually transmitted diseases killed many Africans, hence leading to their defeat.
  - The influence of the Christian missionaries who divided up the Africans between the believers and non believers led to their defeat.
  - The low levels of **African nationalism** among the Africans made them unable to put up a strong resistance against the Boers, leading to their defeat.

- **THE FORMATION OF THE BOER REPUBLIC AND THE GREAT TREK**
- **a ) NATAL**
  - Describe the formation of the republic of Natal by 1839?
  - How was the republic of Natal established by 1839?
  - Describe the origin of Natal republic
  - Natal was established by the Boer trekkers from the Cape Colony into the interior of South Africa.
  - It was founded by the third group of the Boer trekkers which was led by **Piet Retief** and later **Andries Pretorius**.
  - In 1837, Piet Retief reached Zululand with his group and asked for land from the Zulu king Dingane.
  - Dingane promised land to Piet Retief on condition that he recovered his stolen cattle from **Sekonyela** who was the king of the **Tlokwa**.
  - Piet Retief easily recovered the stolen cattle and gave them back to Dingane.
  - Dingane became suspicious and throughout that Piet Retief and his followers had a plan of joining Sekonyela to fight him.
  - He therefore started planning how to do away with them.
  - He organized a beer party where Piet Retief and some of his people were invited.
  - While on the party, Dingane ordered his warriors to "Kill the Wizards" and therefore **Dingane** and all his followers were murdered.
  - The remaining Boer trekkers elected **Andries Pretorius** who took over leadership after the death of Piet Retief.
  - On **16<sup>th</sup> December 1838**, the Boers under Andries Pretorius attacked and defeated the Zulu at the **Battle of Blood River**.
  - The Boers forced the Zulu army to give up the territory across river **Tugela** and in **1839** they set up the **republic of Natal**.
  - The capital of the republic was established at **Pietmaritzberg**.
  - Dingane decided to escape to the neighboring Swazi nation where he was later killed by the Swazi warriors.
  - Mpande who was Dingane's brother, with the support of the Boers became the new king of the Zulu.
  - The Boers later established a new administrative (government) structure with a parliament which consisted of twenty four (24) members known as the **Volksraad** (People's Council).
  - They also established an army council called the **Krygraad** with Andries Pretorius as the **Commandant-General**.
  - The Volksraad (parliament) served as the court of appeal and it would elect the president whenever it was found necessary.
  - The republic was however **short lived** as the British annexed it to the Cape Colony in **1843**.
- **THE BRITISH ANNEXATION (OCCUPATION) OF NATAL.**
  - By 1844, the new Boer republic of Natal had been annexed to the Cape Colony as one of its provinces.

- The struggle between Boers and the British started in 1842, and by **1843**, the Boer authorities had been forced to surrender and Natal therefore fell under the hands of the British.
- **REASONS WHY THE BRITISH ANNEXED NATAL IN 1843**
- The British took over Natal because of political and economic reasons as seen below;
- The British wanted to use Natal as a base to extend their **Imperialism** (colonialism) further into the interior of South Africa.
- The British never wanted the Boers to be independent, hence annexing their republic of Natal in 1843.
- The British continued to regard the Boers as their subjects wherever they were. This influenced them to take over Natal in 1843.
- The British annexed Natal in order to discourage the Boers from further migration into the interior.
- The British had received reports that the Boers were **enslaving** the Africans and therefore they took over Natal to stop the Boers from enslaving the Africans.
- The British wanted to destroy Port Natal (Port Durban) which had started threatening the Cape Town i.e. it was likely to outcompete the Cape in terms of trade.
- The British claimed that the Boers in Natal were very weak and therefore they needed protection from the hostile Africans.
- The Boers had internal conflicts especially among the leaders which forced the British to come in and settle the conflicts.
- The British never wanted the Boers to have any sea contact as they would easily connect with their enemies especially France.
- The British had a policy of following up the Boers wherever they went, hence their annexation of Natal.
- The rumours that Natal was rich in mineral resources increased the British determination to annex the republic with a hope of getting minerals there.
- The British wanted to take over the fertile soils of Natal so as to establish plantation farming in Natal.
- The Boers had failed to establish a stable form of administration and therefore the British took advantage of their weakness to annex Natal in 1843.
- The death of **Piet Retief** gave the British a chance to occupy Natal because there was no courageous Boer leader to unite the Boers after his death.
- The government of Natal had become **bankrupt**. It gave out land to the settlers without paying rent and therefore it became economically weak which forced the British to occupy it so as to save it from further economic collapse.
- The too many wars on the Eastern Frontier (border) of the Cape Colony between the Boers and the Africans (Kaffir Wars) encouraged the British to occupy the area.
- The British hated the existence of rival European settlers on the shores of the Indian Ocean. They wanted to dominate the economic advantages of the Indian Ocean which could only be achieved if Natal was under their control.

