

- **THE EUROPEAN INTEREST IN SOUTH AFRICA**

- **THE COMING OF THE DUTCH OR BOERS**

- The Dutch who came from Holland, also known as the Netherlands, were the first Europeans to settle in South Africa and this was in the 17th century.
- For much of the 16th century, the Dutch were part of the Spanish empire. However, in **1572** the Dutch won their Independence and they therefore decided to participate in the Indian and Atlantic Ocean trade which had earlier on been dominated by the Spanish and the Portuguese.
- In order to effectively control to trade specially in spices, the Dutch merchants formed the **United Dutch East India Company (DEICO)**.
- It was this company which carried out the duty of discovering the sea route to India as well as promoting trade between the Far East and Holland.
- While the Dutch were on their way to the Far East, their ship Haarlem capsized or got an accident in **1647** at the Table Bay near the Cape of Good Hope and the survivors were able to swim up to the shores.
- The survivors stayed for a period of six months while repairing the ship. In the process, they discovered many good things about the Cape which influenced them to make a report back home.
- The government of Holland decided to establish a settlement at the Cape.
- On **6th April 1652**, the first group of Dutch settlers arrived at the Cape, sent by the Dutch East India Company on behalf of the Dutch government.
- The group was led by **Jan Van Riebeeck** who arrived at the Cape with three ships to establish a Dutch settlement at the Cape.
- **REASONS FOR THE DUTCH SETTLEMENT AT THE CAPE IN 1652**
- The reasons for the coming and settling of the Dutch at the Cape were economic, administrative, social and strategic in nature.
- The Portuguese successes in the Far East attracted the Dutch to settle at the Cape. The Portuguese had successfully controlled the Indian Ocean or spice trade in the Far East and this attracted the Dutch to come and also control the profitable trade.
- The Dutch also settled at the Cape to use it as a base to collect taxes from the incoming and out-going ships at the Cape.

- The Cape was strategically located. The Cape was mid-way between Europe and the Far East (Asia) which would act as a resting and relaxation Centre so as to break the long tiresome journey.
- South Africa had abundant natural resources such as fruits, minerals and animals which the Dutch wanted to exploit for their benefit.
- The formation of the Dutch East India Company (DEICO) gave way for the Dutch to settle in South Africa i.e. sponsored the first Dutch settlers under Jan Van Riebeeck.
- The Dutch wanted to use the Cape as a workshop for repairing broken ships as well as re refueling their ships.
- The Dutch wanted to set up a Fort (military base) so as to protect the Dutch sailors from other Europeans.
- The Cape had a good a Mediterranean climate which favoured the growing of vegetables, fruits, animal rearing and human settlement.
- They wanted to get meat from the Khoikhoi who were cattle keepers so as to overcome the problem of food shortages while on their journey.
- They wanted to establish a medical centre or sick bay to treat the Dutch sailors and soldiers.
- The Cape had fertile soils which the Dutch farmers wanted for growing vegetables and fruits for the sailors.
- The Cape had good natural harbours like Table Bay which would enable the easy landing of ships for trade as well as for protection from their enemies.
- They wanted to revenge against Spain which had ruled or colonized them up to 1572.
- The Cape had plenty of unoccupied land that the Dutch hoped to use for their economic activities as well as expanding their settlement.
- The Cape was also free from many dangerous tropical diseases like malaria.
- The hospitality of the local people especially the Khoikhoi also encouraged the Dutch to settle at the Cape.
- The Island of St. Helena that had for many years supplied the Dutch sailors with fresh fruits had by the 17th century ran short of such fruits and therefore the Cape would act as source of meat.
- They wanted to avoid the occupation of the Cape by the English merchants who were strongly competing with the Dutch.

