Prescribed Subject 4: Rights and Protest

This prescribed subject focuses on struggles for rights and freedoms in the mid-20th century. Two case studies are prescribed, from two different regions of the world, and **both** of these case studies must be studied. The first case study explores the civil rights movement in the US between 1954 and the passing of the Voting Rights Act in 1965. The second case study explores protests against apartheid in South Africa. It focuses specifically on the years 1948-1965, beginning with the election of the National Party in 1948 and ending with the imprisonment of Nelson Mandela and his co-defendants following the Rivonia trial in 1964.

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| Case Studies | Material for detailed study |
| Case study 1: Civil rights movement in the US (1954-1965) | Nature and characteristics of discrimination* Racism and violence against African Americans; the Ku Klux Klan; disenfranchisement
* Segregation and education: Brown vs. Board of Education decision (1954); Little Rock (1957)
* Economic and social discrimination; legacy of the Jim Crow laws; impact on individuals

Protests and action* Non-violent protests; Montgomery bus boycott (1955-1956); Freedom rides (1961); Freedom Summer (1964)
* Legislative changes: Civil Rights Act (1964); Voting Rights Act (1965)

The role and significance of key actors/groups* Key actors: Martin Luther King Jr. Malcolm X, Lyndon B, Johnson
* Key groups: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC); Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC); Nation of Islam (Black Muslims)
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| Case study 2: Apartheid South Africa (1948-1964) | Nature and characteristics of discrimination* “Petty Apartheid” and “Grand Apartheid” legislation
* Division and “classification”; segregation of populations and amenities creation of townships/forced removals; segregation of education; Bantustan system; impact on individuals

Protests and action* Mon-violent protests; bust boycotts; defiance campaign; Freedom Charter
* Increasing violence: the Sharpeville massacre (1960) and the decision to adopt the armed struggle
* Official response: the Rivonia trial (1963-1964), and the imprisonment of the ANC leadership

The role and significance of key actors/groups* Key individuals: Nelson Mandela, Albert Luthuli
* Key groups: African National Congress (ANC), South African Communist Party (SACP), the MK (“Spear of the Nation”)
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