- The British never wanted the Boers to be in control of Natal because their Sea route to India and the trade in the Far East would be disturbed.
- The Boers were divided. For example, the Volksraad (People's Council) was against the supporters of Andries Pretorius which made it easy for the British to take over Natal.
- The British feared that the Boers would collaborate with the powerful African leaders against them for example Mosheeshe of the Basuto nation.
- The British wanted to prevent the extension of the **Boer racism** into the interior of South Africa.
- **EFFECTS OF THE BRITISH ANNEXATION OF NATAL**
- The Boer republic of Natal came to an end and therefore the Boers lost their independence.
- Natal became part of the British Cape Colony and therefore it was put under the British Cape governor.
- The annexation made the Boers to leave Natal and settle in other areas beyond river Vaal.
- It led to depopulation of both the Africans and the whites as they killed themselves during the wars.
- Both the Africans and the Boers lost their land to the British.
- It laid a foundation for the British annexation of other Boer republics like Orange Free State and Transvaal.
- Both the Africans and the Boers lost their property such as cattle to the British.
- The enmity and hatred between the Boers and the British increased as a result of the annexation of Natal.
- It led to the establishment of sugar cane plantations in Natal by the British in order to strengthen their economy.
- The Boer racial discrimination was spread into the interior of South Africa where they eventually went.
- The British were affected economically due the financial costs involved in the administration of Natal.
- The Boers became divided whereby some decided to stay under the British rule while others decided to migrate away.
- It laid a foundation for future wars between the Boers and the British like the First Anglo-Boer War of 1880-1881 and the Second Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902.
- The migrating Boers displaced the Africans from their fertile land to infertile areas.
- The British introduced their language and culture in the area (Natal).
- **6) THE FORMATION OF ORANGE FREE STATE**
- Describe the foundation of the Boer republic of Orange Free State.
- Explain the origin of Orange Free State.
- How was the Boer republic of Orange Free State established?
- Orange Free State was the second Boer republic to be established and it was formed by the second group of the Boer trekkers led by Hendrick Potgieter, Gerrit Maritz and Sarel Cilliers.
- Orange Free State was established between river Orange and river Vaal.

