

The organization/way of life of the khoi khoi.

- **Economically**, the khoi khoi were pastoralists. They kept large herds of flat tailed sheep, goats and cattle. These animals formed the basis of their wealth or economy.
- Only on special or important occasions like marriage, birth and death did the khoi khoi slaughter their animals.
- Cattle was very important to the khoi khoi and therefore served many purposes. For example, it served as food, milk, transport, prestige and wealth.
- Among the khoi-khoi, men drunk cow's milk while women drunk Ewe's milk
- The khoi khoi were hunters and hunted animals like Antelopes. They hunted using arrows and bows for small animals and for the big ones, they dug pits.
- The khoi khoi carried out fishing in rivers like Vaal, Orange and the Fish River among others to support or supplement their diet.
- They also carried out gathering of food like wild roots, fruits, as well as insects like locusts, grass hoppers, white ants, butterflies, caterpillars and also collected honey.
- Among the khoi khoi, work was divided according to sex ie the women gathered fruits while the men hunted and looked after animals.
- The khoi khoi traded with their neighbors like the Bantu and later with the Europeans like the Dutch.
- They practiced iron working and pottery and was done after the coming of the Bantu.
- Among the khoi khoi, land was communally owned ie no individual ownership of land was allowed.
- The khoi khoi did not grow crops just like the san.
- **Socially**, they were religious people who worshipped their God or Supreme Being called Tsuigoab who was believed to be the creator/ the father of all fathers and the giver of wealth.
- On earth, Tsuigoab manifested himself through the praying mantis, thunder and lightning.
- Accordingly, prayers and sacrifices were offered to him for blessings and rain especially during the dry season.
- Therefore, like the San the khoi khoi treated the praying mantis with a lot of respect as a symbol of wealth and fortune.
- Just like the san, the khoi khoi danced at the appearance of the new, full and half moon.
- They used traditional herbs as medicines and also taught the youths how to use them.
- The family among the khoi khoi formed the basic and smallest social unit and a group of families formed a lineage.
- Their languages were characterized by a lot of clicks.
- The khoi khoi had a wider vocabulary unlike the san.

- They were nomadic in nature ie they never had permanent homes but kept moving from one area to another.
- They lived in bee-hive shaped houses or home shaped structures which were temporary.
- The khoi khoi's huts were made of reeds and enclosed by a fence of thorny bushes
- The khoi khoi carried out initiation ceremonies characterized by circumcision. This increased social unity and responsibility. Other ceremonies included sacrificing for rain, marriage and death.
- The khoi khoi carried out both polygamous and monogamous marriages. This was done after initiation.
- They practiced exogamous marriages ie they married outside their clans and therefore intermarriage between members of the same clan was not allowed.
- Polygamy was practiced but they produced few children to reduce on bigger families.
- The khoi khoi practiced early marriages and marriage was compulsory. For example, boys of 15-17 years would be married to girls of 12-14 years.
- The married couples stayed with parents of the girls until they produced their first born. Thereafter, gifts like sheep were given to the bride's parents before their return.
- After their first born, they were allowed to establish their own home and the bride went with her own animals which remained her property in the new home.
- **Politically**, the khoi khoi were a decentralized society and therefore never had a centralized authority or leadership.
- They were divided into three groups and each group had a number of settlements.
- They lived in large political units or camps of about 600-2000 people. These camps consisted of people of related clans.
- Each camp had a chief who was helped by a council of elders.
- The chief settled disputes between members of different clans.
- They held their political meetings in public and every member was free to attend such meetings.
- The khoi khoi never had a standing army but the youths would be called upon to provide security.
- They were peaceful and disciplined people but they became furious or annoyed if their hunting grounds were interfered with.
- They always raided their neighbors like the Bantu for food and cattle.
- They walked bare-footed but when travelling long distances they wore pieces of skins fastened around their feet.
- They did not care about the old and always left them behind while travelling.

NB. A combination of the two groups ie San and khoi khoi were collectively known as the *khoisan people*.

Comparison between the San and the Khoi Khoi.

Similarities	Differences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both belonged to the bushmanoid race. • Both migrated from East and Central Africa to south Africa • Both had a click sound in their language. • Both believed in life after death. • Both loved dancing ie. at appearance of new, half and half moon. • Both married at an early age • They were both yellow or brown skinned in colour. • Both regarded the praying mantis as a sign of wealth and good luck • Both carried out initiation ceremonies like circumcision. • They were both food gatherers • Both had the family as the smallest unit of social organization • Both lived a nomadic way of life • Both were decentralized communities. • Both lived in temporary structures or houses • Both carried out raids on their neighbors • They both carried out polygamous marriages. • Both used poisonous arrows for hunting. • Both made sacrifices for rain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The san were relatively shorter than the khoi khoi • Unlike the khoi-khoi, the san were good artists or great painters who recorded major events or their life through pictures they decorated the walls of their caves and rocks. • The khoikhoi carried out pastoralism while the san were typically hunters. • Unlike the khoi khoi, the san had a limited vocabulary. • The san believed in a god called kaggen while the khoi khoi believed in a god called Tsuigoab. • The san carried out endogamous marriages while the khoi khoi carried out exogamous marriages. • The khoi khoi lived in larger groups while the san lived in small groups • The khoi khoi were ruled by chiefs while the San were ruled by the elders. • The San were the first inhabitants while the khoi khoi were the second in South Africa.

Origins of the khoisan.

- The khoisan were a combination of the khoi-khoi and the san.
- They were part of the earliest inhabitants of South Africa.
- They had a yellow/brownish colour, short structured and a click sound in their language.
- They were closely related to the early man Australopithecus (southern apes)/hairy bodied.

- The khoisan arrived in south Africa between 1000-1300AD.
- They were known by various names. The san were referred to as the Roa, Twa, hunters, bushmen while the khoi khoi were at times referred to as herders, hottentots and men of men.
- They originated from the bush-manoid race or khoisan family.
- However, the origin of the khoisan remained a mystery/unclear to historians
- Available information about the origins of the khoisan was obtained from the archeological studies.
- It was thus believed that the khoisan might have originated from the mainland of Tanganyika or East Africa. By 1000 AD, the khoisan were living on the mainland of Tanganyika.
- From East Africa, they thus moved southwards through Central Africa and finally settled in different areas of South Africa.
- This was proved by similar rock paintings found in East, Central and South Africa.
- Once in South Africa, they first settled in the lands of **Damara land and Batlapin plateau.**
- Later, they spread to the provinces of **Transkei, Cape, Natal, OrangeFreestate and Transvaal as well as Griqualand west.**
- While some went into **Swazi and Lesotho highlands.**
- Others settled in the mountains of **Winterburg, Drakensburg, Brankenstein and Camdeboo**
- They also settled along rivers like **Vaal, Orange, Kei, Tugera, Fish, Umtata and Tsomom**
- The arrival of more advanced groups like the Bantu and the Dutch pushed them into the deserts of Kalahari and Namib.
- Today, the survivors of these groups live in the countries of Namibia, Botswana and Angola.
- The khoi khoi moved in four groups ie the Nama, Gona, Cochoqua and Korana.
- The Nama (Eastern Khoi-Khoi) moved Westwards along the Orange river and settled in Namibia.
- The Gona (Western khoi khoi) followed the Eastern side into the Fish river valley.
- The Cochoqua (cape khoi khoi) moved into the coastal areas of the cape.
- The Korana went into Griqualand west.
- By the 15th century, the khoi khoi were found living along **Saldhana bay, Table bay, Vassel bay and Mossel bay.**
- Their East ward expansion and migration was checked by the indian ocean and the coming of the Europeans.
- The Khoi Khoi settled in the land between the Atlantic coast and the Buffalo coast.

Organization of the Khoisan by 1650.

- **Economically**, the khoisan carried out pottery
- Land was a community property
- However, among the khoi khoi the basis of their wealth was not land but cattle.
- In fact, the khoi khoi had a pastoral economy which was a source of wealth
- The khoi khoi kept sheep, goats and cattle
- Only on special occasions did the khoi khoi slaughter their animals.
- Cattle for example, served as food, milk, transport, prestige and wealth.
- Among the khoi khoi, men drunk cow's milk while the women drunk Ewe's milk.
- The san's main source of wealth was from their hunting grounds.
- However, the san had little material wealth compared to the khoi khoi.
- The san therefore jealously guarded their only hunting grounds against any intruders.
- They hunted small and big animals like cheetahs, Zebras, Squirrels, Hyenas as well as birds like Ostriches and Vultures among others.
- Sometimes the San would hunt for the khoi khoi.
- They used poisonous arrows and bows to hunt down small animals like squirrels.
- Large animals were trapped in big pits.
- The khoisan were also good at tracking animals.
- Europeans obtained large numbers of cattle and sheep from the khoi khoi.
- The khoi khoi also obtained large quantities of iron tools from the Bantu.
- The San had no idea about iron working but made tools out of stones and sticks.
- **Socially**, the family was the basic social unit where relatives lived.
- The san had weak family ties and never cared for the sick and old.
- Elders were highly respected among the khoisan communities.
- Clan elders were therefore a source of knowledge, wisdom, truth and culture.
- The khoisan had a click sound in their language.
- Members of the same group were related through marriage.
- Polygamous marriages were highly encouraged especially among elders, though monogamy also existed.
- Marrying many wives was for prestige and social harmony.
- The san encouraged early marriages.
- San boys would marry at the age of 14-15 years to girls of 7-8 years.
- The khoi khoi encouraged later marriages whereby boys married at 15 and above while girls at 8 years and above.
- After marriage, the groom would join the family of his bride and hunt for them until the birth of their first child.
- By hunting and providing food to the in-laws, the boy was paying bride price.
- After having their first born, the couple would then be allowed to form their own home.
- San women were so courageous and gave birth alone and would cut the baby's umbilical cord with a sharp stick.

