

# Visit to the University of the Western Cape

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# Overview

- Introduction
- History
- Aspects of the country
- Visit to University of the Western Cape
- Conclusions

# SOUTH AFRICA

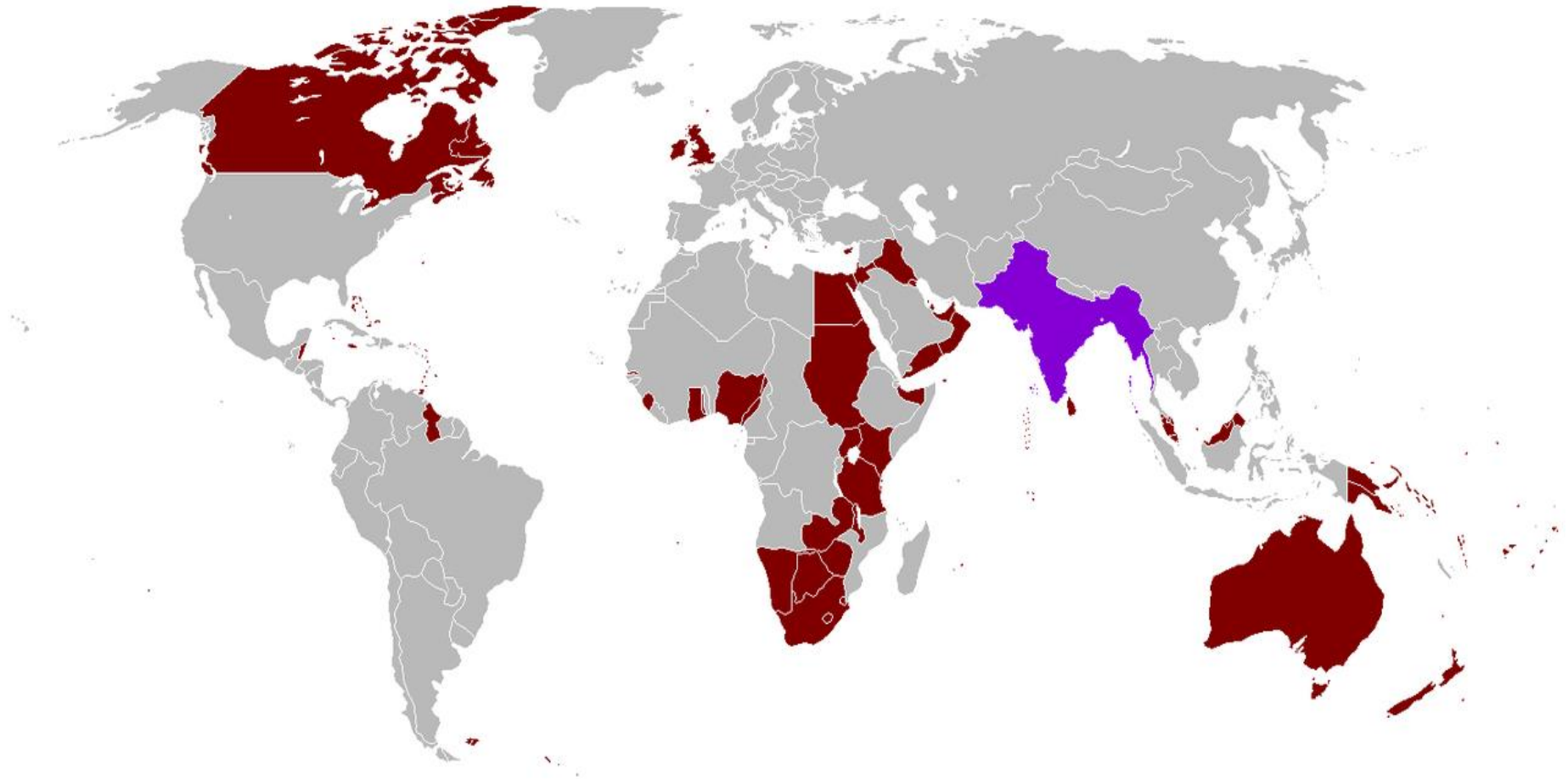


# Distances

- London to Durban – 6,000 miles
  - London to Boston – 3,300 miles
  - London to Los Angeles – 5,500 miles
  - London to Tokyo – 6,000 miles
- Durban to Cape Town – 800 miles
- Durban to Johannesburg – 300 miles



