

South Africa: Political Turning Points

1960	Sharpeville . . . banning . . . armed struggle
1964	Rivonia . . . decapitation of opposition, organizational disarray
late 1960s/early 1970s	Black Consciousness
1972/1973	strikes, especially Durban stevedores and municipal workers
1974	coup in Portugal → independence of Angola and Mozambique
1976	Soweto/student uprising
late 1970s/early 1980s	alternation between ungovernability and increased repression
late 1970s/1980	intensification of struggle in Zimbabwe → negotiated transition to independence
1985/1986	states of emergency; increased militarization; regional raids; emerging strength of civics, mass organizations
late 1980s	increasing turmoil/conflict in urban (especially peri-urban) areas . . . independence of Namibia
1990.02.02	unbanning . . . clear recognition of movement toward majority rule
early 1990s	spasmodic negotiations, with steps forward and backward
1994.04.27	majority rule election . . . majority rule government
late 1990s	contested transitions