History of group relations leading up to the crisis

Map of tribal homelands in apartheid South Africa. (Source: Wikimedia Commons: link)

First Subheading

Begin with a discussion of historical background of inter-group conflict or group exclusion. Consider the following:

- Define the politically relevant groups for your case. That is, what ethnic, racial, or national identities are politically salient in relation to this crisis?
- Is there a history of “horizontal inequality” such that some groups had been privileged while others had been excluded from power or wealth during periods prior to the crisis? If so, explain the nature of this inequality. What are the commonly accepted reasons for how it came to be? Describe any key events, leaders, or movements that shaped the relations between groups in your case.
- What is the history of political mobilization or even violence on the basis of group identities in your case? Describe any key events or leaders. What were the triggers of these events? What were the apparent goals or reasons motivating those engaged in the mobilization or violence?

Your discussion should be written in paragraphs and full sentences. Reserve bullet points for the very rare instances in which you actually want to make a list.

You should reference your source material liberally. (Recall that by university policy, plagiarism is grounds for receiving an F and possible probation, suspension, or expulsion.) For example, if you are writing a paragraph that summarizes (in your own words) a bunch of findings or claims by an author, then begin the paragraph with something like, “Author (DATE) discusses the origins of hostilities between groups A and B. She indicates that....” This will read more smoothly than including a citation or “(ibid.)” after each sentence. Verbatim quotes should be in quotation marks with references if they run 25 words or less and in italicized block quote format if they are more than 25 words. You can use the “Quote” font for that:

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Here is how the quote font is used for long quotations. You select this from the font menu that is at the top right of the editing page. Be sure to include a citation to the relevant author's work at the end of the quote (Author, DATE, pp. X-Y).
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Resources

Include discussions of relevant articles or books as well as links to any resources on the web (videos, online archives, etc.) that provide more nuance.

The following resources provide additional insights into the historical background of this case:
Strategies and outcomes after the crisis

Proceed with a discussion of strategies pursued to manage inter-group conflict or group exclusion. Consider the following:

- What kinds of structural or distributional strategies were implemented, if any (cf. Horowitz 2000, Ch. 14-16)?
- Are the strategies based on the formal recognition of group-based rights through quotas or autonomy provisions? Or do the strategies tend to disallow reference to ethnic groups in defining rights?
- How did different leaders, factions, or interest groups differ in terms of their attitudes toward the appropriate strategy? What are the arguments that were made by commentators for or against the strategies that were applied?
- What are some of the apparent consequences of these strategies? What do they suggest for whether the strategies are helping to either reduce the potential for future conflict or address legacies of exclusion?

Include discussions of relevant articles or books as well as links to any resources on the web (videos, online archives, etc.) that provide more nuance.

Resources

The following resources provide additional insights into the strategies adopted and their consequences for this case:

- South Africa electoral system information and elections results by Election Resources on the Internet: http://electionresources.org/za/
- CNN coverage of the August 2012 Marikana massacre: link

References