- The san women produced very few children about 3-4 because of their hunting and wandering life
- The san practiced endogamous marriages ie married within the same clan
- The khoi-khoi however, encouraged exogamous marriages.
- The san danced at the appearance of the new/half and full moon and after a good hunt.
- Initiation ceremonies were very important and served the cultural and adulthood roles where the san tested the hunting skills of their boys.
- The khoi khoi encouraged circumcision as part of their initiation rites.
- Hunting also served as a source of leisure among the khoisan.
- The san trained the youths in the skills of using local herbs and medicines to treat certain diseases.
- The khoisan celebrated important stages in life like death, marriage, birth and puberty.
- They drunk fermented juice and honey during their social ceremonies.
- The san lived in temporary shelters, caves and under shades of big trees.
- The khoi khoi however lived in makeshift settlements/dome shaped houses/bee-hive shaped houses.
- Later, they adopted a more settled life from the Bantu neighbors.
- They had a strong love for art and were great painters who recorded major events of their life through pictures that decorated walls of their caves and rocks.
- The san never lived a permanent life but always wandered from place to place.
- The khoisan were also religious people and believed in life after death.
- They worshipped a supreme being or gods called Kaggen/Huwe/Tsuigoab.
- These gods were believed to be the creators/ fathers of all fathers/ givers of wealth.
- On earth, Kaggen or Tsuigoab manifested himself through the praying mantis, thunder and lightning.
- Accordingly, prayers and sacrifices were offered to him for blessings and rain especially during the dry season.
- They treated the praying mantis with a lot of respect as a symbol of wealth and fortune.
- The praying mantis was thought to live in the sky with the souls of the dead men .
- They wore ornaments of Ostrich eggshells and feathers/animal skins and leaves.
- Social affairs were also decided by male elders.
- **Politically**, the khoisan had a segmentary or decentralized government with a weak political set up.
- The khoisan leadership was not hereditary and at any occasion, they would have a new head.
- To the san, the work of the government was done at the level of each settlement with the help of a head man while to the khoi khoi it was the chief.
- The headman ruled according to acceptable norms and traditions of society.
- The san lived in numerous small isolated settlements.

- The smallest san settlement had 25-70 people and the largest was between 200 and 500 people.
- The khoi khoi lived in large communities/ camps/ of between 600-2000 people.
- Each settlement was practically independent of the other with their own leaders.
- The head man was assisted by a council of elders whose decisions he implemented without question
- The headman also exercised full ritual powers ie he presided over initiation and maintained law and order.
- Council meetings were regularly held to handle important matters like disputes.
- Clan democracy existed among the khoisan and membership to the council was open to all male adults.
- These groups were bound together by a common language and name which distinguished it from the rest.
- Khoisan leaders had neither permanent laws nor written constitutions instead their leaders ruled circumstantially as well as customarily.
- The khoisan were friendly to other people unless provoked or attacked.
- Every group (band) had a responsibility of protecting their land against intrusion from other groups.
- Their women had no say in politics and were not respected in society.
- The khoisan had no permanent or standing army and no military leaders.
- However, the youth were responsible for the defense and security of the society.
- Some groups of the san lived peacefully on the fringes of the khoi khoi who helped them against the foreigners.
- Conclusively, the khoisan people were by 1650 well organized economically, socially and politically.

1.3 THE BANTU MIGRATION INTO SOUTH AFRICA.

- The Bantu were a group of people with a common word 'Ntu' or 'Ndu' in their language and they arrived in South Africa over 1000 years ago.
- They belonged to the negroid family
- Their origin remained a mystery/not clear to historians but believed to have migrated from West Africa ie in the Niger-Benue corridor or Cameroon highlands.
- From West Africa, they moved to central Africa in South Eastern Congo basin. This therefore became their dispersal point.
- It was believed that they entered South Africa around AD.1000 and they started migrating around 2000 years ago.

Reasons for the Bantu migration.

- The political oppression or mistreatment in their homeland made the Bantu to look for new areas.
- Epidemic diseases like malaria, sleeping sickness and small pox which attacked the Bantu might have forced them to migrate.
- The outbreak of famine in their homeland also caused the Bantu migration to South Africa as they moved in search for food.
- Population increase in their home land resulted into overcrowding of people which forced them to look for areas which were sparsely populated.
- The Bantu skill of iron working also led to their migration because they had strong weapons like spears which encouraged them to move.
- The search for places with water and pasture since they kept some animals made them to move since their areas had been hit by drought.
- Internal conflicts among the Bantu themselves forced those who were defeated to migrate to South Africa.
- They might have migrated looking for fertile soils that would support the growing of crops since they were farmers.
- External conflicts with their neighbors made the Bantu to run away hence migrating to South Africa.
- Natural calamities such as floods and earthquakes might also have forced the Bantu to migrate from their homeland to South Africa.
- Group influence/Band wagon/love for adventure/ peer influence also led to the migration of the Bantu when they saw their friends and relatives migrating.

The Course of the Bantu migration and settlement.

(Space for the sketch map)

- The Bantu were a group of people with a common word ‘Ntu’ or ‘Ndu’ in their language and they belonged to the negroid family.
- They were believed to have originated or migrated from the areas of the Niger basin in West Africa and arrived in South Africa over 1000 years ago.
- Their migration remained a mystery and therefore little information was available on how they moved and settled in South Africa.
- Their migration was however slow and gradual and spread over a long period of time.
- The Bantu were the third and last group to migrate into South Africa.
- They migrated in four major groups or waves and these included the ***Shona-Venda, Sotho-Tswana, Nguni-Tsonga and Ambo-Herero.***
- **The Shona-Venda** were the first group to move and settle in south Africa. They were believed to have started migrating around the 9th century.
- They entered Zimbabwe where they settled and formed the kalanga culture or Zimbabwe culture.

- By the 18th century, some Shona groups like the Venda and Bemba had crossed River Limpompo to escape the local wars and settled in the Limpompo valley.
- Today, the shona are found in Zimbabwe.
- **The Sotho-Tswana** were the second group to enter south Africa and they formed the central wave.
- They were believed to have been fathered by either *Mangope* or *Maralong*.
- They included tribes like the Sotho, Tswana, Basuto, Kwena, Pedi and Rolong among others.
- The Sotho-Tswana passed through the central route (areas between lake Tanganyika and Malawi) and arrived in south Africa by the 13th and 14th centuries. They settled north of the point at which river orange meets the Vaal river.
- The sotho were categorized into three main subdivisions ie the Northern Sotho, the Western Sotho and the Southern Sotho.
- The Tswana settled in Botswana formally known as Bechwanaland.
- The Southern Sotho moved and settled in Lesotho formerly known as Basutoland.
- The Northern Sotho settled in northern and central Transvaal.
- The Western sotho moved in the Eastern direction to Botswana.
- The Sotho-Tswana therefore mainly occupied the area between the Drakensburg mountains and the Kalahari desert.
- Later, the Sotho-Tswana expanded to the East, West and Southwards as far as River Orange.
- However, the Westward expansion of the Sotho was checked or stopped by the Kalahari Desert. Also, the Drakensburg Mountains limited their East ward expansion.
- The Tswana, a subgroup of the Sotho-Tswana settled in the coast of lake Ngami ie in the areas of the Kalahari and Namib deserts.
- The Pedi, a sub-section of the Sotho-Tswana settled in the mountainous areas of Transvaal.
- **The Nguni-Tsonga** were the third and largest group to enter south Africa.
- They used the Eastern wave/route or direction between Lake Malawi and the coast.
- The Nguni-Tsonga included tribes like the Zulu, Swazi, Ndebele, Mthethwa, Ngwane, Xhosa, Pondo and Tsonga among others.
- Some of the Tsonga remained in Mozambique and therefore did not reach South Africa.
- The Nguni-Tsonga mainly settled in the southern part of South Africa.
- Some of the Nguni-Tsonga poured into Zulu land or Natal up to the border of the Eastern cape colony.
- They later spread to Umtata River by AD.1400.
- The Xhosa moved and settled along river Umzimvubu by 1300 AD.
- By 1600 AD. The Xhosa had reached river Kei and river Umzimkulu.
- They also occupied areas of Transvaal, Transkei and the cape.

- Some crossed into Lesotho highlands or mountains.
- Majority of them were cut off from other groups by the Drakensburg mountains
- By the 19th century, the Xhosa had reached the Fish River and they later spread to River Tugera and River Kei.
- The Nguni Tsonga therefore lived between the Drakensburg Mountains and the Indian Ocean corridor.
- Today, they occupy parts of Transvaal, Natal, Cape province and Zululand.
- **The Ambo-Herero** were the fourth and last group to enter South Africa.
- They were known as the south western Bantu because they settled in south West Africa or present day Namibia.
- They were believed to have left the Congo basin around the 16th century and they entered south Africa using the western route.
- By the 19th century, the Herero had reached Namibia and occupied its highland areas.
- The Ambo (Ovambo) moved into Namibia and settled in present day Ambo land.
- The Ambo-Herero were however cut off from other Bantu by the Kalahari Desert.
- The rest of the Ambo moved and settled near the Kalahari Desert. These deserts also limited their East ward expansion.
- Today, the Bantu are the most widely spread people in South Africa and make up to 70% of the total population of South Africa.

Effects of the Bantu migration on the Khoisan people/Relationship between the Bantu and the Khoisan people.

- Khoisan was a collective word which referred to the two groups of people ie the khoi khoi and the san.
- The settlement of the Bantu in South Africa affected the early inhabitants both positively and negatively
- Their settlement led to increased population in South Africa since they came in big numbers.
- The Bantu lived side by side with the khoisan and mixed freely with them.
- Intermarriages took place between the Khoisan and the Bantu in all areas where they settled. This gave birth to the **Thembu tribe**.
- The khoisan learnt the art of iron working from the Bantu. As a result, the khoisan dropped their weaker weapons and tools made out of stones and bones and started producing iron tools like bows, spears, pangas, hoes and axes.
- The Bantu introduced new crops to the khoisan like millet, yams, pumpkins, beans, sorghum and calabashes among others.
- The khoisan later learnt agriculture from the Bantu. And because of agriculture, the khoisan lived a more permanent or settled life.

