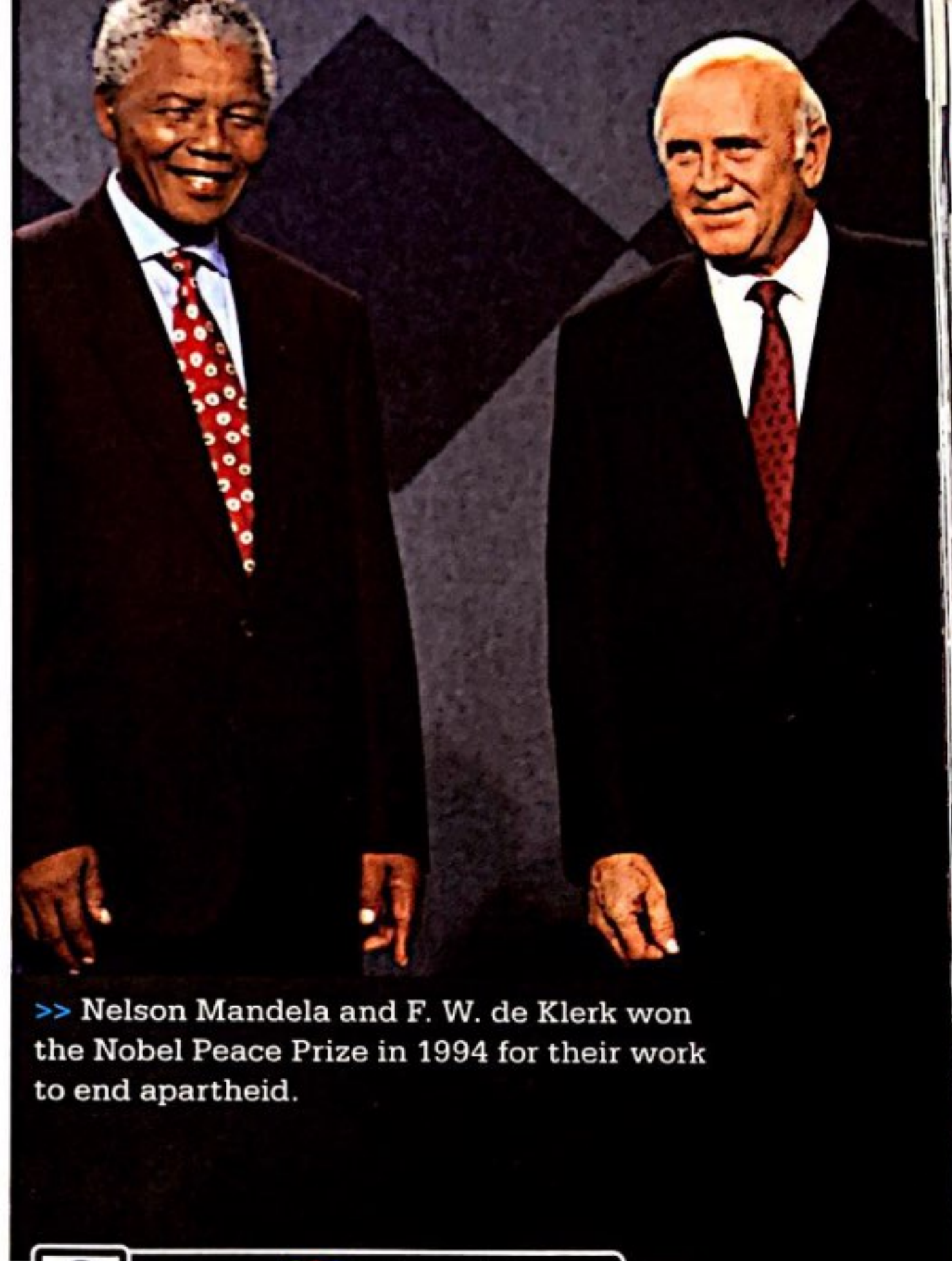


12.2 In the 1950s and 1960s, almost all African nations won independence. In South Africa, the struggle for freedom was different. South Africa had achieved self-rule from Britain in 1910. Self-rule, however, was limited to white settlers. Whites made up less than 15 percent of the population but controlled the government and the economy. The black majority was denied all political and economic rights in their own land. The white-minority government passed racial laws that severely restricted the black majority.