- It was because of the accidental breakdown of the Haarlem ship in **1647**. The survivors of the ship wreckage gave good reports about the Cape to the Dutch government and this encouraged the Dutch to come and settle there.
- The courage of Jan Van Riebeeck who led the first settlers in April 1652 gave more courage to other Dutch to come and settle at the Cape.
- **HOW THE DUTCH SETTLEMENT OR COLONY WAS ESTABLISHED AT THE CAPE**
- The establishment of the Cape Colony started officially in **1652**, when the Dutch East Indian Company (DEICO) established a temporary calling station or refreshment station.
- The Dutch Colony started as a tiny temporary calling station or refreshment station at the Table Bay.
- It was started by about 90 Dutchmen who arrived at the Cape on **6th April 1652** under the leadership of **Jan Van Riebeeck**.
- Jan Van Riebeeck was instructed by the DEICO to set up a fort and develop a vegetable garden at the Cape for the benefit of their ships on the eastern trade route.
- In 1657, the policy of colonization was adopted and therefore nine soldiers were released from the company services.
- Each soldier was given $13\frac{1}{2}$ hectares of land along the Valley of Leisbeck River to farm.
- The nine men were allowed to open up their own farms but they were to sell their produce to the company.
- The nine soldiers were not to pay taxes for a period of 12 years to allow them carryout their activities smoothly.
- In 1662, more Dutch came to the Cape and therefore the number of the white people increased to 250 of which 130 were colonists (settlers).
- In 1668, the population of the whites at the Cape increased when the DEICO imported 200 French Protestants known as **Huguenots** who taught the Dutch settlers better farming methods.
- Later in 1676, the Governors of the Cape encouraged immigrations and therefore more settlements were established beyond the Cape Town like **Stellen Bosch** and **De'pearl**.
- By early 1700, the number of the Dutch settlers at the Cape had greatly increased which forced independent Boer farmers to

migrate to the interior and this led to the expansion of the Cape Colony.

- This expansion of the Dutch colony took the North East and Eastern directions from the original Cape boundary. This expansion was mainly by the individual Dutch farmers who moved from place to place looking for pasture and land for settlement.
- By 1702, the Dutch settlers had gained economic strength. For example, the Cape farmers were producing wheat, milk and wine and this helped them to create a self-sustaining Dutch Colony.
- In 1706, DEICO started taxing the Dutch who had been given land titles and exempted from paying taxes for three years. This forced the settlers to move further in land and they became pastoral farmers.
- By 1780, the Cape colony had three districts: GraafReinet, Swellendam and the Cape. The Colony had expanded and the settlements had extended through the Southern part of the Cape and eastwards to the Great Fish River or into the KhoiKhoi territory.
- By 1795 the Dutch Cape colony had over 1500 farmers (colonists) although they were experiencing economic problems due to the corruption of the company officials.
- In conclusion, by **1795** the Dutch Cape colony had expanded into the interior to include four districts of the Cape, Stellen Bosch, Swellendam and Graaf Reinet.
- How did the Dutch expand their colony up to the Fish River by 1795?
- **REASONS FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE DUTCH COLONY OR SETTLEMENT UP TO THE GREAT FISH RIVER BY 1795**
- The expansion of the Dutch colony North East and East wards was unplanned and it was done only by the Dutch settlers (farmers) without company help because of the following political, social and economic reasons;
- The presence of plenty of unoccupied land in the interior attracted the Dutch farmers to expand their colony up to the Great Fish River.
- The land at the Cape had lost its fertility. Therefore, the Dutch farmers needed fertile soils, hence expanding into the interior.
- The Dutch farmers were attracted by the good climate in the interior around the Fish River Valley which was suitable for human settlement and farming.