- It was formed after clashes between the Boers and the Ndebele under Mzilikazi in 1836.
- When the second group of Boer trekkers reached Ndebele Kingdom in 1836, the Ndebele king Mzilikazi tried to prevent them from occupying his kingdom.
- The Boers later fought the Ndebele in the **Battle of Vegkop of 1836** where the Ndebele were defeated.
- They were forced northwards across **river Limpopo**, thus leaving their homeland to the Boer trekkers.
- The Boers decided to establish a new state of Orange Free State in the Ndebele area.
- They were later joined by the Boer trekkers from Natal after it was annexed by the British in 1843.
- In 1844, the Boers drafted a constitution and elected a legislative council or parliament to govern the state.
- Hendrick Portgieter was elected the first president of Orange Free State and the Commander of the armed forces.
- Unfortunately, Orange Free State was annexed by the British in 1848 under the British governor **Sir Harry Smith**.
- He changed the name of Orange Free State to **Orange River colony (ORC)**.
- The Boers tried to resist the annexation, but they were finally defeated by the British.
- In 1849, the British Commissioner called **Warden** tried to solve the land conflicts between the Basuto and the Boers, hence drawing the "**Warden line**" to act as the boundary.
- Mosheshe, the Basuto king used this opportunity to attack the Boers in Orange River Colony and chased many of them out of his land.
- In 1854, the **Bloemfontein treaty or Convention** was signed which gave back Orange Free State its independence.
- The Boers after regaining their independence renamed Orange River Colony back to Orange Free State and **Hoffmayer** was elected the first president of the newly created Orange Free State.
- **REASONS FOR THE BRITISH ANNEXATION OF ORANGE FREE STATE.**
- There were various reasons that led to the British annexation of Orange Free State in 1848 as seen below;
- The British regarded the Boers as their subjects (servants) and therefore they wanted to extend their authority over them.
- The long term hatred and suspicion between the British and the Boers forced the British to occupy Orange Free State.
- The British wanted to "kill" the **Boer nationalism** and independence by annexing Orange Free State.
- The rise of the **British imperialism** and desire to control the whole of South Africa made them to occupy Orange Free State.
- The British wanted to use Orange Free State to extend their influence into the interior of South Africa

- The earlier occupation (annexation) of Natal in 1843 encouraged the British to occupy Orange Free State so as to regulate the Boer activities.
- The population of the Boers had scattered all over South Africa which encouraged British to occupy Orange Free states in order to avoid the spread of the Boer racism (segregation) in the interior of South Africa.
- The failure of the Boers to establish a strong and stable government in Orange Free State influenced the British to occupy the area so as to create a strong administration.
- The existence of the land conflicts between the Boers and the Basuto attracted the British to conquer and intervene in order to maintain peace and security in the area.
- The leader of the Basuto nation - Mosheshe had also requested the British to provide him with protection against the Boers, hence forcing the British to occupy the Orange Free State.
- The British wanted to stop the Boer mistreatment of the Africans in Orange Free State through enslaving them.
- The Boers had been weakened by the constant conflicts with the Africans like the Ndebele and the Basuto. Therefore, they could not resist the British occupation of Orange Free State.
- The disunity among the Boers encouraged the British to occupy Orange Free State. The Boers had internal conflicts among themselves and with the Africans.
- The British hoped to find minerals in Orange Free State, hence leading to its annexation in order to exploit them.
- The British were interested in the fertile soils of the Orange Free State in order to extend their farming into the interior, hence leading to annexation.
- The British were not satisfied with the Great Trek of the Boers which forced them to continue following up the Boers wherever they went.
- **EFFECTS OF THE BRITISH ANNEXATION OF ORANGE FREE STATE**
- How did the British annexation of Orange Free State affect the people of South Africa?
- What were the effects of the British annexation of Orange Free State in 1848?
- The Boers lost their independence to the British after the annexation.
- It increased the hatred and enmity between the British and the Boers because the Boers greatly opposed the annexation.
- It created a class of rebellious Boers who resisted the British annexation and they decided to fight with the British at the battle of the **Boomplatus** but they were defeated.
- Some of the Boers decided to migrate again under the leadership of **Andries Pretorius** and formed the Boer state of Transvaal.
- The Boers lost their land to the British who took over the administration of the Orange Free State.
- It increased the **Boer nationalism** as they realized the need to struggle for their independence.



### • THE MISSIONARIES IN SOUTH AFRICA

- The missionaries were "soldiers" of Christ who came to South Africa to spread Christianity.
- They came to South Africa after the revival of the religious movement in England in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.
- The key missionaries who came to South Africa were Dr. John Moffat, John Phillip, Van Der Kemp and Dr. David Livingstone among others.
- They were sent by different missionary organizations like the London Missionary Society (LMS), the Church Missionary Society (CMS), the Paris Evangelical Mission (PEM), the Free Church of Scotland (FCS), the British Bible Society (BBS), the Moravian Missionaries (MM) and the Dutch Reformed Church (DRC).
- These religious groups or churches operated in different parts of South Africa. For example, the London Missionary Society worked among the Xhosa, Khoikhol and Cape colony, the Moravian Missionaries worked among the Africans like the Khoikhol, the Free Church of Scotland operated in areas like Natal and the Dutch Reformed Church worked mainly in the Dutch settled areas while the Paris Evangelical Mission (PEM) worked among the Basuto under King Moshehe.