- The khoisan started carrying out trade with the Bantu. The khoisan gave hunted meat, feathers as well as cattle and sheep products to the Bantu in exchange for millet and grains.
- The Bantu introduced a centralized system of administration to the khoisan which strengthened their political organization.
- The khoisan learnt weaving and curving from the Bantu.
- The Khoisan and Bantu fought each other over land.
- The khoisan were defeated in the wars over land by the Bantu. This was because the Bantu had better weapons of iron as compared to the khoisan.
- The khoisan lost their independence because they were conquered by the Bantu.
- The Khoi-Khoi leaders lost much of their political power to the Bantu.
- The khoisan lost their lives as many of them were killed by the Bantu in the wars over land which led to depopulation.
- The khoisan (san) lost their hunting and fishing grounds to the Bantu.
- The khoisan (koi koi) lost their grazing grounds to the Bantu.
- The khoisan were displaced from their land. This was because the Bantu were farmers and therefore they needed more land for cultivation.
- The khoisan suffered from famine which increased their suffering or misery.
- The khoisan were pushed into unfavorable areas like the desert or drier areas of Namibia and Kalahari where life became difficult. In these dry areas, food and wild game became scarce.
- The khoisan (koi koi) lost their livestock to the Bantu through raids and this made them poorer.
- The khoisan were made slaves for the Bantu and they depended on the Bantu for their survival. For example, the san started hunting for the Bantu.
- The khoisan were absorbed or assimilated by the Bantu who were stronger and more organized. They therefore lost their culture to the Bantu.
- The Bantu adopted or copied some of the cultures of the khoisan. For example, the Xhosa who were Bantu adopted a click sound of the khoisan and they started speaking with a click sound like the khoisan.
- The khoisan lost their property to the Bantu.
- The Bantu (Xhosa) took the khoisan women as their official wives which was an insult.
- In conclusion, the Bantu invasion created insecurity, thus destroying the political, social and economic organization of the khoisan.

The Sotho-Tswana (central bantu).

- They were part of the Bantu speaking people of South Africa.
- They were believed to have come from Congo just like other Bantu groups.

- They were the second Bantu group to enter South Africa and used the central route or wave.
- They were believed to have been fathered by either Mangope or Maralong.
- They included tribes like the Sotho, Tswana, Kwena, Pedi, Rolong and Ngwaketse among others.
- The Sotho Tswana had similar characteristics with other Bantu groups.
- They were believed to have reached South Africa between the 13th and 16th centuries.
- They mainly settled in areas like Lesotho, Botswana, northern and central Transvaal, the Limpopo valley, around rivers Orange, Fish and Tugela.
- The Sotho-Tswana had larger settlements than those of the Nguni-Tsonga.
- They established their settlements on hill tops and mountainous areas like Butha- Buthe and Thaba-Bosiu.

Ways of life of the Sotho –Tswana.

- **Politically**, the tribe was the basic unit of their political organization.
- Each tribe was headed by a chief who performed political, economic and social functions.
- Their political units were quite bigger compared to the Khoisan.
- The chief was the judicial, religious and military leader of the chiefdom. He was assisted by the chief Indunas (commander) chosen from the commanders and he did most of the work.
- The position of the chief was hereditary but not permanent and therefore he could be removed in case he did not perform his duties well.
- There was a council which assisted the chief among the Sotho called the Pitso.
- **Socially**, the family was an important institution and therefore it formed the basic unit of the society
- The Sotho had extended families whereby the grandparents, parents, children, aunties and uncles lived together.
- The youths were initiated into adult hood through circumcision.
- The Sotho-Tswana lived in clustered villages on hill tops and sometimes built huts there.
- Marriage among the Sotho was polygamous though monogamy was also practiced.
- They were religious and their religion centered on worshipping ancestral spirits.
- The elders were important among the Sotho-Tswana because they settled disputes or conflicts.
- The father who was also the family head was the family priest.
- The Sotho-Tswana also believed in a supreme god called **Madmoth** or the creator.
- **Economically**, the Sotho-Tswana were cultivators and grew crops like yams, millet and sorghum.
- They practiced pastoralism and kept animals like cattle, sheep and goats. They used cattle for bride wealth and prestige.

- The Sotho-Tswana practiced some iron working and they had their own iron working industry at **Mabostas** and they made iron implements like spears, hoes and axes among others.
- Trade was carried out by the Sotho-Tswana. This was done among themselves and the foreigners.
- The Sotho-Tswana were also gatherers and they gathered fruits and insects.
- They also carried out hunting and they hunted animals like Antelopes and Hyenas among others
- The Sotho-Tswana also carried out raiding on their neighbors especially for cows.
- Among the Sotho-Tswana, land was very important and was communally owned.

The Ambo-Herero.

- They were part of the Bantu speaking people in South Africa.
- They were believed to have come from Congo around the 16th and 19th centuries.
- They were the third group to enter South Africa.
- They included the Herero and the Ambo.
- The Herero-Ambo spoke generally a similar language with the Bantu.
- They also took the south western route. They were also known as the South western Bantu because they settled in south western Africa or Namibia.
- The Ambo or Ovambo moved and settled in Ambo land. However, they were cut off from other Bantu by the Kalahari Desert.

THEME 2:

EARLY EUROPEAN INTEREST IN SOUTH AFRICA.

2.1 THE DUTCH/BOER PRESENCE AT THE CAPE.

- The Dutch were the first Europeans to settle in South Africa.
- They came from Holland or Netherlands in the 17th century.
- For much of the 16th century, the Dutch were part of the Spanish empire.
- However, in 1572 the Dutch won their independence and hence decided to participate in the Indian and Atlantic trade which had earlier on been dominated by the Spanish and the Portuguese.
- Hence, in order to effectively control the trade especially in spices, the Dutch merchants formed the united Dutch East Indian Company (UDEICo).
- It was this company that carried out the duty of discovering the sea route to India as well as promoting trade between the Far East and Holland.

- While on their way to the Far East, the Dutch ship called Haarlem capsized or got an accident in 1647 at the Table Bay near the Cape of Good Hope and the survivors were able to swim up to the shores.
- The survivors stayed for a period of six months while repairing the ship. In the process, they discovered many good things about the cape which influenced them to make a report back home.
- The government of Holland decided to establish a settlement at the cape.
- On 6th April 1652, the first group of Dutch settlers arrived at the cape, sent by the Dutch East Indian company on behalf of the Dutch government.
- This group was led by Jan Van Riebeeck who arrived at the cape with three ships to establish a Dutch settlement at the cape.

Reasons for the Dutch settlement at the cape in 1652.

- The Portuguese success in the Far East attracted the Dutch to settle at the cape. The Portuguese had successfully controlled the Indian Ocean trade in the Far East and this attracted the Dutch to come and be part of this lucrative trade.
- The need to use the cape as a base to collect taxes from the in-coming and the out-going ships at the cape attracted the Dutch to the cape.
- The cape was strategically located mid-way between Europe and Asia which could act as a resting and relaxation Centre so as to break the long tiresome journey.
- South Africa had abundant natural resources such as fruits, minerals and animals which the Dutch wanted to exploit for their benefit.
- The formation of the Dutch East Indian company (DEICo) gave way for the Dutch to settle in South Africa as the company sponsored the first Dutch settlers under Jan Van Riebeeck.
- The Dutch wanted to use the cape as a workshop for repairing broken ships as well as refueling them.
- The Dutch wanted to set up a fort (military base) so as to protect the Dutch sailors from other Europeans.
- The cape had a good Mediterranean climate which favored the growing of vegetables, fruits, animal rearing and human settlement.
- They wanted to get meat from the khoi khoi who were cattle keepers so as to overcome the challenge of food shortages while on their journey.
- They wanted to establish a medical Centre or sick bay to treat the Dutch sailors and soldiers.
- The cape had fertile soils which the Dutch farmers wanted for growing vegetables and fruits for the sailors.
- The cape had good natural harbors like the Table Bay which could enable the easy landing of ships for trade as well as for protection from their enemies.

- They wanted to revenge against Spain which had ruled or colonized them up to 1572.
- The cape had plenty of unoccupied land that the Dutch hoped to use for their economic activities as well as expanding their settlement.
- The cape was also free from many dangerous tropical diseases like malaria.
- The hospitality of the local people especially the khoi khoi also encouraged the Dutch to settle at the cape.
- The island of St. Helena that had for many years supplied the Dutch Sailors with fresh fruits had by the 17th century run short of such fruits and therefore the cape would act as the source of meat.
- They wanted to avoid the occupation of the cape by the English merchants who were strongly competing with the Dutch.
- The accidental wreckage of the Haarlem ship in 1647 whereby the survivors of the ship wreckage gave good reports about the cape to the Dutch government and this encouraged more Dutch to come and settle there.
- The influence of Jan Van Riebeeck who led the first settlers in April 1652 gave more courage to other Dutch to come and settle at the cape.

How the Dutch settlement or Colony was established at the cape.