# British Empire at its Zenith



# History - 1

- Africans from the north ~1,700 years ago
- Settlers from Europe – mainly Netherlands and Britain
- The British ruled in the Cape, then the Dutch, then the British in Natal
- Boer Republics – Orange Free State and South African Republic
- Apartheid – official racial segregation and white minority rule from 1948 – for 46 years
- First Elections April 1994 – African National Congress

# History - 2

- Dutch East India Company, 1600s, to have a staging post on the spice route – east to west
- Calvinist Reformed Church of the Netherlands
- Slaves from Madagascar and Indonesia
- 1800's – British took over the Cape with 20,000 white colonists and 25,000 slaves
- Abolition of slavery in 1833
- Discovery of diamonds in Kimberley and gold in the Transvaal increased the number of white settlers
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_South\\_Africa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_South_Africa)



# History - 3

- Rise of Zulu Kingdom
- Great Trek inland - 'Voortrekkers' -
- To Bloemfontein and Natal
- Wars between the Boers and the Zulus
- 150,000 Indians
- Largest community outside India
- Gandhi arrived 1893 – stayed 22 yrs



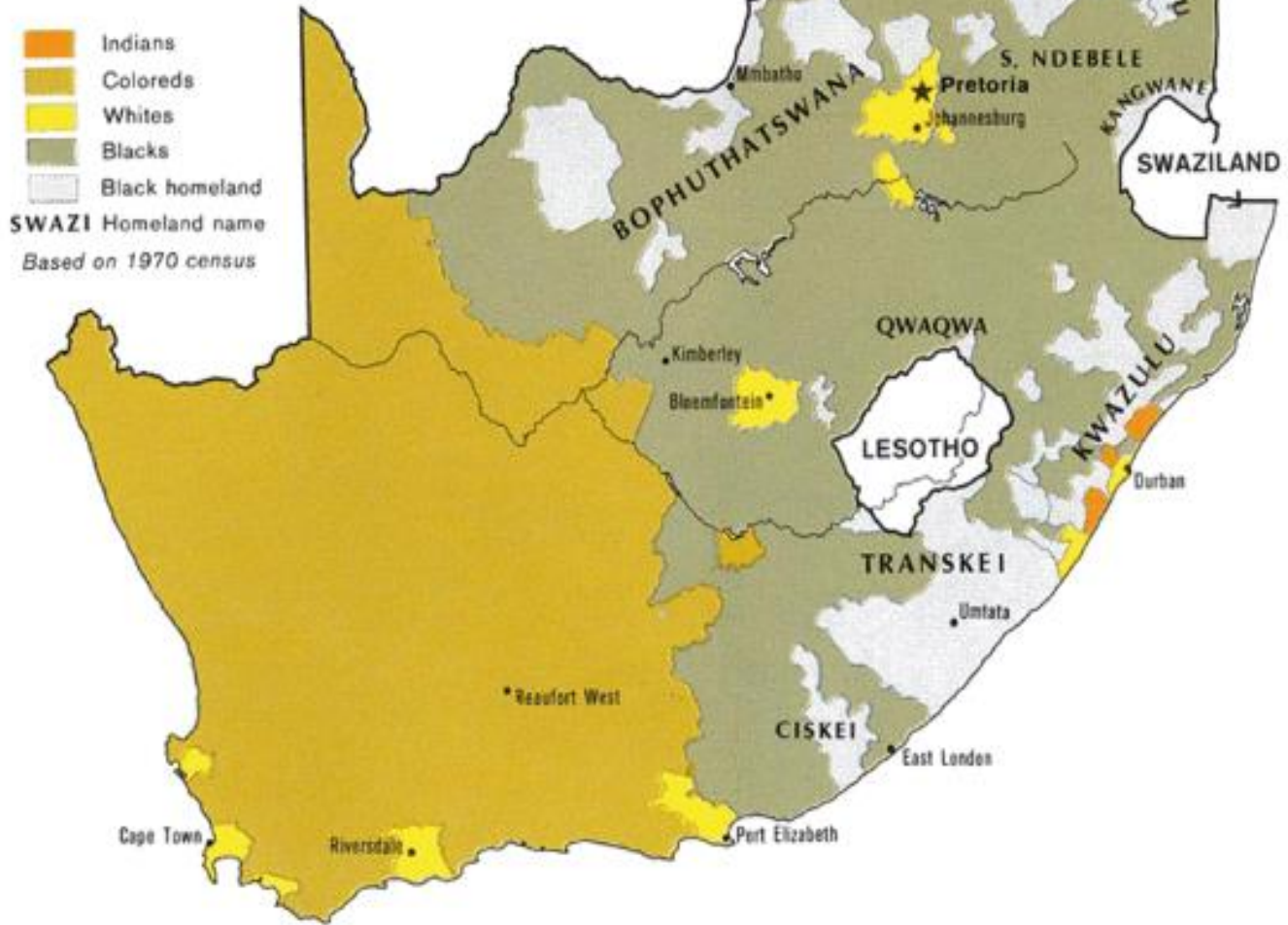
# History - 4

- South Africa Act 1909 – Union of South Africa - Cape Colony, Natal, Transvaal, and Orange Free State – British territory but with home rule
- English and Dutch – official languages – Afrikaans not recognised until 1925
- Natives Land Act 1913 deprived South Africans of the right to own land
- Led to residential segregation between whites and blacks
- Series of Acts up to 1946 to limit voting and influence of the black tribes and the Indians – thus cementing apartheid

# Racial Concentrations and Homelands

Racial concentrations of 30% or more by magisterial district

NOTE: Portions of Colored, Indian, and white areas may also have an equal or slightly larger percentage of other racial groups. Black areas have no other racial groups as high as 30%. Homelands are traditional areas set aside by the South African government for specific black ethnic groups. All have a black population in excess of 90%. Bophuthatswana, Transkei, and Venda have been granted nominal independence by South Africa.



# History - 5

- 1948-91 - Legalised discrimination
- State-sponsored vigilante groups carried out violent attacks on communities and community leaders associated with resistance to apartheid
- Massacres, thousands of deaths
- Mandela released 1990
- Democracy and elections 1994



# History - 6

- Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- Archbishop Desmond Tutu
- To expose crimes committed during the apartheid era
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-14094918>
- <http://www.southafrica.info/about/history/history.htm#.VBhnyxZuWpM>