### • REASONS FOR THE COMING OF THE MISSIONARIES TO SOUTH AFRICA

- They wanted to spread Christianity among the people of South Africa.
- The desire to stop the bad African practices like human sacrifice, murder of twins, witchcraft and polygamy led to the coming of the missionaries.
- The missionaries wanted to stop the slavery that was being practiced by the Boers and fight for African freedom.
- The missionaries wanted to spread western cultures like language, dressing, music and dancing which they believed to be superior to that of the Africans.
- Some came as a result of adventure and therefore they wanted to discover new areas.
- They were running away from the political instabilities in Europe like the French revolution of 1789 and the Napoleonic Wars.
- Other missionaries wanted to acquire new colonies for their home countries like Britain and France.
- The discovery of quinine gave courage to the missionaries to come to South Africa because it reduced the fear of Africa by the Europeans which had been regarded as a white man's burden.
- They also came to spread western civilization through education since they believed that the Africans were backward and it was their duty to civilize them.
- Some missionaries came to promote legitimate trade after the abolition of slave trade.

### • MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA

- Their activities were political, economic and social in nature as described below;
- They preached the gospel or Christianity to the Africans.

- They built a number of Churches where the gospel was preached and Christianity was spread further.
- They built mission stations for the run-away slaves like Bethelsdorp near Port Elizabeth. This mission station was established by Van Der Kemp and it became the political headquarters of the Africans in the fight against the Whites.
- They built technical schools in places like Lovedale and Heald Town in the Cape colony.
- They built formal schools where Africans were taught how to read and write.
- They taught Africans practical skills like carpentry, bricklaying and shoe making among others.
- They built hospitals and health centers or they fought against diseases among the Africans.
- They built roads so as to improve on transport and communication.
- They discouraged some African cultures and traditions like polygamy and witchcraft.
- They spread western culture to the Africans and gave them new languages and new eating habits.
- They also called for a fair hearing to African cases and complaints.
- Some missionaries like Van Der Kemp encouraged hard work or fought laziness among the Africans.
- They established the first printing press in South Africa which they used to publish a number of books. For example, Dr. John Phillip wrote a book "Researches in South Africa" which was an attack on the white attitude towards the Africans.
- They advocated for the removal of the Pass system or Pass laws that limited African movements in South Africa.
- They demanded for the reduction of the long working hours for slaves.
- They also influenced the emancipation or liberation of slaves in 1834.
- They even influenced the passing of the 50<sup>th</sup> Ordinance in 1828 that restored the rights of the Africans.
- They exerted pressure on the British government to introduce the Black Circuit Courts in 1811 so as to fight for the rights of the Africans or slaves.
- They campaigned against African slavery and bondage of Boer Masters.
- They fought against racial segregation or Apartheid of Boers in South Africa.
- They called for equality, fraternity, liberty, freedom and humanity of the non-whites in South Africa or they fought for the civil and political rights of the Africans.
- They even married Africans so as to promote inter-cultural mixing for example Van der Kemp.
- They also intervened in the Xhosa-Boer wars or Kaffir Wars. For example, Dr. John Phillip called for the return of the Xhosa land during the Sixth Kaffir War. This therefore helped the Africans to regain their lost land.
- They even convinced the British Parliament to nullify or cancel the British annexation of the Province of Queen Adelaide.
- The Dutch Reformed Church preached social segregation and superiority of the whites against the Africans.

- The missionaries acted as agents of colonialism. For example, at times they spied on the African governments on behalf of their home governments.