- The establishment of the cape colony started officially in 1652, when the Dutch East Indian Company (DEICo) established a temporary calling station or refreshment station.
- The Dutch colony started as a tiny temporary calling station or refreshment station at the Table Bay.
- It was started by about 90 Dutch men who arrived at the cape on 6th April 1652 under the leadership of Jan Van Riebeeck.
- Riebeeck was instructed by the DEICo to set up a fort and develop a vegetable garden at the cape for the benefit of their ships on the Eastern trade route.
- In 1657, the policy of colonization was adopted and therefore nine soldiers were released from the company services.
- Each soldier was given 131/2 hectares of land along the Valley of Leisbeck River to farm.
- The nine men were allowed to open up their own farms but were to sell their produce to the company.
- The nine soldiers were not to pay taxes for a period of 12 years to allow them carry out their activities smoothly.
- In 1662, more Dutch came to the cape and therefore the number of the white people increased to 250 of which 130 were colonists (settlers)

- In 1668, the population of the whites at the cape increased when the DEICo imported 200 French Protestants known as **Huguenots** who taught the Dutch settlers better farming methods.
- Later in 1676, the governors of the cape encouraged immigrations and therefore more settlements were established beyond the Cape Town like *Stellen Bosch* and *De'pearl*.
- By early 1700, the number of Dutch settlers at the cape had greatly increased which forced independent Boer farmers to migrate to the interior and this led to the expansion of the cape colony.
- This Dutch expansion of the colony took the North East and Eastern directions from the original cape boundary.
- This expansion was mainly by the individual Dutch farmers who moved from place to place looking for pasture and land for settlement.
- By 1702, the Dutch settlers had gained economic strength. For example, the cape farmers were producing wheat, milk and wine and this helped them to create a self-sustaining Dutch economy.
- In 1706, DEICo started taxing the Dutch who had been given land titles and exempted from paying taxes for three years. This forced the settlers to move further in land and became pastoral farmers.
- By 1780, the cape colony had three districts ie *Graaf Reinet*, *Swallendam* and *the cape*. The colony had expanded and the settlements had extended through the southern part of the cape and Eastwards to the Great Fish River or into the khoikhoi territory.
- By 1795 the Dutch cape colony had over 1500 farmers (colonists) although they were experiencing economic problems due to the corruption of the company officials.
- By 1795, the Dutch cape colony had expanded into the interior to include four districts of *the cape*, *Stellen Bosch*, *Swallendam* and *Graaf Reinet*.

Revision question:

- ✓ How did the Dutch expand their colony up to the Great Fish River by 1795?

Reasons for the Dutch expansion or settlement up to the Great Fish River by 1795.

- The expansion of the Dutch colony North East and Eastwards was unplanned and was done only by the Dutch settlers (farmers) without company help because of the following reasons:
- The presence of plenty of unoccupied land in the interior attracted the Dutch farmers to expand their colony up to the great Fish river.
- The land at the cape had lost its fertility. Therefore, the Dutch farmers needed fertile soils, hence expanding into the interior.
- The Dutch farmers were attracted by the good climate in the interior around the Fish river valley which was suitable for human settlement and farming.

- The Dutch were semi nomadic or pastoralists in nature who moved into the interior searching for water and pasture for their animals.
- The absence of natural barriers like valleys and mountains in the interior also enabled the Dutch to expand.
- The Dutch wanted to get large pieces of land for grazing their animals since the interior had free land. Therefore they decided to move away from the cape.
- They also moved up to the fish river because the population had increased ie by 1685 there were 150 white families but by 1700, there were around 1500 families and so they had to look for free areas behind the cape.
- The Dutch were militarily superior or stronger as compared to the African communities like the khoisan and this made them to expand Eastwards very easily.
- The inability of the DEICo to stop the Dutch farmers from moving away from the cape colony led to the Dutch expansion.
- The failure of the company to provide essential services to the Dutch settlers like educational facilities, medical services and water among others forced the settlers to expand into the interior.
- The Dutch farmers had discovered that the khoisan had been weakened by the outbreak of epidemic diseases like small pox, malaria and sleeping sickness, hence their expansion East wards.
- The Dutch farmers wanted to be independent from the company that wanted to control their social, political and economic ways of life, yet it subjected them to unfair policies.
- The Dutch farmers were running away from the harsh company rules and regulations that affected their economic activities for example,
- The company imposed high tax or rent on the land which made the Dutch farmers poor, hence forcing them to move East wards where they would get free land to promote their farming activities.
- The company never allowed the Dutch farmers to grow profitable crops like wheat, tobacco and rubber which brought in a lot of money but were only allowed to grow fruits and vegetables, hence forcing them to move East wards.
- The company restricted the marketing of the produce ie the Dutch farmers were supposed to sell their produce only to the DEICo at low prices which forced the farmers to move into the interior to look for market.
- The company also took 1/10 (a tenth) of the income of the Dutch farmers as a fee for grazing rights over land that the company never bought. This forced the Dutch farmers to move Eastwards up to river Fish leading to expansion.
- The company denied the Dutch settlers ownership of land. Land was a legal asset for the company and therefore it was not to be given to the Dutch settlers.
- The company also forced the Dutch farmers to join and fight the militia whenever need arose yet the company never came to protect the settlers whenever they were attacked by the Africans. This forced the settlers to move away from the cape.

- The company had corrupt officials such as Willem Vander Stel who were dishonest and always misused the company funds which forced the Dutch farmers to move into the interior.
- Most of the Dutch farmers had become bankrupt and therefore they wanted to try their luck outside the cape which seemed to give them no opportunity, hence the expansion Eastwards to the Great Fish River valley.

Effects of the expansion of the Dutch Colony.

- As the colony expanded into the interior, the local people like the khoisan and the bantu lost their land to the expanding Dutch.
- Wars broke out between the Dutch settlers and the khoisan over land and cattle in the interior which led to the destruction of property.
- There was depopulation in the interior due to the loss of lives as a result of the wars between the Africans and the Dutch.
- Many people were made slaves by the Boers or Dutch farmers.
- The Africans lost their political independence and freedom to the Dutch.
- The Africans suffered from famine as their agricultural farms were destroyed during the expansion process.
- The khoi khoi lost their animals like cattle due to the Dutch raids.
- The Africans in such places became poor as a result of the destruction of their economic activities.
- The Africans were forced to offer labor on the Boer farms or plantations without or with little payment.
- Modern systems of farming were introduced and adopted by the Africans in the interior for example plantation farming.
- The Africans abandoned their culture and adopted the new Dutch (European) cultures like dressing, language and eating habits.
- The Dutch expansion led to displacement of the Africans into unproductive areas. For example, the Xhosa were pushed to the East of Keiskama River.
- Loyalty shifted as many Africans became servants of the white man.
- The Africans were undermined and segregated by the Dutch. This laid a foundation for Apartheid in South Africa.
- The Africans started depending on the Dutch settlers after losing their land and cattle.
- Many Africans suffered from European diseases like Tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases.
- The Dutch set up schools and hospitals which accidentally benefitted the Africans
- The Africans acquired bad European habits like smoking and prostitution.
- The African women were raped by the Dutch hence giving birth to a new race of the caloureds.

- Some Africans in the interior traded with the Dutch.

Problems faced by the early/pioneer Dutch settlers at the cape.

- They lacked the geographical knowledge and information of the area and hence they failed to succeed in agriculture at first.
- Tropical diseases like dysentery, malaria, sleeping sickness and small pox at the cape which attacked and killed many of them.
- They faced a problem of hostile tribes like the Bantu and Khoisan that always attacked them.
- They faced language barrier ie they could not speak African languages which made communication with the Africans difficult.
- They faced a problem of poor transport and communication network since there were no roads at the cape.
- They faced a problem of shortage of women to act as their wives and this starved them sexually thus leading to homosexuality and mixed marriages with Africans.
- They faced food shortage since the Khoisan had migrated from the cape into the interior yet they were the ones to supply the Dutch with food and meat.
- The Dutch settlers lacked enough labor to carry out cultivation since they came in small numbers and yet the Africans were not ready to work for them.
- They faced a problem of poor housing facilities because they had constructed wooden structures which normally leaked during the rainy season.
- They lacked enough funds to effectively administer the cape colony. This was because the government of Holland did not support the settlers but left everything to the DEICo.
- They faced a problem of unfavorable weather conditions. For example, the cape experienced serious drought and famine which killed many Dutch settlers.
- They faced a problem of lack of education for their children since there were no educational facilities at the cape.
- They lacked essential supplies like medicine, clothes etc since their home was far away from South Africa.
- They also faced attacks from wild animals at the cape.
- They faced a problem of being isolated by the local people at the cape (Africans) who saw them as devils.
- They faced limited market for their produce since they sold only to the company at low prices which left them poor.
- Most of the Dutch settlers were former soldiers with no agriculture skills and experience, hence failing in agriculture.
- The rate of corruption by the Dutch governors and other company officials at the cape led to the misuse of the company's funds.

- The Dutch settlers also faced a problem of harsh company rules. For example, the company charged the settlers high rent for using land.
- The Dutch settlers were also prohibited by the company from growing profitable crops such as wheat, cotton and tobacco thus leaving them poor.
- The Dutch settlers were also not allowed to transfer ownership of the land they settled on to their children thus making them squatters.

Solutions to the problems faced.

- Jan Van Riebeeck expanded the settlement by bringing more land under cultivation. This increased agricultural production and therefore solved the problem of food shortage.
- The problem of food shortage was also solved by encouraging the Dutch settlers to raid the Bantu farms.
- Economic restrictions were relaxed by the company. For example, the Dutch settlers were allowed to sell their produce to the passing ships or other companies other than the DEICo alone thus increasing their incomes.
- Slaves were imported from Java (Indonesia) and Madagascar to solve the problem of labor shortage.
- The Dutch settlers were also later encouraged to enslave the Africans who provided labor on their farms.
- Orphan girls were imported from Holland to act as wives to the Dutch farmers to overcome the problem of lack of women.
- Mixed marriages were also encouraged between the Dutch settlers and the Africans (khoi khoi) to reduce the problem of lack of wives.
- The problem of lack of education was solved by the Dutch reformed church which set up elementary schools to provide education to the Dutch children.
- A large hospital was built in 1707 which provided medical care to the Dutch settlers at the cape.
- A large water reservoir was built to provide water in the dry season so as to solve the problem of water shortage.
- The company gave free land to the Dutch settlers where they would cultivate to get enough food thus improving their health.
- Corruption was solved by dismissing the corrupt governors like Willem Van Derstel who was dismissed from the company services in 1707 because of his corrupt practices.
- Agricultural practices were strictly increased from 1658 to increase the farmer's incomes and revenue from farming.
- The problem of insecurity was solved by putting in place a local militia (army) where every man between 16 and 60 years had to join this army and by 1768, this force had 500 soldiers. This army protected the Dutch settlers against African attacks.

