DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE
and SERVICE DELIVERY
(DGSD)

HSRC SEMINAR

The National Liberation Heritage Route: Liberation Heritage Sites in the Western Cape

17 July 2013
Key Events in the Western Cape, 1659-1910

- The first Khoi-Dutch war of 1659-1660
- The second Khoi-Dutch war of 1673-1677
- The Khoikhoi Rebellion of 1799-1803
- Slavery and Resistance: The Meermin Slave Mutiny of 1766; the Slave Uprising of 1808; the Slave Uprising of 1825
- From armed resistance to protests and deputations
Potential Sites

Liesbeek River (The War of Liberation) – along this river nine freeburghers were allocated land by Jan Van Riebeeck to farm. As this was the pasturage and water point for the Khokhooi people, this became the area of the first Khoikhoi resistance led by the Goringhaiqua Khoikhoi leader Doman against land dispossession; Oude Molen Estate – this is one of the areas where the Khoikhoi seasonally settled with their livestock and close to fresh water sources and abundant pasture; Struisbaai - where the DEIC slaveship Meerman anchored with the slave mutineers on board; Fish Hoek/Simonstown graveyard; Stikland graveyard – memorial to 12 prisoners who died on Robben Island; Vogelgezang Farm, north of Malmersbury where the first slave uprising of 1808 began; Houdenbek Farm at the foot of the Koue Bokkeveld Mountains where the second slave uprising of 1825 began; Uitvlugt/Ndabeni, a state farm near Maitland, where the Hlubi Chief Langalibalele was kept and Africans in the city were moved to from 19 February 1901 using the bubonic plague as an excuse. In July 1902 the place was renamed Ndabeni; Zonnebloem College, where the sons of the chiefs of the Eastern Cape were once brought to school while their fathers were prisoners on Robben Island; Grand Parade it is round about this place where slaves were hanged and later it was a public political space where rallies and mass gathering were held to denounce injustice. Also it was here from the balcony of the City Hall that Mandela addressed his first rally after 27 years in prison.; Slave Lodge this is where slaves were housed and as such it is the ‘holy ground’ symbolic of not only the trauma but also the triumph over slavery; Mission Stations: Elim – mission village has an already existing Slave Route; Genadendal – mission station; Pniel – a town built by slaves; Wupperthal
National Liberation Movements in the Western Cape 1910-1960

• **National Organisations:**
  - SANNC, ANC, CPSA, PAC

• **Western Cape Organisations:**
  - CPNA, IANC, ICU, NLL, NEUM, NEUF, TLSA, CFLU, CBPU, CATA, GWU, IWA, CAVA
  - Anti-CAD movement

• **Other liberation Movements:**
  - Afro-Caribbean Immigrants and the GUNIA, Lenin club, Spartacus Club, Langa Women Vigilance Association, Cape Town Women’s Food Committee
Key Events in the Western Cape, 1910-1960

Dock Workers Strikes in the Western Cape

Anti-pass Campaigns

Anti Coloured Affairs Department

The Defiance Campaign and the 1950s

1 pound a day campaign

Bus strikes organised and led by the South African Coloured People's Organization

1950s Rent Strikes

The response to the Hertzog bills

1 March to 4 March 1957 meeting in Salt River Hall against the Industrial Conciliation Bill
1960s: PAC anti-pass campaign and Langa shootings; Re-organisation of the ANC underground; the ANC’s turn to armed struggle and the sabotage campaign; PAC/Poqo activities; the African Resistance Movement (ARM); the African People’s Democratic Union of South Africa (APDUSA); the Yu Chi Chan Club (YCCC) and National Liberation Front (NLF); Religious movements - Claremont Muslim YA; Deaths in detention - Ngudle/Imam Haron; The Wankie and Sipolilo Campaigns; and the South African Students’ Organisation (SASO).

1970s: The Black Consciousness Movement; the rise of the Trade Union Movement; Religious organisations – Christian Institute; the 1976 Soweto Uprising; clashes with the ‘witdoeke’ – Nyanga; the revival of the PAC underground; deaths in detention – Loza; ANC underground – e.g. Cronin/Lesotho machinery; and armed actions by the liberation movements.

1980s: 1980–1981 school boycotts; the ANC underground; the United Democratic Front; the civic movement; religious organisations – focus on Muslim organisations; the Pan-Africanist Congress; the National Forum; the KTC and Crossroads struggles; the 1985 upsurge in the political revolt; the 1985 Pollsmoor march and aftermath; the Trojan Horse and other ambush tactics; the Bongolethu Three shooting; armed actions of the ANC; the Bonteheuwel Military Wing; Detentions; the ‘Gugulethu Seven’; Other MK/ANC cadres killed in the Western Cape; and Vigilantes and Inter-Group Conflicts.
Key movements, events and sites in the Western Cape, 1960-1994

1990s: Conflict with local authorities; Inter-organisational conflict: the civic movement; anonymous violence: ‘balaclavas’; informal settlements: development and destabilisation; APLA and PAC actions; actions of SDUs; Taxi violence and vigilante activity; and the Boland War.

Potential Heritage Sites:

The PAC anti-pass campaign and the march on Parliament – The hostel where Philip Kgosana lived and the memorial for the killings at Langa; the Grand Parade; the Mamre training camp; the University of the Western Cape and the Mayibuye Centre; the Women’s Tour in the Western Cape; the ‘Journey of Remembrance’; the Rocklands Civic Centre in Mitchells Plain; the Luxurama Theatre in Wynberg and other similar venues where meetings were held; the house where Anton Fransch was killed; Community House in Salt River; the Gugulethu Seven Memorial; the Trojan Horse Mural; the Bongolethu Three Memorial in Oudsthoorn; Khayelisha Remembrance Square; and Nelson Mandela’s house in the former Victor Verster prison.
Key People in the Liberation Struggle

END

Thank you