### • **EFFECTS OF MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES ON THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA**

- The results were **political, social, and economic** in nature as well as positive and negative as explained below;
- Many Africans were converted to Christianity.
- African traditional religion and cultures were undermined and considered backward and primitive. For example, there was decrease in polygamy, witchcraft, twin murder and worshiping of idols among others.
- Many Africans adopted European cultures through education, dressing and religion.
- Some African chiefs lost their respect as their people put a lot of respect on the new religion, thus undermining the traditional authority. Some Africans even refused to fight in the defence of their chiefs.
- They divided Africans into hostile camps like Christians against non-Christians as well as the educated against non-educated.
- Through promoting inter-tribal conflicts, tribalism and sectarianism were created by the Christian missionaries.
- Their activities further led to the formation of the Independent Churches that tried to preach an African oriented version of the Gospel.
- They encouraged hard work among the Africans and many were able to get paid jobs.
- In their schools, the Africans got trained for white collar jobs or professions like doctors, nurses, teachers, lawyers and interpreters among others.
- The Africans learnt how to read and write and therefore they became literate.
- Their schools prepared and created a feeling of independence among the Africans i.e they produced the pioneer nationalists in South Africa like Nelson Mandela, Albert Luthuli and Robert Sobukwe. Therefore, they laid a foundation for the growth of African nationalism.
- They put the Bantu languages into writing and this improved on the communication between the Africans and the whites.
- The Africans learnt foreign languages like French, Dutch, English and Latin.
- The Africans got better health care through the hospitals and this reduced on the death rates among the Africans or the South African people.
- Their mission stations became homes for the run-away slaves, thus protecting the African slaves from the Boer mistreatment.
- They promoted equality of all races through building racially mixed schools like Lovedale.
- They provided Africans with educational values, knowledge, skills and positive attitude.
- Through their technical schools, the Africans acquired technical skills such as bricklaying, carpentry, joinery, construction and building as well as shoe making.
- They led to the establishment of the Black Circuit Courts that gave the Africans a chance to report their harsh Boer masters.

- The Africans enjoyed some of their rights like freedom of movement after the passing the 50<sup>th</sup> Ordinance, the right to good working conditions and others.
- Some Africans like the Xhosa regained some of their land that had been taken by the Boers.
- They improved communication and transport by building roads and bridges that made life better for the Africans.
- The activities of the missionaries improved on the living standards of the people in South Africa.
- They led to a class of collaborators like Chief Khama of the Tswana who helped in the colonization of Botswana.
- They improved on agriculture through scientific means like hybrid seeds, ox-ploughs, crop rotation, mulching and the use of fertilizers, thus leading to increased agricultural output.
- They won African trust. For example, Dr. Van Der Kemp dressed in the Khoikhoi style and walked bare footed.
- They also spoilt the relationship between the Boers and the British through favouring the Africans. This together with the good or warm relations that the missionaries had with the Africans led to the outbreak of the Great Trek.
- Their teachings also made the Boer farmers to experience labour shortages on their farms.
- The conflicts between the Boers and British missionaries led to the **Slachter's Nek Incident or killings of 1816**. By this incident, five Boers who were rebelling against the British were hanged by the British.
- They introduced western architecture of building squared houses using bricks and iron sheets.
- But some missionary groups like the Dutch Reformed Church encouraged Apartheid or social segregation.
- Their activities laid a foundation for the colonization of South Africa, thus leading to the loss of independence by the Africans. They therefore acted as forerunners of colonization.
- They encouraged the Barolong tribe to declare their independence from Mosheshe, hence undermining the African authority.
- They encouraged inter-cultural marriages with the Africans and promoted equality.
- Their teachings led to the stopping of slavery in 1834.
- They are also credited for having established the first printing press at the cape which produced reading materials for the Africans.
- They encouraged legitimate trade between the Africans and whites which improved African standards of living.
- They participated in the local African politics either as suppliers of guns or advisors to African chiefs. For example, the Paris Evangelical Mission (PEM) provided good political advice to Mosheshe and helped him to cool down resistances.
- They translated the Bible from English to the local languages, hence easing the spread of the gospel.

- They mediated in the African-Boer conflicts like the Kaffir Wars, thus creating peace among the Africans and the Boers.
- The missionary activities led to loss of African land. For example, the Dutch Reformed Church grabbed African land while the Basuto also lost land to the Wesleyan Missionaries.

