

Apartheid South Africa



Democratic Israel

Blacks in South Africa

Arab citizens of Israel

White minority population controlled government and oppressed black majority.
Lawmakers segregated blacks and deprived them of equal rights and opportunities.

Israel is a Jewish majority state that respects pluralism.
All minorities, including the 20% who are Arab Israelis, have full and equal rights, representation and protection.

Blacks excluded from central government and denied right to vote in national elections.

Arab Israelis are citizens with full voting rights and political parties and are elected members of Israel's parliament, the Knesset.

Restricted movement—blacks could enter white areas only with special permits.

Absolute freedom of movement all over Israel for all citizens.

Strictly segregated residential communities.
Blacks forced into impoverished regions.

Israelis of all ethnicities and religions can legally live in any public city within Israel.

Separated and inferior public facilities for non-whites, including buses, trains, parks, beaches, libraries, hospitals and schools.
Quality universities restricted to whites only.

Public facilities are fully integrated. Arab Israelis attend Israel's top universities and are among the most educated people in the Middle East.

Racist legal system with harsher sentences given out to blacks. The death penalty was much more likely to be applied to blacks than to whites.

No double standard based on race or religion.
No capital punishment.

Blacks had only token local government with little power and no international recognition.

Palestinian Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza

Arabs living in the West Bank and Gaza are not Israeli citizens. They elect their own government, the Palestinian Authority, which makes laws and has international recognition.

Black activists sought to end discrimination and become equal citizens.

Palestinian militants and the PLO Charter have sought to eliminate Israel, the world's only Jewish state, through war and terrorism.

To label Israel an "apartheid state" manipulates the truth and insults millions of black South Africans who suffered under a true apartheid regime.