>> Nelson Mandela and F. W. de Klerk won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1994 for their work to end apartheid.

Challenges for African Nations

The Struggle for Equality in South Africa

Apartheid Is Established In 1948, the government expanded the existing system of racial segregation, and created the policy known as **apartheid**, or the separation of the races. Under apartheid, all South Africans were registered by race: Black, White, Colored (people of mixed ancestry), Asian. Supporters of apartheid claimed it would allow each race to develop its own culture. In fact, the policy was designed to preserve white control over South Africa.

Under apartheid, blacks were treated like foreigners in their own land. By the early 1900's whites had seized rights to 87% of all land, including all of South Africa's huge mineral wealth. Whites held almost all the decent jobs. Although black workers were needed to work in factories, mines, and other jobs, they were paid less than whites for the same job.

Laws restricted where Black people could live and banned marriages between the races. Among the most hated were the Pass Laws enacted in 1952, which required all blacks to carry pass books at all times, wherever they went. Blacks schools received less funding

Interactive Flipped Video

>> Objectives

Summarize the struggle for equality in South Africa and identify how Nelson Mandela led resistance efforts.

Describe how African nations developed their economies.

Understand the challenges African nations face.

>> Key Terms

apartheid
African National Congress (ANC)
Sharpeville
Nelson Mandela
Desmond Tutu
F.W. de Klerk
socialism
desertification
urbanization
endangered species
Wangari Maathai
sustainable development

than white schools. Low wages and inferior schooling condemned most blacks to poverty.

Resistance Against Apartheid Resistance to white rule began almost as soon as white rule itself was established. The **African National Congress (ANC)** emerged as the main party opposed to apartheid and led the struggle for majority rule. As the government passed ever-harsher laws, the ANC organized larger and larger marches, boycotts, and strikes.

In 1960, police gunned down 69 men, women, and children during a peaceful protest in **Sharpeville**, a black township. The government then outlawed the ANC and cracked down on other groups that opposed apartheid. The Sharpeville massacre was a turning point in the struggle against apartheid, leading some ANC activists to shift from nonviolent protest to armed struggle.

Some leaders, like **Nelson Mandela**, went underground. As an ANC leader, Mandela had first mobilized young South Africans to peacefully resist apartheid laws. As government oppression grew, Mandela joined ANC militants. Mandela was arrested, tried, and, in 1964, condemned to life in prison for treason. He stated at his trial: "I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons

live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die." Even in prison, he remained a powerful symbol of the struggle for freedom and resistance against political oppression.

In 1976, as a shocked world looked on, government forces killed almost 600 people in protests that began in the township of Soweto. International pressure against the regime began to grow. In the 1980s, demands for an end to apartheid and for Mandela's release began to have an effect. Many countries imposed economic sanctions on South Africa, including the United States, which began to impose sanctions in 1986. In 1984, black South African bishop **Desmond Tutu** won the Nobel Peace Prize for his nonviolent opposition to apartheid.

Majority Rule Is Established Massive, continuing protests all across South Africa made the country ungovernable. With foreign pressure also mounting, the South African government decided to change. In 1990, South African president **F. W. de Klerk** lifted the ban on the ANC and freed Mandela and other political prisoners. In 1993, Mandela and de Klerk jointly won the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts in ending apartheid.

Finally in 1994, South Africans of every race were allowed to vote for the first time. Voters chose Nelson Mandela as president in South Africa's first non-racial election. Mandela worked to heal the country's wounds. "Let us build together," he declared. He welcomed old foes into his government, including whites who had supported apartheid. Through his powerful example, he helped shift the political climate in South Africa.


Since 1994, South Africa has faced huge challenges. With majority rule, black South Africans expected a better life. Although South Africa was a rich, industrial country, it had limited resources to spend on housing, education, and other programs. The income and education gap between blacks and whites remained large. Poverty and unemployment were high among blacks. The AIDS epidemic hit South Africa severely.

Although rocked by the 2009 global recession, South Africa recovered and is one of five emerging economic powerhouses, called the BRICS—Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. These economies, taken together, are seen as major force in the world today

? SUMMARIZE What factors finally brought about the end of apartheid?



>> More than 5,000 people attended the funerals of some of the people killed at Sharpeville. **Analyze Visuals** How does this image convey the impact of the Sharpeville massacre?

 **Interactive Timeline**