#### • **PROBLEMS FACED BY THE MISSIONARIES IN SOUTH AFRICA**

- They suffered from language barrier which delayed their work.
- The poor transport and communication network hindered their work.
- They were attacked by tropical diseases such as malaria that killed many missionaries like David Livingstone.
- They faced opposition from the white community especially the Boers who never wanted equality for the Africans.
- They were attacked by the hostile African tribes leading to the loss of lives.
- They lacked enough funds to carry out their work.
- They faced a problem of wild animals like lions and tigers.
- Sometimes the missionaries were killed while fighting for the rights of the Africans and the lost land.
- They lacked enough man power because the area of operation was large.
- The establishment of mission stations caused resistance to those that had lost their land.
- The missionary practices at times conflicted with African traditions like monogamy as opposed to polygamy.
- They were not used to the tropical climate which made their work difficult.
- They faced opposition from some African chiefs who misunderstood them.

#### • **THEROLES PLAYED BY THE LEADING MISSIONARIES IN SOUTH AFRICA**

##### • **DR. JOHN PHILLIP**

- Dr. John Phillip was one of the most important missionaries who operated in South Africa.
- He was sent from the London Missionary Society to spread Christianity among the Africans and he arrived in South Africa in **1819**.
- On his arrival to South Africa, he begun by working in the Khoikhoi communities and then spread out to other communities.
- He spent much of his time moving to several places in South Africa helping the Africans.
- He was a promoter or champion of the African rights and he condemned the Boer hostility against the Africans. This earned him many enemies among the Boers.
- He was greatly touched by the way the Dutch people were mistreating the Africans and from such an experience, John Philip became determined to fight for the African rights.
- He later wrote and published a book "**Researchers in South Africa**" in which he expressed his own views on the fight for the African rights.
- Through the book and through his activities, he greatly condemned or attacked the Boers for mistreating the Africans.
- He was later appointed as a Supretendant of the London Missionary Society.

- He strongly attacked the **Hottentot Code of 1809**.
- He even went ahead and advocated for separate settlements for the Africans and the Boers if at all the Africans were to receive peace.
- He even called for European humanitarians to come and assist the Africans in South Africa.
- It was him who engineered or led to the passing of the **50<sup>th</sup> Ordinance of 1828** which restored the civil rights or liberties of the Africans and changed the oppressive laws.
- He contributed to the **Abolition of Slavery Act** which was passed in **1834**.
- He became directly involved in the conflicts between the Africans like the Xhosa over the Eastern Frontier. In these wars, he criticized the whites for grabbing the African land.
- He demanded for the return of the land that the Boers had taken between River Kei and River Keiskama after the 6<sup>th</sup> Kaffir War and the land was returned to the Xhosa.
- He encouraged the Africans to buy land and look for better employment away from the Boers.
- He promoted African education by encouraging many young Africans to go to school which created an educated class of people.
- He kept in touch with the British government and informed the British government about the evils practiced the Boer masters over the Africans.
- He condemned or criticized African traditional practices such as initiation ceremonies like killing of twins and polygamy among others.
- **DR. VAN DER KEMP**
- Dr. Van Der Kemp was the earliest missionary to come to South Africa.
- He was sent by the London Missionary Society (LMS). He was a Dutch missionary and he arrived in South Africa in **1779**.
- On his arrival, he worked among the Khoikhoi and the Xhosa.
- He believed in the equality of all races and even married a coloured woman who was produced by a slave mother.
- Though a Dutch, he was very close to the Blacks and very much associated with them. He was therefore criticized by the Boers because of his closeness to the Africans.
- The early Dutch settlers accused him of encouraging laziness among the Africans. However, the truth was that Van Der Kemp encouraged hard work among the Africans especially in the field of agriculture.
- He also encouraged the Africans to take up practical skills like building, carpentry and brick making which improved the African standards of living.
- He promoted the spread of Christianity among the people where he worked like the Khoikhoi and the Xhosa.
- He criticized male dominance and encouraged women emancipation.
- He promoted African values. For example, he dressed like a Khoikhoi and also walked bare footed so as to resemble the Africans.
- He also helped in the establishment of the Black Circuit Courts in **1811 to 1812** which could listen to the African complaints against the Boer masters.