- The Dutch also built a large defense castle (wall) to protect the Dutch settlers against the African attacks.
- The company imported experienced French farmers known as Huguenots to teach better farming methods to the Dutch settlers at the cape.

The Dutch administration at the cape (1652-1795)

- The cape colony was under the rule of the DEICo which operated in South Africa and the Far East.
- The company was headed by a committee of 17 directors called the “council of the 17”. These had their headquarters in Amsterdam in Netherlands (Holland)
- The directors were responsible for planning, monitoring and financing the company’s businesses abroad. They also appointed and dismissed workers.
- Due to the distance between Holland and the cape, the company directors appointed a governor general to be in charge of the cape colony.
- The governor general therefore was the head of the administration (executive) and he had all the powers on behalf of the 17 directors of the DEICo who were based in Holland.
- There were several governor generals who governed the cape colony at different times for example Jan Van Riebeeck, Willem Van Derstel and Simon Van Derstel.
- Jan Van Riebeeck was the first governor general and he governed the cape in the interests of the 17 directors of the DEICo.
- The DEICo set up four organs to assist the governor general in the administration of the cape colony. These were the council of policy, council of justice, the council of security and the Dutch reformed church (DRC).
- The council of policy was headed by the governor general. It was made up of 7 senior company officials who assisted the governor general in administration and they were responsible for the wellbeing of all people in the colony ie from the lowest or slaves up to the wealthiest settlers.
- The council of policy was also responsible for making laws for the Dutch settlers. It therefore acted as the legislative body or parliament of the colony.
- The Dutch settlers were however not represented in this legislative body and therefore the DEICo officials neglected the demands and interests of the settlers.
- Below the council of policy was the council of justice. This council acted as the main court of appeal and it controlled other courts and maintained law and order in the colony. It was therefore responsible for the administration of justice in the cape colony.
- The council of justice had powers to approve all forms of punishment at the cape.
- It sat in Capetown and the members were appointed by the council of policy and therefore they were answerable to it.
- Each district however, had a magistrate court which was responsible for settling minor cases at the district level.

- The minor courts however, had untrained officials who used outdated laws that only served the interests of the company.
- The magistrates were not independent and were ignorant about the legal procedures and sometimes never knew the laws that were broken.
- There were also matrimonial courts which were responsible for advising the young Dutch couples intending to get married.
- The council of justice had to defend the interests of the company at all costs.
- There was also the council of security of defense or militia which was responsible for defending the cape from foreign attacks especially from the Bantu.
- Its head was appointed by the council of policy to ensure the security of the cape colony. The council of defense however concentrated on the coast and therefore it failed to defend the interior settlers against the Bantu which resulted into the 1795 revolt at Graaf Reinet.
- The Dutch settlers also formed special local defense units called Boer commando units or burgher militia to protect themselves from the African attacks.
- The fourth organ was the Dutch reformed church (DRC). This church controlled the culture and political life of the Dutch settlers at the cape and therefore all the Dutch settlers were supposed to be members of this church.
- The Dutch reformed church performed ceremonies like baptism and confirmation of the Dutch settlers which was usually done in the districts of Swallendam and Graaf Reinet.
- The Dutch reformed church was discriminative in its activities and it supported the claim that the Africans were inferior to the whites.
- The Dutch reformed church provided education to the Dutch settlers mainly reading, writing and arithmetic.
- It acted as a cultural bond for the Dutch settlers ie it united all the Dutch settlers through organizing regular pilgrimages or visits to their holy places in Swallendam.
- The Africans were left at the bottom of the society and their responsibility was only to provide slave labor to the Dutch settlers and the company administrators.

Revision questions:

- ✓ Explain how the DEICo administered the cape up to 1795.
- ✓ How was the Dutch colony at the cape organized by 1795?

1 pg for a table.

Achievements of the DEICo. at the cape by 1795.

- The company obtained land forcefully from the Africans and gave it to the Dutch settlers which increased food production at the cape.
- The company was able to provide security to the Dutch settlers at the cape through the council of security or defense.

- The DEICo introduced the Dutch rix dollar and this boosted trade at the cape between the company and the Dutch settlers
- The company also encouraged the Dutch reformed church to spread religion and culture at the cape especially among the Dutch settlers.
- The company established elementary schools at the cape that enabled the children of the Dutch settlers to acquire education and this reduced the level of illiteracy and ignorance among the Dutch settlers.
- The company also established a hospital at the cape which improved on the health of the Dutch settlers since they were able to receive medical services.
- The company reduced the problem of homosexuality through the importation of orphan girls from Netherlands who became wives of the Dutch settlers at the cape.
- The DEICo also established a large water reservoir to store water for use during the dry season.
- The company introduced Christianity at the cape through the Dutch reformed church although it was based on discrimination principles which undermined the African race as inferior.
- The company policies also led to the expansion of the Dutch colony into four districts which included Swallendam, Cape town, Stellen Bosch and Graaf Reinet.
- The company accidentally encouraged the spread of Islam through the importation of moslem slaves from Java into the cape in order to solve the problem of shortage of labor.
- The company successfully controlled trade at the cape for over 100 years from other European competitors.
- The company was able to solve the labor problems of the Dutch farmers by encouraging the use of African slaves and importation of slaves from Madagascar and Java or Indonesia.
- It led to the birth of a new coloured race when it encouraged intermarriages with the Africans.
- The company transformed the cape from a mere calling station to a modern town with better recreation facilities.
- The company was able to dismiss the corrupt government officials like Governor Willem Adrian Van Derstel and his property was confiscated.
- The activities of the DEICo later attracted other Europeans like the French, British etc who also wanted to control the prosperous trade at the cape.
- The company managed to rule the cape for a long time ie for about 142 years without interference from other European powers.

Revision question:

- ✓ What were the achievements of the DEICo by 1795?

The Decline of the Dutch East Indian Company rule at the cape by 1795.

- In 1795, the DEICo administration declined and the Dutch lost the cape colony to the British due to the following reasons:
- Many of the company officials were incompetent or unqualified and therefore lacked the managerial skills to run the company activities.
- The stiff competition and rivalry from the French and British trading companies forced the company out of business and this led to its collapse.
- The company officials diverted a lot of money from trade to administration and this destroyed the company businesses on which the company depended very much.
- The prolonged wars in Europe in the 18th century especially between France and other European powers including Holland were very expensive to the Dutch and therefore the Dutch government could no longer finance the activities of the company.
- The transfer of the European commercial Centre from Amsterdam in Holland to London in Britain led to a fall in the trade profits of the DEICo, which led to its collapse.
- The company involved itself in acquiring colonies which proved very expensive for the company as it drained a lot of the company financial resources.
- The high rate of corruption among the DEICo officials created losses which eventually led to its collapse as a lot of funds were misused.
- The wars with the Africans also drained the company's financial resources and also took a lot of time which led to the collapse of the company.
- The company ran bankrupt because it was heavily indebted to the tune of ten million United States dollars which weakened the company rule at the cape, leading to its collapse.
- The company's failure to protect the settlers against the hostile Africa communities like the Xhosa led to its decline because these people hated the company so much.
- The company officials at the cape were also too harsh towards the settlers which forced them to move into the interior.
- The settlers were also not represented in the company administration and therefore they struggled to manage their own affairs which led to the decline of the company.
- The company put many restrictions on the settlers trading activities. For example, they were not allowed to sell their products to other companies apart from the DEICo. This left the settlers annoyed and uncooperative leading to the decline of the company.
- The Napoleonic wars or French wars in Europe made the cape insecure for trade hence forcing Britain to take it over in 1795.
- The cape colony had by 1795 become too big to be effectively managed by the weak and corrupt company officials.
- The low salaries paid to the company officials left them with no morale to carry out the company activities, hence leading to the collapse of the company rule.

- The technological developments which took place in Britain enabled her to manufacture ships than those of the DEICO, hence driving her out of business which led to its collapse.
- The outbreak of internal revolts organized by the settlers who were not happy with the company administration like those in Swallendam and Graaf Reinet in 1795 weakened the company leading to its collapse.
- The French invasion of Holland in 1793 forced King William IV of Holland to flee to exile in London and this weakened the company, leading to its decline.
- The request made by King William IV of Holland to the British government to take over the cape colony because of its financial problems led to the decline of the company.
- The Dutch defense council was militarily weak to stop the British invasion in 1795, hence leading to the collapse of the DEICo.

2.1.1 THE DUTCH GOVERNORS AT THE CAPE AND THEIR REFORMS.

Jan Van Riebeeck.

- Jan Van Riebeeck, the founder of the cape colony was born on 21st April 1619 in **Culemborg**, Holland to *Anthanius Van Riebeeck*.
- He was a physician (surgeon) by profession.
- During his youth, he joined the Dutch East Indian company and worked for a long time as a temporary surgeon in Formosa.
- He was a very hardworking and enterprising man.
- He played an important role in the establishment of the Dutch settlement at the cape and its expansion as explained below:
- He led a group of about 90-130 people (settlers) to the cape sent by the DEICo. to establish a Dutch settlement at the cape. He arrived at the cape on 6th April 1652 with three ships.
- He was instructed by the DEICo to start a home or calling station for the Dutch settlers at the cape.
- Jan Van Riebeeck was the first commandant of the first calling Centre and then later the Dutch colony.
- At the cape, he constructed temporary houses to cater for the accommodation of the Dutch settlers.
- He set up a food production Centre at the cape for the Dutch and he grew vegetables, fruits and wheat to feed the Dutch settlers.
- He imported slaves for the colonists (settlers) from Java, West Africa and Madagascar on the Dutch farms. This solved labor shortage.
- He encouraged the use of African slaves to provide labor on the settler farms and homes.
- He built a water reservoir which was large enough to store water for use during the dry season.