# Famous for – Table Mountain





# Blue Train – Cape Town to Pretoria – 1,000 miles, 27 hours







# Drakensberg Mountains





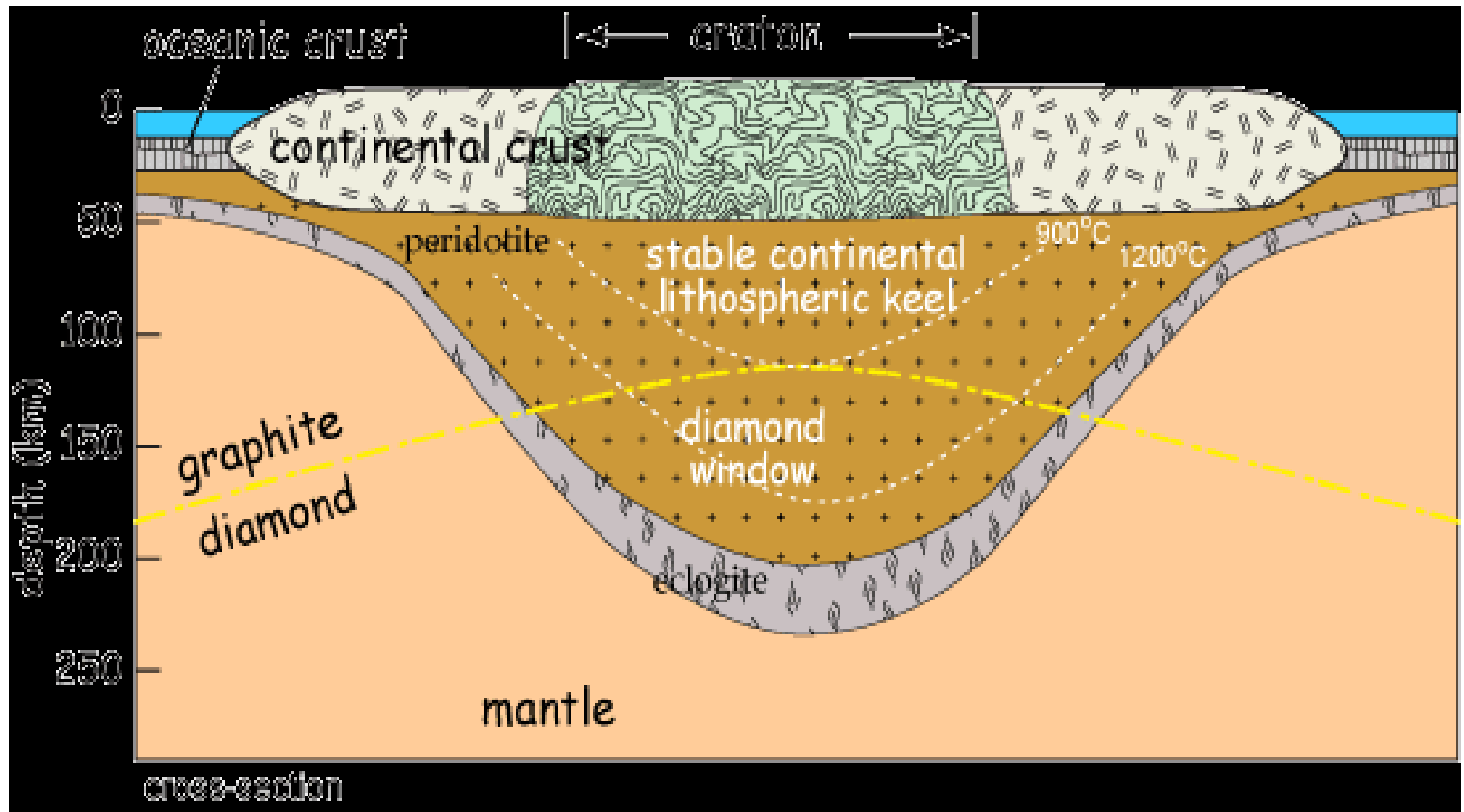




# De Beers Diamond Mines











# Soweto Township - 1



# Soweto Township – 2 left by the wayside



# University of the Western Cape

- The university was established in 1960 by the [South African government](#) as a university for [Coloured](#) people only
- Other universities near Cape Town are the [University of Cape Town](#), (UCT, originally for [English speaking whites](#)) and the [Stellenbosch University](#) (originally for [Afrikaans speaking whites](#))
- The establishing of UWC was a direct effect of the [Extension of University Education Act, 1959](#). This law accomplished the segregation of higher education in South Africa. Coloured students were only allowed at a few non-white universities
- In this period, other 'ethnic' universities, such as the University of Zululand and the University of the North, were founded as well. Since well before the end of [apartheid](#) in South Africa in 1994, it has been an integrated and [multiracial](#) institution
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University\\_of\\_the\\_Western\\_Cape](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_the_Western_Cape)



UNIVERSITY of the  
WESTERN CAPE





# Visits also to -

- Stellenbosch
- Johannesburg
- Port Elizabeth
- Pietermaritzburg
- Cape Town