- He also established hospitals and other health centres which improved the health of the Africans. For example, he established a dispensary at **Bethelsdrop**.
- He protected the Blacks from their white oppressive masters. For example, his mission station at Bethelsdrop was used to protect the Africans during their wars against the whites like the Kaffir Wars.
- He criticized the bad African traditional practices like the killing of twins and as a result, they were abolished.
- **THE DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH IN SOUTH AFRICA**
- This was the earliest or oldest Christian Church in South Africa. It was formed by the earliest Dutch settlers.
- It originated from Holland and was mainly based at the Cape.
- It was formed to bring the Dutch settlers under their religion. Therefore, it was the official church of the Dutch settlers.
- By 1806, when the British took over the Cape, the Dutch Reformed Church was very powerful.
- It gained more strength when other missionaries came to South Africa.
- This Church was against the human rights or freedom for the non-whites in South Africa.
- It was the only Church in South Africa that never supported the Africans.
- Its teachings were based only on the Old Testament especially the story of Noah and his three sons (Ham, Shem and Japheth). It stated that, while the whites were born saved and superior, the non whites belonged to Ham and were therefore born doomed and cursed.
- It therefore encouraged the mistreatment of the Africans by the whites especially the slave masters.
- Its teachings made the Boers hostile to the Africans. To them, it was normal for the whites to kill Africans.
- They believed that God had sent them to preserve the white civilization.
- The church promoted Boer unity, isolation and pride. As a result of its teachings, the Dutch took themselves as the "Israelites" or chosen race and also viewed South Africa as their Canaan or the Promised Land.
- It encouraged its members to make pilgrimage (holy visit) once a year at Swellendam and GraaffReinet.
- It also encouraged trade in cattle, sheep and sugar among the Dutch during the holy visit.
- In the visit, it converted and baptized new Church members hence spreading Christianity.
- It also provided other sacraments like confirmation, holy matrimony and Holy Communion especially during the holy visit.
- These holy visits acted as a tool of keeping the Boers united.
- They built schools for the education of the Dutch settlers.
- It increased Boer arrogance or pride.
- It encouraged the grabbing of African land by the whites.
- It encouraged white racial segregation against the non-whites.

- It encouraged Anglo-Boer phobia (a strong fear for the British) among the Boers. This together with the Boer pride (arrogance) resulted into the Great Trek.
- Its racial teachings laid a foundation for the Apartheid policy in South Africa.
- It provided a cultural link between the Boers in South Africa and those outside.
- **EFFECTS OR ROLE OF THE DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH IN SOUTH AFRICA**
- It led to the discrimination of the Africans.
- Through the activities of the Dutch Reformed Church, the Africans lost some of their land because the church preached that South Africa was the Dutch **Promised Land**.
- The Dutch Reformed Church encouraged slavery of the Africans and exploitation of their resources.
- Through its activities, the Africans were denied freedom of worship as well as freedom of association and movement.
- The Dutch Reformed Church even went ahead to prevent the Africans from receiving formal education and the few Dutch schools never enrolled the African children.
- The Africans were made to establish Independent Churches, some of which were in protest of the activities of the Dutch Reformed Church.
- The Dutch Reformed Church encouraged white hostilities towards the African race.
- Through the activities of the Dutch Reformed Church, the Africans were denied a right of trading freely.
- The activities of the Dutch Reformed Church led to the initial stage of racial segregation which later developed into the Apartheid policy in South Africa.
- **THE AFRICAN INDEPENDENT CHURCHES IN SOUTH AFRICA**
- These were churches which broke away from the missionary or European controlled churches and they were formed and led by the Africans.
- These churches came up in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- They were also called Bantu-led churches especially among the Bantu (Zulu).
- Membership to these churches was open to all Black Africans.
- They were therefore organized on tribal basis.
- They were basically divided into three types i.e. the Ethiopian, Zionist and Messianic church.
- The Ethiopian churches were politically motivated having been formed after the **Adowa Incident of 1896** in which Ethiopia defeated the Italians who had tried to colonize her.
- The Messianic church taught about the "Black Jesus" or "Messiah" and it was led by Isaiah Tshembe - the Zulu Messiah while Nehemiah Tile led the Natal church.
- The Zionist church was made up of "**puritans**" and was supported by the Blacks in the diaspora (a broad) especially in USA.
- **REASONS FOR THE FORMATION OF THE AFRICAN INDEPENDENT CHURCHES IN SOUTH AFRICA**
- They were formed to fight against racial segregation in South Africa.
- They were formed due to the conflicts between the African clergy and white missionaries over leadership. The Africans also wanted to become leaders in the churches like Bishops and Arch-Bishops.