- He convinced and encouraged the khoi khoi to trade with the Dutch so as to get cattle and fresh meat.
- He later encouraged the raiding of the khoi khoi for cattle when they became hostile to the Dutch settlers.
- He encouraged a culture of keeping cattle for domestic slaughter among the Dutch settlers.
- He granted tax holidays ie he exempted the first Dutch farmers from paying taxes which helped them to carry out farming activities smoothly.
- He encouraged a number of expeditions ie he sent out scouts so as to boost the Dutch population at the cape.
- He encouraged intermarriages with the khoi khoi so as to solve the problem of homosexuality.
- He founded a modern city of the Capetown as the capital city of the cape colony.
- He established a military Centre to defend the cape colony from the hostile Africans.
- He established administrative organs or structures ie he streamlined the company administration at the cape by establishing councils like the council of policy, council of justice, council of defense (security) and the Dutch reformed church.
- He convinced the employees of the company to accept and start the process of colonizing South Africa. This resulted into the acquisition of more land by the company which led to the expansion of the settlement.
- He also intervened in the local conflicts between the Khoi Khoi and the Bantu which promoted peace between the two groups.
- He boosted the defense of the cape colony by forcing many colonists (settlers) to join the council of defense.
- He encouraged more settlers to enter South Africa. For example, by 1662 the settlers had increased in number to 250 of which 130 were company servants and the rest were colonists.
- In May 1662, Jan Van Riebeck left South Africa for Holland and he was succeeded by Wagener Zacharias as the commandant of the cape colony.
- He later died in January 1677 in Jakarta- Indonesia where he was buried.

Failures of Jan Van Riebeeck.

- He encouraged intermarriages between the Dutch and the Khoi Khoi which destroyed their culture.
- He failed to expand the colony at a desirable pace.
- He stopped the Dutch farmers from growing profitable crops like Tobacco and restricted them to growing only vegetables and fruits.
- He encouraged enslavement of the Africans in order to provide labor for the Dutch farmers which was against their rights.

- He failed to solve the problems of the Dutch farmers at the cape.
- He forced the Dutch farmers to give away 20% of their cattle to the company which was an indication of exploitation of the farmers.
- He failed to provide enough security to the Dutch farmers who were frequently attacked by the Africans.
- He kept the prices of the farmers' produce very low which discouraged the Dutch farmers from undertaking large scale commercial farming.
- He forced the Dutch settlers to serve in the company's army so as to defend the company against external threats or attacks.

Simon Van Der stel.

- He was the commandant of the cape colony or settlement between 1679 and 1699 after the rule of Jan Van Riebeeck.
- By the time he took over the cape colony, it had expanded to include the districts of the Cape and Stellen Bosch.
- Simon Vander Stel tried very much to solve the colony's economic and social problems as noted below:
- He made it easy for the Dutch immigrants to enter the cape colony so as to increase the number of the Dutch farmers.
- He encouraged the development of the cape from a mere calling station into a colony.
- He imported orphan girls and prostitutes from Holland for the male Dutch settlers to marry as a reward to the company.
- He gave free land to the Dutch settlers and even encouraged many company officials to resign and become Dutch farmers so as to increase the number of settlers at the cape.
- He encouraged the development of agriculture during his term of office by giving the necessary assistance to the Dutch farmers
- He welcomed 200 French professional progressive farmers (Huguenots) at the cape who equipped the Dutch farmers with new farming methods. This resulted into increased agricultural production at the cape.
- Due to his efforts, the population of the Dutch farmers steadily increased at the cape and this led to the expansion of the Dutch settlement into the interior.
- In 1669, he established a model school in the district of Stellen Bosch.
- In 1689, he retired and he was succeeded by his son Willem Adrian Van derstel.

Weaknesses of Simon Van Der Stel.

- He did nothing when the food prices went down due to the increased agriculture output following the advice given by the French farmers. This made the farmers to suffer.

- He was accused of awarding trading licenses to only his friends and close associates, ignoring other traders at the cape.
- He maintained the company restrictions on the consumption of bread, wine, fresh meat by the Dutch settlers by keeping the prices of these items high.
- He restricted the Dutch settlers from growing profitable crops and only limited them to growing of vegetables and fruits which were not profitable.
- Many Africans or black people were enslaved.
- He influenced the appointment of his son Willem Adrian Vander Stel as the governor of the cape from 1699-1707 yet his son was a very corrupt and bad administrator.

Willem Adrian Van Der Stel, 1699-1707.

- He took over from his father Simon Van Der Stel in 1669 and ruled up to 1707
- He registered many weaknesses in his administration of the cape colony than any other governor as explained below:
- He was a shameless leader whose interest was to acquire wealth as quickly as possible during his term of office as governor of the cape colony.
- He violated the company's rules by acquiring large estates of land using his position as governor of the cape colony.
- He diverted or changed the company's workers towards developing his own estates instead of doing the company's work and this resulted into the collapse of the company.
- He used or embezzled most of the company's funds for his personal gains and therefore failed to pay the company workers better wages.
- During his reign, many company workers relaxed in their duties, leading to the weakness of the company.
- At his home, he received visitors who brought gifts to him like Gold, slaves, copper among others.
- When the prices of agriculture produce fell he was bribed to favour some people by awarding them monopoly over the supply of meat and wine. This annoyed other farmers which eventually led to the collapse of the company.
- He forced the farmers to give him the best produce of the colony.
- He broke all the existing company laws and controlled 1/3 of the total wine stocks at the cape yet the company officials were not allowed to do so.
- By 1705, he had become very unpopular to the extent that the colonists demanded that he would step down which was done in 1707.
- By 1707, Willem Adrian Vander stel had become so corrupt that him and his close relatives and friends owned a third of the company's land in South Africa.
- Willem and all his corrupt officials were dismissed and all his estates were taken by the government hence he worked for nothing.

His achievements:

- He built a large hospital at the cape and this greatly reduced the death rate among the Dutch settlers.
- The defense castle or wall was completed which increased the defense and security of the colony.
- A large water reservoir was completed to be used by the colonists during the dry season.
- He encouraged the expansion of the Dutch reformed church which established elementary schools throughout the cape colony and this reduced on illiteracy.

2.1.2 THE KAFFIR WARS/ WARS OF DISPOSSESSION OR EASTERN BOUNDARY QUESTION, 1779-1857.

- The Kaffir wars were racial conflicts between the Xhosa (Bantu) and the Dutch (Boers).
- They were wars fought in South Africa in the 18th century between the Europeans and the Africans.
- They took place at the Eastern side of South Africa, hence the name the 'Eastern frontier boundary question'.
- They were wars fought when the Dutch were trying to chase away (dispossess) the Africans from their original land.
- They were fought between the great Fish river, River Kei and river Keiskama between the Africans and the Dutch (Boers).
- They also involved the British at a later stage
- There were several wars and they took place at different times.
- The Kaffir wars were also known as wars of dispossession, Xhosa-Boer wars , Bantu-Boer wars and the Eastern cape frontier wars.
- The Xhosa were led by different leaders who included *Tyali, Rarabe, Macomo, Nanquase, Chief Gaika and Makanda* among others.
- The Boer leaders included *Piet Retief and Maynier* while the British were led by *Benjamin Durban, Charles Somerset, Graham and Harry Smith.*

Causes of the kaffir wars.

- The expansion of both the Boers and the Xhosa led to wars. The Xhosa were expanding South and Westwards while the Boers were expanding from the cape colony north and Eastwards, hence meeting at the great Fish river.
- The racial difference between the Bantu and the Boers caused wars as the whites looked at the Africans as inferior people.
- The differences in land ownership between the Xhosa and the Boers ie the Xhosa believed in communal land ownership yet the Boers believed in private ownership, hence leading to conflicts.

- The enslavement of the Africans (Xhosa) by the Boers annoyed the Xhosa, hence leading to wars.
- The poor payment given to the Xhosa laborers caused the kaffir wars.
- The Boers lived in isolated areas on their individual farms, hence giving chance for the Xhosa to raid them, leading to wars.
- Population increase on both sides resulted into land conflicts, hence leading to the kaffir wars.
- The lack of proper boundaries and demarcations on the African land forced the Boers to easily enter into African areas, hence leading to wars.
- The Xhosa were unhappy with the way the Boers were taking away or raping their women, hence forcing them to fight against the Boers.
- The desire for fertile soils by both the Boers and the Xhosa resulted into wars since both parties wanted more land for agriculture.
- The Xhosa hated the spread of Christianity in their land by the missionaries since it was an abuse of their traditional religion and this resulted into the kaffir wars.
- The long term enmity between the Boers and the Bantu (Xhosa) right from 1652 when the Boers had just settled at the cape led to the kaffir wars.
- The Boers never respected the Xhosa traditional leaders. For example, they could punish them in public and this annoyed the Xhosa, hence the Kaffir wars.
- The outbreak of famine due to drought in both the Xhosa and Boer areas forced them to raid or attack each other for food.
- The Boers disrespected the African traditional cultures and values which annoyed the Xhosa, hence forcing them to fight against the Boers so as to defend their traditional values and cultures.
- The Xhosa wanted to protect their independence that was threatened by the foreigners ie the Boers and British.
- The two sides also fought over cattle ownership, thus leading to constant raids and counter raids by both parties.
- The mistreatment of the Xhosa slave workers by the Boers annoyed the Xhosa. For example, they were overworked and starved among other injustices. This therefore forced the Xhosa to fight against their masters.
- The role played by the African prophets or diviners like Nanquase and Mlanjeni who encouraged the Africans to rebel by promising to give protection to the Africans against the white man's bullets.
- The able leadership provided by the Xhosa chiefs like Tyali, Rarabe, Gaika, Nanquase, Macomo and Mlanjeni who encouraged the Xhosa to fight the whites.
- The entry of the British on the side of the Boers increased the conflicts.
- The rise of British imperialism forced the Xhosa to fight against the British who wanted to control the whole of South Africa.