- The Dutch were semi nomadic or pastoralist in nature who moved into the interior searching for water and pasture for their animals.
- The absence of natural barriers like valleys and mountains in the interior also enabled the Dutch to expand.
- The Dutch wanted to get large pieces of land for grazing their animals since the interior had free land. Therefore, they decided to move away from the Cape.
- They also moved up to the Fish River because the population had increased i.e. by 1685 there were 150 white families but by 1700, there were around 1500 families and so they had to look for free areas behind the Cape.
- The Dutch were militarily superior or stronger as compared to the African communities like the Khoisan and this made them to expand East wards very easily.
- The inability of the DEICO to stop the Dutch farmers from moving away from the Cape colony led to the expansion of the Dutch colony.
- The failure of the company to provide essential services to the Dutch settlers like educational facilities, medical services and water among others forced the settlers to expand into the interior.
- The Dutch farmers had discovered that the Khoisan had been weakened by the outbreak of epidemic diseases like small pox, malaria and sleeping sickness, hence their expansion East wards.
- The Dutch settlers (farmers) wanted to be independent from the company that wanted to control their social, political and economic ways of life, yet it subjected them to unfair policies.
- The Dutch farmers were running away from the harsh company rules and regulations that affected their economic activities for example;
- The company imposed a high tax or rent on the land which made the Dutch farmers poor, hence forcing them to move East wards where they would get free land to promote their farming activities.
- The company never allowed the Dutch farmers to grow profitable crops like wheat, tobacco and rubber which brought in a lot of money but they were only allowed to grow fruits and vegetables, hence forcing them to expand Eastwards.
- The company restricted the marketing of the produce i.e. the Dutch settlers were supposed to sell their produce only to the DEICO at low prices which forced the farmers to move into the interior to look for market.

- The company also took $\frac{1}{10}$ (a tenth) of the income of the Dutch farmers as a fee for grazing rights over land that the company never bought. This forced many Dutch farmers to move Eastwards up to the Fish River, leading to expansion.
- The company derived the Dutch settlers' ownership of land. Land was a legal asset for the company and therefore it was not to be given to the Dutch settlers.
- The company also forced the Dutch farmers to join and fight in the militia whenever need arose yet the company never came to protect the settlers whenever they were attacked by the Africans. This forced the settlers more away from the Cape.
- The company had corrupt officials such as Willem Vander Stel who were dishonest and always misused the company funds which forced the Dutch farmers to move into the interior.
- Most of the Dutch farmers had become bankrupt and therefore they wanted to try their luck outside the Cape colony which seemed to give them no opportunity, hence the expansion eastwards up to the Great Fish River valley.
- **EFFECTS OF THE EXPANSION OF THE DUTCH COLONY**
- How did the expansion of the Dutch colony affect the Africans?
- As the colony expanded into the interior, the local people like the Khoisan and Bantu lost their land to the expanding Dutch.
- Wars broke out between the Dutch settlers and the Khoisan over land and cattle in the interior which led to the destruction of property.
- There was depopulation in the interior due to the loss of lives as a result of the wars between the Africans and the Dutch.
- The Africans lost their land to the expanding Dutch.
- Many people were made slaves by the Boers or Dutch farmers.
- The Africans lost their political independence and freedom to the Dutch.
- The Africans suffered from famine as their agricultural farms were destroyed during the process of the Dutch expansion.
- The KhoiKhoi lost their animals like cattle due to the Dutch raids.
- The Africans in such places became poor as a result of the destruction of their economic activities.
- The Africans were forced to offer labour on the Boer farms or plantations without or with little payment.
- Modern systems of farming were introduced and adopted by the Africans in the interior for example plantation farming.

- The Africans abandoned their culture and adopted the new Dutch (European) cultures like dressing, language, eating habits etc.
- The Dutch expansion displaced the Africans into infertile areas. For example, the Xhosa were pushed to the East of the Keiskama River.
- Loyalty shifted as many Africans became servants of the white man.
- The Africans were undermined and segregated by the Dutch. This laid a foundation for Apartheid in South Africa.
- The Africans started depending on the Dutch settlers after losing their land and cattle.
- Many Africans suffered from European diseases like Tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases.
- The Dutch set up schools and hospitals which accidentally benefited the Africans.
- The Africans acquired bad European habits like smoking and prostitution.
- The African women were raped by the Dutch hence giving birth to a new race of the coloureds.
- Some Africans in interior traded with the Dutch.
- **PROBLEMS FACED BY THE EARLY OR PIONEER DUTCH SETTLERS AT THE CAPE**
- The Dutch settlers faced a number of problems as they tried to establish, and after establishing their farms in and around the Cape which were political, social and economic in nature.
- They faced a problem of **home sickness** because they were far away from their home country (Holland)
- They lacked the geographical knowledge and information of the area and hence they failed to succeed in agriculture at first.
- They faced a problem of tropical diseases like dysentery, malaria, sleeping sickness and small pox at the Cape which attacked and killed many of them.
- They faced a problem of hostile tribes like the Bantu and Khoisan that always attacked them.
- They faced a problem of language barrier i.e. they could not speak African languages which made communication with the Africans difficult.
- They faced a problem of poor transport and communication network since there were no roads at the Cape.