- They were also formed due to long period of training to **priesthood** which the Africans hated.
- The Africans also formed these churches with a hope of using them to fight against European colonialism in South Africa.
- The role played by the leaders of these churches like Isalah Tshembe of the Messianic church in Zulu land and others led to the rise Independent Churches in South Africa.
- The limited or low pay of the African clergymen compared to their European counterparts or colleagues made the Africans to form their own churches.
- The long and complicated process of conversion to Christianity within the missionary churches was another factor. For example, one had to first be baptized before becoming a Christian.
- The influence of the Blacks in the diaspora or abroad was vital. For example, the Blacks in America especially religious leaders encouraged the Africans in South Africa to break away from white dominated churches and establish their own churches under the African control.
- The discrimination practiced with in the missionary churches forced them to form their own churches.
- The involvement of some Africans in politics gave them leadership skills which also encouraged them to form their own churches.
- The poor living conditions of the Africans in South Africa forced them to form their own churches so as to overcome such suffering.
- The Africans were against the education system introduced by the missionaries especially the boarding schools that required the children to be away from their parents for so long.
- **THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE AFRICAN INDEPENDENT CHURCHES TO THE HISTORY OF SOUTH AFRICA**
  - Most of these churches looked outwardly religious but inwardly they were political.
  - They preached against the grabbing of African land by the Europeans.
  - They preached against the white oppressions of the blacks.
  - They trained African clergymen or church leaders.
  - These churches worked with other nationalists in South Africa to liberate South African from the Apartheid rule.
  - They promoted African nationalism among the Africans.
  - They also showed that the Africans were capable of managing their own affairs.
  - They translated the Bible into African languages like Zulu.
  - They made the Africans hostile against European colonialism.
  - They influenced the outbreak of African rebellions like the Bambatha rebellion of 1906 as well as the Nama - Herero rebellion of 1904 - 1907 in Namibia.
  - They made the Africans aware that the whites were hostile towards them.
  - They sent out a delegation to the outside countries like to USA to demand for African independence.
  - They built day schools which provided Africans with practical skills that enabled the Africans to acquire jobs.

- They preserved African culture through allowing African music and poems during the process of worshipping.
- They promoted African languages like the Zulu.
- They openly campaigned for African rights.
- They also encouraged trade among the Africans.
- **PROBLEMS FACED BY THE AFRICAN INDEPENDENT CHURCHES IN SOUTH AFRICA**
  - They faced a problem of illiteracy among the Africans who could not read and write.
  - They lacked enough funds among themselves to carry out their activities.
  - They faced a problem of enough writing materials for the African converts to read like books.
  - The tribal differences among the Africans and whites hindered their work.
  - They faced hostility from the Dutch and Boers who did not like their activities.
  - The religious differences among the Africans themselves.
  - They also lacked strong leaders in their early stages of development and who have spearheaded their activities.
  - The divide and rule policy that was introduced by the whites was a major problem.
  - They also lacked support from the political leaders in South Africa.
  - They faced opposition from the African traditionalists.
- **Qn. Explain the contribution of the following in the history of South Africa in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.**
  - **The Dutch Reformed Church**
  - **The African Independent Church**