- Even the recruitment of the Khoi Khoi and Fingo on the side of the whites annoyed the Xhosa, hence the wars.
- The British partial solutions that pleased only the Boers led to conflicts. For example, the British went on shifting the boundaries from the Fish River, Keiskama and later River Kei favored only the Boers.
- Some of the wars were fought over minor issues. For example, the stealing of an axe by a relative of a Xhosa chief from the whites caused the 7th kaffir war or the war of the axe of 1846.
- The failure of peaceful negotiations between the whites and the Africans led to the kaffir wars.
- The Africans (Xhosa) also mistook the Boers for sea monsters or devils which forced the Xhosa to fight against them.
- The role of the British administrators like Durban as well as the war hungry British soldiers like Harry Smith and Colonel Graham made the Xhosa angrier.
- The unfair taxes imposed on the Xhosa by the Boers and the poor collection of these taxes forced the Xhosa to fight against the whites.
- The role of the Boer leaders like Piet Retief and Maynier who encouraged the Boers to fight against the Xhosa caused the wars.
- The possession of guns by both the Xhosa and the Boers encouraged wars between the two sides.
- The Africans (Xhosa) also thought that they were militarily stronger after going through the Mfecane period, hence the kaffir wars.

The course of the kaffir wars.

- The Kaffir wars were a series of wars fought on the Eastern frontier around the great Fish River between the Xhosa and the Boers and later the British.
- The wars were nine in number and were fought at different times.
- The wars started in 1779 up to 1857 between the whites ie the Boers and British and the Xhosa (Bantu) who were living on the Eastern frontier or border of the cape colony.
- The leaders of the wars included Rarabe, Tyali, Macomo, Nanquase among others, on the African side.
- The wars were also referred to as ‘wars of dispossession’, the Eastern boundary question’, battles of the Eastern frontier or the ‘Boer-Xhosa wars’
- The **first kaffir war** took place from **1779 up to 1781**. This war started when chief Rarabe of the Xhosa crossed the great Fish River and invaded the neighboring Khoi Khoi village in search for the cattle which had been taken.
- During the raiding, some of the Boer cattle were also taken by the Xhosa. This forced the Boers to open an attack on the Xhosa and drove them back across the Fish River.

- The **second war** took place from **1789 up to 1793** after the Xhosa attempted to expand again across the Fish River up to the Zulu areas in Zuurveld.
- The Boers wanted to chase away the Xhosa from their areas but they were stopped by the government magistrate.
- Later, drought broke out in the area which led to famine. This forced the Boers to attack the Xhosa so as to take away their cattle. The Xhosa counter attacked the Boers and they took away about 60,000 heads of cattle from the Boers which made them victorious in the war.
- The **third kaffir war** took place between **1799 and 1803** after the Boers got misunderstandings with the British.
- The Xhosa therefore used the opportunity of the whites conflicting to drive or chase away the Boers from their land (Zuurveld).
- The British helped to organize a counter attack on the Xhosa. The Xhosa were defeated but allowed to remain in the area since the Dutch were to get the cape back.
- However, the Xhosa were later sent away from the Zuurveld to the East of the Fish River into the Gaika area in an attempt to create a peaceful district for the white occupation in the west of the Fish River.
- The **fourth war** occurred between **1811 and 1812**.
- This war broke out due to the overcrowding in the East of the Fish River which led to civil wars between the Xhosa chiefs ie Gaika and Ndhlabi.
- Chief Gaika was defeated who then appealed for help from the British against Ndhlabi.
- The land was taken away from the Xhosa to create a buffer zone of empty land between the Fish River and the Keiskama River.
- The **fifth war** occurred in **1818 to 1819** when Chief Ndhlabi together with Macomo combined to fight against Chief Gaika.
- Chief Gaika had earlier on collaborated with the British which had annoyed his fellow chief.
- The British in support of the Boers defended Chief Gaika which forced the Boers to displace the Xhosa from their settlements.
- The **sixth war** occurred in 1834 and was the most disastrous and memorable war among all the wars.
- The Xhosa who had occupied the area between the Great Fish river and River Keiskama started cattle raiding all over the area ie they raided not only the Boers but also the KhoiKhoi and the British.
- They also raided and stole cattle belonging to Tyali, who was a son of chief Gaika (a collaborator of the whites).
- In response, the whites caused misery, burning homes, grabbing and destroying the property of the Xhosa.

- When the war ended, Governor Benjamin Durban took away the land that was between Kei and Keiskama rivers as the new province of **Queen Adelaide**.
- However, this land was later returned to the Xhosa when the missionaries led by Dr. John Phillip protested against the action.
- The **seventh war** occurred between **1846 and 1847**. This was called the '*war of an axe*'.
- It broke out after a relative of a Xhosa chief was arrested by the Boers for stealing an axe.
- When the **chief** decided to defend the **thief**, war was declared on the Xhosa by the Boers.
- The British under Sir Harry Smith eventually came in to rescue the situation by conquering the area between the Great Fish River and River Keiskama.
- The **eighth war** occurred between **1849 and 1850** when the Xhosa decided to attack the British settlers who had occupied their land.
- Before the war, the Xhosa religious leaders like Mlangeni and Nanquase claimed that they could give the Xhosa fighters protection from the white man's bullets.
- The prophecy however, did not work as the Xhosa were heavily defeated by the whites.
- The **ninth war** was fought between the Xhosa and the British.
- It was also known as '*the Xhosa cattle killing*'. This was on the advice of a woman diviner known as Nanquase.
- Nanquase said that all the cattle should be killed so that the past Xhosa people would rise from the dead and the Europeans would be swept into the sea.
- Most of the Xhosa believed in the prophecy and they obeyed the commands of Nanquase. However, when the promised day came, the dead did not rise and action was taken against the non-believers who were blamed for the failure.
- By February 1857, the Xhosa people were starving due to the killing of their cattle and the other effects of the wars.

Effects of the kaffir wars.

- The Xhosa lost their independence since they were militarily defeated.
- Due to the magnitude of the war and stealing, there was widespread destruction of property such as houses, crops and livestock on both sides leading to economic backwardness.
- There were serious food shortages that resulted into famine since farming was abandoned due to wars.
- Trading activities too were disrupted due to the long period of fighting. All this spelt out economic stagnation.
- There was development of dependence syndrome of the Africans (Xhosa) on the whites for survival, since the African peasant economy was destroyed.
- As a result, The Africans became cheap sources of labor for the whites as the whites continued enslaving them.

- As laborers, the Africans were subjected to very little or no pay and this spelt out extreme poverty that characterized the Africans.
- The African loss of land to the Boers resulted into displacement of the Africans which made the Africans mere squatters in the reserves.
- African traditional styles of life were interfered with since they lost confidence in the traditional beliefs. This made many Africans turn to Christianity.
- As a result of the wars, the missionaries won the support of the British Cape administrators like Governor Sir Harry Smith.
- As a result, the missionary determination and zeal to fight for African interests in South Africa increased.
- The wars still strengthened the racist attitude of the Boers towards the Africans, hence leading to future racial discrimination that manifested in the Apartheid policy.
- There was an increase in the presence of the white settlers in South Africa following the resettlement scheme that was brought forth by Lord Charles Somerset.
- The wars brought forth increased enmity between the Boers and the British due to increased missionary influence and their favoritism of the Africans.
- The Africans developed permanent fear and inferiority complex towards the Boers, after the wars.
- Many Boers rose up in revolt after their loss of the two districts of Graaf Reinet and Swallendam. This increased Boer nationalism in South Africa.
- After the return of the province of **Queen Adelaide** to the Xhosa by the British, there was mass Boer exodus into the interior (Great trek), and this was in the course of the sixth war of 1834-35.
- There were various understandings (treaties) reached between the British and the Boers over the future life of the Xhosa who were living in the Eastern Cape.
- With time around 1846, the British governor Harry Smith annexed the area between River Fish and Kei as the colony of **British Kaffraria**.
- The Africans also developed strong support of their independence (nationalism) as the British increased their grip on the Boers in the region.
- Conclusively therefore, the wars left an indelible mark on the political, social and economic life of the people of South Africa.

Attempts made by the British to end the Kaffir wars.

- The Kaffir wars threatened the Eastern frontier security for very many years
- Even the Boers constantly complained of the many Xhosa attacks.
- The British were blamed for failing to stop the wars. As a result, the political and military British officers started intervening into the wars.