- The Dutch settlers faced a problem of shortage of women to act as their wives and this starved them sexually thus leading to **homosexuality** and mixed marriages with Africans.
- They faced a problem of food shortage since the Khoikhoi had migrated from the Cape into the interior yet they were the ones to supply the Dutch with food and meat.
- The Dutch settlers lacked enough labour to carry out cultivation since they came in small numbers and yet the Africans were not ready to work for them.
- They faced a problem of poor housing (shelter) facilities because they had constructed wooden structures which normally leaked during the rainy season.
- They lacked enough funds to effectively administer the Cape colony. This was because the government of Holland did not support the settlers but left everything to the DEICO.
- They faced a problem of unfavourable weather conditions. For example, the Cape experienced serious drought and famine which killed many Dutch settlers.
- They faced a problem of lack of education for their children since there were no educational facilities at the Cape.
- They faced a problem of shortage of essential supplies like medicine, clothes etc. since their home was far away from South Africa.
- They also faced attacks from wild animals at the Cape.
- They faced a problem of being isolated by the local people at the Cape (Africans) who saw them as devils.
- They faced a problem of limited market for their produce since they sold only to the company at low prices which left them poor.
- Most of the Dutch settlers were former soldiers with no agriculture skills and experiences, hence failing in agriculture.
- The rate of corruption by the Dutch governors and other company officials at the Cape led to the misuse of the company's funds.
- The Dutch settlers also faced a problem of bad or harsh company rules. For example, the company charged the settlers high rents for using land.
- The Dutch settlers were also prohibited by the company from growing profitable crops such as wheat, cotton and tobacco thus leaving them poor.
- The Dutch settlers were also not allowed to transfer ownership of the land they settled on to their children thus making them squatters.

- **SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS FACED**

- Jan Van Riebeeck expanded the settlement by bringing more land under cultivation. This increased agricultural production and therefore solved the problem of food shortage.
- The problem of food shortage was also solved by encouraging the Dutch settlers to raid the Bantu farms.
- Economic restrictions were relaxed by the company. For example, the Dutch settlers were allowed to sell their produce to the passing ships or other companies other than the DEICO alone thus increasing their incomes.
- Slaves were imported from Java (Indonesia) and Madagascar to solve the problem of labour shortage.
- The Dutch settlers were also later encouraged to enslave the Africans who provided labour on their farms.
- The Dutch solved the problem of shortage of women by importing orphan girls from Holland who became their wives.
- Mixed marriages were also encouraged between the Dutch settlers and the Africans (Khoikhoi) to reduce the problem of lack of wives.
- The problem of education was solved by the Dutch reformed Church which set up elementary schools to provide education to the Dutch children.
- A large hospital was built in **1707** which provided medical care to the Dutch settlers at the Cape.
- A large water reservoir was built to provide water in the dry season so as to solve the problem of water shortage.
- The company gave free land to the Dutch settlers where they would cultivate to get enough food, thus improving their health.
- Corruption was solved by dismissing the corrupt governors like **Willem Van Der Stel** who was dismissed from the company services in **1707** because of his corrupt practices.
- Agricultural practices were strictly increased from 1658 to increase the farmer's incomes and revenue from farming.
- The problem of insecurity was solved by putting in place a local militia (army) whereby every man between 16 and 60 years had to join this army and by 1768, this force had 500 soldiers. This army protected the Dutch settlers against African attacks.
- The Dutch also built a large defense castle (wall) to protect the Dutch settlers against the African attacks.
- The company imported experienced French farmers known as **Huguenots** to teach better farming methods to the Dutch settlers at the Cape.