# Stellenbosch, South Africa







# Hydroponics - 1

- The pioneers of commercial greenhouse crop production in South Africa were Don Bilton and his son Mark, who started growing tomatoes in soil, but protected with a plastic covered structure in 1972 on the farm Bonterivier, close to Stellenbosch









<http://igardening.info/hydroponic-tomatoes-1/>



# Hydroponics - 2

- They soon moved away from soil and plastic covered structures to pure nutrient solutions and switched from tomatoes to lettuce
- They adapted the 'Nutrient film technique' (NFT), developed and published by Dr Cooper of the Glasshouse Crops Research Institute in Littlehampton (The ABC of NFT, 1979). Instead of pure nutrient solution running down in 15 cm gullies, they used gravel in 900 cm wide plastic lined beds
- They produced leafy salad crops in the open, only with windbreaks and some plastic covers in winter. This was their own 'Gravel flow technique' (GFT), the first commercial hydroponics system in South Africa
- <http://www.iasa.co.za/history/>



# Conclusions

- Very isolated – long way away
- Still high levels of poverty and inequality
- <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/africa-in-focus/posts/2014/01/27-south-africa-welfare-poverty-bhorat>
- Freedoms of the coloured population severely curtailed under apartheid, and still are to a large extent
- Don't appreciate our freedom until it is removed

# References

- *“Long Walk to Freedom”*, N. Mandela, pp 784, 1995
- *“Cry Freedom”*, J. Briley, pp 288,