- The political leaders included the colonial secretary Lord Glenelg, Governor Benjamin Durban, Charles Somerset, Bourke and Grey.
- The military officers included Gradocks, Colonel Graham and Captain Harry Smith
- At first, the British tried peaceful means under Governor Charles Somerset and later Benjamin Durban.
- They set up military forts in the area and sent soldiers to act as barriers between the two fighting groups. The forts were established in the towns of Grahams, Beaufort, Hare as well as Peddie.
- Commander Gradocks was posted in the Eastern frontier to bring about peace.
- The British also tried to convince the fighting groups to stop the wars. For example, they talked to Gaika, a Xhosa chief to control his people.
- They also tried to convince the fighters to return the stolen cattle. For example, they convinced chief Gaika to return the stolen cows to the Boers.
- However, all these peaceful efforts did not yield and this forced the British to use force.
- They made the Fish River to be a permanent boundary between the Xhosa and the Boers in order to create a neutral ground that would separate the two enemies.
- As a result, over 20,000 Xhosa were forced to leave the area around the Fish River.
- In this land, a new district was created away from the cape. The newly created district was called *Zuurveld or Albany*.
- The British encouraged the British settlers to settle in the new district of Albany.
- Most of the white settlers were displaced Europeans from the Napoleonic wars in Europe.
- These new settlers were given incentives like free transport, money and free land.
- As a result, over 1000 white settlers moved into the Zuurveld and acted as a barrier between the two enemies.
- The British later tried the divide and rule policy by allying (making friendship) with Chief Gaika of the Xhosa to fight his Xhosa chiefs.
- Chief Gaika helped the British to arrest and imprison the stubborn Xhosa chiefs like Macomo and Makanda.
- But even the creation of Albany district did not bring peace.
- Hence the British further pushed the Xhosa beyond River Keiskama which resulted into famine in the Xhosa region.
- To reduce on the African anger, the British provided food to Chief Gaika's group during the famine period.
- They even allowed the Xhosa to graze their cattle in the new neutral zone or district of Albany during the great period of famine.
- However, this new measure caused more land problems among the Xhosa which forced them to fight against the British. This was the cause of the 1834 kaffir war.

- Governor Benjamin Durban who was the British representative in South Africa responded by pushing the Xhosa beyond River Kei and created a new district. Durban called this area the province of *Queen Adelaide*.
- They tried to force the signing of treaties between the two enemies.
- The British created treaty states on the Eastern and Northern sides like Griqua and Pondo.
- The chiefs of these states like Adam Kok, Anderies and Waterboer were paid a salary to keep peace with their states but due to the high costs, the British abandoned the states.
- They even tried using missionaries to calm the Africans and stop the wars.
- But the British missionaries opposed the new land grabbing.
- They were led by the London missionary society. It was especially Dr. John Phillip who led the way.
- He appealed to the British parliament which ordered the colonial office to reverse Durban's directive.
- Lord Glenelg, the colonial minister in London returned the Xhosa land.
- But the Xhosa were only to repossess the land under the conditions below:
- The Xhosa were to remain very loyal to the British laws.
- They were to become British citizens
- They had to give up on their weapons
- The British compensated the Boers for their lost land and cattle.
- The British annexed the Boer republics of Natal, Orange Free state and Transvaal. This was after compensating the Boers for cattle and land losses failed to yield materially. Hence due to the high costs, the British were forced to recognize the Boer independence.
- The British also set up a new province called the *British Kaffraria* which was to accommodate some of the Boers who had lost their land.
- British judges (magistrates) and police were stationed at the British Kaffraria in order to ensure peace and security in the area.
- The British encouraged their administrators not to interfere in the tribal affairs.
- The Xhosa were given reserve land in the Transkei province.
- Later, Sir George Grey, the new British Governor suggested more administrative reforms to end the kaffir wars. For example, he advocated for the federation (union) of South Africa.

Revision question:

- ✓ What steps were taken by the British to end the Kaffir wars in South Africa?

Reasons for the defeat of the Africans in the Kaffir wars.

- The military weakness of the Africans compared to the strength of the Boers exposed the former to defeat.
- The Africans had inferior weapons like spears and arrows yet the Boers had strong guns.

- The Boers had well trained and skilled armies which they used against the Xhosa.
- The Xhosa had a poor (weak) economy and hence they could not sustain the wars against the whites for a long period of time.
- Natural calamities like drought and famine weakened the African fighters since they lacked what to eat.
- The British interest in the area also weakened the Africans since they also ended up grabbing African land.
- The determination of the Boers to establish their control over the Africans led to the defeat of the Africans.
- The Xhosa were disunited and therefore could not join hands against the whites. For example, chief Gaika collaborated with the whites.
- The brutal (harsh) methods used by the Boers during the wars like destruction of the Xhosa property weakened them further leading to their defeat.
- The Africans had a natural feeling that they could not measure up to the challenge posed by the whites and this was a great weakness on their side.
- The Boers had learnt about the African resistances and therefore they were ready to defeat them.
- They Xhosa lacked support from their neighbors which left them weaker.
- The false prophecy of the African diviners like Mlanjeni and Nanquase who promised protection to the Xhosa against the white weaponry gave the Xhosa false confidence, which worked against them.
- The Africans lacked training before involving themselves in the wars.
- Some Africans like the Khoi Khoi and Fingo helped the whites against the Xhosa, hence their defeat.

Revision question:

- ✓ Why were the Xhosa defeated in the Eastern boundary question/wars?

2.2 THE FIRST BRITISH OCCUPATION OF THE CAPE (1795-1802).

- The British were the second Europeans to occupy the Cape of Good Hope (South Africa) after the Dutch.
- They occupied the cape twice.
- Their first occupation of the cape was between 1795 and 1802 and then returned it to the Dutch under the peace treaty of AMIENS of 1802 signed between Britain and France under Napoleon I.
- Then 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 for the British interest in the Cape Colony between 1795 and 1806.

- The formation of the English Indian company in 1600 (17th century) cleared way for the British occupation of the cape.
- The British desire to control the profitable Indian Ocean trade and its items like spices, opium and silver which were highly demanded in the European markets.
- The collapse of the Dutch East Indian company (DEICo) in 1795 paved way for the British intervention and occupation of the cape since it created an administrative vacuum.
- The British wanted to protect the sea route to India through the cape in order to protect her commercial empire and interests 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 the good natural harbors 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 ie 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 the 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/refreshment point for the sailors from Britain en-route to India made the British occupy the cape since the journey from Europe to Asia was too long and tiresome.
- The good climate at the cape ie 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 need for raw materials from South Africa. Therefore, the British wanted to get raw materials for their industries.
- There was also desire to get market 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 a country had abroad, the more respect she would claim for.
- The British took over the cape for humanitarian reasons ie 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 defense 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 spill over 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 including the cape made the British to take over the cape. This was so because of the good relationship between Holland and Britain.
- The need to protect the British nationals abroad 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.

Revision questions:

- ✓ Why were the British interested in the cape colony between 1795 and 1802?
- ✓ Why did the British pick interest in the cape by 1795?

How the British occupied the cape (the process)

- The British occupied the cape twice
- The first occupation was 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 re-occupied the cape in 1806 and ruled it up to 1910 when the union of South Africa was attained.
- The second occupation was through force and conquest and later through diplomacy by entering into agreements with other European powers like France.
- The British occupation of the cape came from the 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.
- King William IV requested the British crown or government to safeguard the Dutch overseas possessions including the cape
- During this confusion, the DEICo administration collapsed, leaving the cape colony with no administration and this forced the British to occupy the cape in 1795 up to 1802.
- In 1795, the British sent a fleet of warships 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/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 would 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 20th century.
- During this period, many changes or reforms were introduced at the cape (to be looked at in the subsequent sub-themes).

Revision questions:

- ✓ How did the British acquire the cape colony from the Dutch?
- ✓ How did the British occupy the cape between 1795 and 1806?

2.2.1 THE CAPE UNDER THE BATAVIAN RULE/REPUBLIC (1803-1806)

- The Batavian republic was the new Dutch government formed in Holland by revolutionary France in 1793.
- The Batavians took over the cape after the peace treaty of Amiens of 1802 signed between France and Britain.
- 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 forever by the British with a force led by **General Richard Biard**
- During this time, the cape was placed under the administration of **General Jan Janssen** who served as governor.

- General Janssen was assisted in the administration of the cape by a commissioner general called ***Jacob D'mist 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 among others, 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 the 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 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 labor was reduced and the Batavians started encouraging white labor.
- 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 segregation 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.

Revision questions:

- ✓ 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 Janssen* between 1803 and 1806.

Reasons why the Batavians lost control of the cape in 1806.

- In 1806, the British sent General Biard with a fleet of 61 warships which brought the Batavian control at the cape to an end.
- 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 onto their empire.
 - The British wanted to protect the many English citizens like farmers that had already settled at the cape.
 - The British wanted to turn South Africa into a calling station or refreshment point.
 - They wanted to establish a defense post at the cape so as to be able to challenge the enemy ships especially those of France.
 - 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.

Revision questions:

- ✓ Why did the Batavians lose the cape after 1805?
- ✓ Why did the Batavian rule at the cape come to an end?

2.2.2 THE BRITISH REFORMS/CHANGES AT THE CAPE (1806-1843)

- The British were the second Europeans to occupy the Cape of Good Hope or South Africa after the Dutch.
- They occupied the cape twice ie from 1795-1802 and 1806-1910.
- In 1806, the British under **General Biard** took over the cape for the second time.
- Later, they made reforms at the cape colony in the economy, religion,(church), language, press, judiciary, administration and the general welfare of the slaves as noted below:
- **In the economy**, the reforms 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. Hence one had to obtain a tittle for it.
- In 1828, the African land registration was put in place and the hottentots (khoi khoi) 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.
- **In the church/religion**, the British extended freedom of worship to all religious groups in the cape colony.
- The Africans were also given freedom of worship and therefore 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.
- **As regards language and education**, the British favored the policy of Anglicization of the cape colony ie they made the colony more English or British.
- By this policy, English language gradually replaced the Dutch language.

- In 1828, English was made the official language, hence replacing the Dutch language. Hence 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 Stellen Bosch. Graaf Reinet and other places.
- English was later used in the printing of newspapers and magazines like the “commercial advertiser”, the Grahamston journal” and the Afrikaan Zuid”.
- **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 new 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.
- **In line with 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 Boer masters and also listened to the African complaints against injustice by their Boer masters.
- Later, the 50th 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 the 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 government 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.
- Court 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.
- **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 ie they were given two seats on the council.
- Municipal councils were also set up 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 debate and pass bills and laws in the cape colony.
- Regarding the general welfare of slaves, 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, 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 of 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.

To be continued.....