- **THE DUTCH ADMINISTRATION AT THE CAPE, 1652-1795**
- The Cape colony was under the rule of the DEICO which operated in South Africa and the Far East.
- The company was headed by a **Committee of 17 Directors** called the "**Council of the 17**". These had their headquarters in **Amsterdam** in Netherlands (Holland).
- The Directors were responsible for planning, monitoring and financing the company's businesses abroad. They also appointed and dismissed workers.
- Due to the distance between Holland and the Cape, the company directors appointed a Governor-General to be in charge of the Cape colony.
- The Governor-General therefore was the Head of the administration (Executive) and he had all the powers on behalf of the 17 directors of the DEICO who were based in Holland.
- There were several Governor-Generals who governed the Cape colony at different times for example Jan Van Riebeeck, Willem Van der Stel and Simon Van der Stel.
- Jan Van Riebeeck was the first Governor-General and he governed the Cape in the interests of the 17 directors of the DEICO.
- The DEICO set up four organs to assist the governor-General in the administration of the Cape colony. These were the Council of Policy, the Council of Justice, the Council of Security and the Dutch Reformed Church (DRC).
- The Council of policy was headed by the Governor-General. It was made up of 7 Senior company officials who assisted the Governor-General in administration and they were responsible for the well-being of all people in the colony i.e. from the lowest or slaves up to the wealthiest settlers
- The Council of policy was also responsible for making laws for the Dutch settlers. It therefore acted as the **Legislative** body or parliament of the colony.
- The Dutch settlers were however not represented in this Legislative body and therefore the DEICO officials neglected the demands and interests of the settlers.
- Below the Council of policy was the **Council of Justice**. This Council acted as the main court of appeal and it controlled other courts and maintained law and order in the colony. It was therefore responsible for the administration of justice in the Cape colony.

- The Council of Justice had powers to approve all forms of punishment at the Cape.
- It sat in Cape Town and the members were appointed by the Council of policy and therefore they were answerable to it.
- Each district however, had a magistrate court which was responsible for settling minor cases at the district level.
- The minor courts however, had untrained officials who used out-dated laws that only served the interests of the company.
- The magistrates were not independent and were ignorant about the legal procedures and sometimes never knew the laws that were broken.
- There were also **matrimonial courts** which were responsible for advising the young Dutch couples intending to get married.
- The Council of justice had to defend the interests of the company at all costs.
- There was also the **Council of Security of defence** or militia which was responsible for defending the Cape from foreign attacks especially from the Bantu.
- Its head was appointed by the Council of policy to ensure the security of the Cape colony. The Council of Defence however concentrated on the Coast and therefore it failed to defend the interior settlers against the Bantu which resulted into 1795 revolt at GraafReinet.
- The Dutch settlers also formed special local defence units called **Boer commando units** or **Burgher militia** to protect themselves from the African attacks.
- The fourth organ was the **Dutch Reformed Church (DRC)**. This church controlled the cultural and political life of the Dutch settlers at the Cape and therefore all the Dutch settlers were supposed to be members of this Church.
- The Dutch Reformed Church performed ceremonies like baptism and confirmation of the Dutch settlers which was usually done in the districts of Swellendam and GraafReinet.
- Explain how the DEICO administered the Cape up to 1795.
- How was the Dutch colony at the Cape organized by 1795?
- The Dutch reformed church was discriminative in its activities and it supported the claim that the Africans were inferior to the whites.
- The Dutch reformed church provided education to the Dutch settlers mainly reading, writing and arithmetic.

- It acted as a cultural bond for the Dutch settlers i.e. it united all the Dutch settlers through organizing regular pilgrimages or visits to their holy places in Swellen dam.
- The Africans were left at the bottom of the society and their responsibility was only to provide slave labour to the Dutch settlers and the company administrators.
- In conclusion, by 1672 the company has employed 180 people and by 1794 they were 2093 and it was the duty of the DEICO to appoint and disappoint at will.
- (Leave a page for a table)
- **ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DUTCH EAST INDIA COMPANY (DEICO) AT THE CAPE BY 1795**
- The DEICO registered a number of achievements during its administration of the Cape colony which included the following;
- The company obtained land forcefully from the Africans and gave it to the Dutch settlers which increased food production at the Cape.
- The company was able to provide security to the Dutch settlers at the Cape through the Council of Defence or Security.
- The DEICO introduced the Dutch Rix Dollar and this boosted trade at the Cape between the company and the Dutch settlers.
- The company also encouraged the Dutch Reformed Church to spread religion and culture at the Cape especially among the Dutch settlers.
- The company established elementary schools at the Cape that enabled the children of the Dutch settlers to acquire education and this reduced the level of illiteracy and ignorance among the Dutch settlers.
- The company also established a hospital at the Cape which improved on the health of the Dutch settlers since they were able to receive medical services.
- The company reduced the problem of homosexuality through the importation of orphan girls from Netherlands who became wives of the Dutch settlers at the Cape.
- The DEICO also established a large water reservoir to store water for use during the dry season.
- The company introduced Christianity at the Cape through the Dutch Reformed Church although it was based on discriminative principles which undermined the African race as inferior.

- The company policies also led to the expansion of the Dutch colony into four districts which included Stellen Bosch, Swellendan, Cape Town and GraafReinet.
- It accidentally encouraged the spread of Islam through the importation of Moslem slaves from Java into the Cape in order to solve the problem of labour.
- The company successfully controlled trade at the Cape for over 100 years from other European competitors.
- The company was able to solve the labour problems of the Dutch farmers by encouraging the use of African slaves and importation of slaves from Madagascar and Java.
- It led to the birth of a new coloured race when it encouraged intermarriages with the Africans.
- The transformed the Cape from a mere calling station to a modern town with better recreational facilities.
- The company was able to dismiss the corrupt government officials line Governor Willem Adrian Van der Stel and his property was confiscated.
- The activities of the DEICO later attracted other Europeans like the French, British etc who also wanted to control the prosperous trade at the Cape.
- The company managed to rule the Cape for a long time i.e. for about 142 years without interference from other European powers.
- **What were the achievements of the DEICO by 1795?**
- **THE DECLINE OF THE DUTCH EAST INDIA COMPANY RULE AT THE CAPE BY 1795**
- Why did the DEICO collapse by 1795?
- In 1795, the DEICO administration declined and the Dutch lost the Cape colony to the British due to the following reasons;
- Many of the company officials were incompetent or unqualified and therefore lacked the managerial skills to run the company activities.
- The stiff competition and rivalry from the French and British trading companies forced the company out of business and this led to its collapse.
- The company officials diverted a lot of money from trade to administration and this destroyed the company businesses on which the company depended very much.
- The prolonged wars in Europe in the 18th century especially between France and other European powers including Holland

were very expensive to the Dutch and therefore the Dutch government could no longer finance the activities of the company.

- The transfer of the European commercial centre from Amsterdam in Holland to London in Britain led to a fall in the trade profits of the DEICO, which led to its collapse.
- The company involved itself in acquiring colonies which proved very expensive for the company as it drained a lot of the company financial resources.
- The high rate of corruption among the DEICO officials created losses which eventually led to its collapse as a lot of funds were misused.
- The wars with the Africans also drained the company's financial resources and also took a lot of time which led to the collapse of the company.
- The company ran bankrupt because it was heavily indebted to the tune of ten million United States Dollars which weakened the company rule at the cape, leading to its collapse.
- The company's failure to protect the settlers against the hostile African communities like the Xhosa led to its decline because these people hated the company so much.
- The company officials at the Cape were also too harsh towards the settlers which forced them to move into the interior.
- The settlers were also not represented in the company administration and therefore they struggled to manage their own affairs which led to the decline of the company.
- The company put many restrictions on the settlers trading activities. For example, they were not allowed to sell their products to other companies apart from the DEICO. This left the settlers annoyed and uncooperative leading to the decline of the company.
- The Napoleonic Wars or French Wars in Europe made the Cape insecure for trade hence forcing Britain to take it over in 1795.
- The Cape colony had by 1795 become too big to be effectively managed by the weak and corrupt company officials.
- The low salaries paid to the company officials left them with no morale to carry out the company activities, hence leading to the collapse of company rule.
- The technological developments which took place in Britain enabled her to manufacture faster ships than those of the DEICO, hence driving her out of business which led to its collapse.
- The outbreak of internal revolts organized by the settlers who were not happy with the company administration like those in

Swellendam and GraafReinet in 1795 weakened the company leading to its collapse.

- The French invasion of Holland in 1793 forced King William IV of Holland to flee to exile in London and this weakened the company, leading to its decline.
- The request by made by King William IV of Holland to the British government to take over the Cape colony because of its financial problems led to the decline of the company.
- The Dutch Defence Council was militarily weak to stop the British invasion in 1795, hence leading to the collapse of the DEICO.

- **THE DUTCH GOVERNORS OF THE CAPE AND THEIR REFORMS**

- **JAN VAN RIEBEECK**

- **Describe the achievements of Jan Van Riebeeck at the Cape**
- **Why is Jan Van Riebeeck remembered in the history of South Africa?**
- **Explain the role played by Jan Van Riebeeck in the establishment of the Dutch colony at the Cape.**
- Jan Van Riebeeck, the founder of the Cape colony was born on 21st April 1619 in **Culemborg** in Holland. He was a son of **Anthanius Van Riebeeck**.
- He was a physician (surgeon) by profession.
- During his youth, he joined the Dutch East India Company and worked for a long time as a company surgeon in Formosa.
- He was a very hardworking and enterprising man.
- He played an important role in the establishment of the Dutch settlement at the Cape and its expansion as explained below;
- He led a group of about 90-130 people (settlers) to the Cape sent by the DEICO to establish a Dutch settlement at the Cape. He arrived at the Cape on 6th April 1652 with three ships.
- He was instructed by the DEICO to start a home or calling station for the Dutch settlers at the Cape.
- Riebeeck was the first commandant of the first calling centre and then later the Dutch colony.
- At the Cape, he constructed temporary houses to cater for the accommodation of the Dutch settlers.
- He set up a food production centre at the Cape for the Dutch and he grew vegetables, fruits and wheat to feed the Dutch settlers.

- He imported slaves for the colonists (settlers) from Java, West Africa and Madagascar on the Dutch farms. This solved shortage of labour.
- He encouraged the use of African slaves to provide labour on the settler's farms and homes.
- He built a water reservoir which was large enough to store water for use during the dry season.
- He convinced and encouraged the KhoiKhoi to trade with the Dutch so as to get cattle and fresh meat.
- He later encouraged the raiding of the KhoiKhoi for cattle when they became hostile to the Dutch settlers.
- He encouraged a culture of keeping cattle for domestic slaughter among the Dutch settlers.
- He granted tax holidays i.e. he exempted or excused the first Dutch farmers from paying taxes which helped them to carry out their farming activities smoothly.
- He encouraged a number of expeditions i.e. he sent out scouts so as to boost the Dutch population at the Cape.
- He encouraged intermarriages with the KhoiKhoi so as to solve the problem of homosexuality.
- He founded a modern city of the Cape Town as the capital of the new Cape colony.
- He established a military centre to defend the colony from the hostile Africans.
- He established administrative organs or structures i.e. he streamlined the company administration at the Cape by establishing councils like the council of policy, council of justice, council of defence (security) and the Dutch Reformed Church.
- He convinced the employees of the company to accept and start the process of colonizing South Africa. This resulted into the acquisition of more land by the company which led to the expansion of the settlement.
- He also intervened in the local conflicts between the KhoiKhoi and the Bantu which promoted peace between the two groups.
- He boosted the defence of the Cape colony by forcing many colonists (settlers) to join the Council of Defence.
- He encouraged more settlers to enter South Africa. For example, by 1662 the settlers had increased in number to 250 of which 130 were company servants and the rest were colonists.

- In May 1662, Jan Van Riebeeck left South Africa for Holland and he was succeeded by Wagenaar Zacharias as the commandant of the Cape colony.
- He later died in January **1677** in Jakarta - Indonesia where he was buried.
- **THE FAILURES OF JAN VAN RIEBEECK**
- He encouraged intermarriages between the Dutch and the KhoiKhoi which destroyed their culture.
- He failed to expand the colony at a desirable pace.
- He stopped the Dutch farmers from growing profitable crops like tobacco and restricted them to growing only vegetables and fruits.
- He encouraged enslavement of the Africans in order to provide labour for the Dutch farmers which were against their rights.
- He failed to solve the problems of the Dutch farmers at the Cape.
- He forced the Dutch farmers to give away 20% of their cattle to the company which was an indication of exploitation of the farmers.
- He failed to provide enough security to the Dutch farmers who were frequently attacked by the Africans.
- He kept the prices of the farmers' produce very low which discouraged the Dutch farmers from undertaking large scale commercial farming.
- He forced the Dutch settlers to serve in the company's army so as to defend the company against external threats or attacks.
- **SIMON VANDERSTEL**
- **Describe the achievements of Simon Van der Stel at the Cape between 1679 and 1699.**
- He was the commandant of the Cape colony or settlement between 1679 and 1699 after the rule of Jan Van Riebeeck.
- By the time he took over the Cape colony, it had expanded to include the districts of the Cape and Stellen Bosch.
- Simon Vander Stel tried very much to solve the colony's economic and social problems as noted below;
- He made it easy for the Dutch immigrants to enter the Cape colony so as to increase the number of the Dutch farmers.
- He encouraged the development of the Cape from a mere calling station into a colony.
- He imported orphan girls and prostitutes from Holland for the male Dutch settlers to marry as a reward for their services to the company.

- He gave free land to the Dutch settlers and even encouraged many company officials to resign and become Dutch farmers so as to increase the number of the settlers at the Cape.
- He encouraged the development of agriculture during his term of office by giving the necessary assistance to the Dutch farmers.
- He welcomed 200 French professional progressive farmers (Huguenots) at the Cape who equipped the Dutch farmers with new farming methods. This resulted into increased agricultural production at the Cape.
- Due to his efforts, the population of the Dutch farmers steadily increased at the Cape and this led to the expansion of the Dutch settlement into the interior.
- In 1689, he established a model school in the district of Stellen Bosch.
- In 1669, he retired and he was succeeded by his son Willem Adrian Vander Stel.
- **WEAKNESSES OF SIMON VANDER STEL**
- He did nothing when the food prices went down due to the increased agricultural output following the advice given by the French farmers. This made the farmers to suffer.
- He was accused of awarding trading licenses to only his friends and close associates, ignoring other traders at the Cape.
- He maintained the company restrictions on the consumption of bread, wine, fresh meat by the Dutch settlers by keeping the prices of these items high.
- He restricted the Dutch farmers from growing profitable crops and only limited them to growing vegetables and fruits which were not profitable.
- Many Africans or Black people were enslaved.
- He influenced the appointment of his son Willem Adrian Vander Stel as the Governor of the Cape from 1699 – 1707 yet his son was a very corrupt and bad administrator.
- **WILLIEM ADRIAN VANDER STEL, 1699 -1707**
- Why is Willem Adrian Vander Stel remembered in the history of South Africa?
- Willem Adrian Vander Stel was the third governor of the Cape colony.
- He took over from his father Simon Vander Stel in 1669 and ruled up to 1707
- He registered many weaknesses in his administration of the Cape colony than any other Governor as explained below;

- He was a shameless leader whose interest was to acquire wealth as quickly as possible during his term of office as Governor of the Cape colony.
- He violated the company's rules by acquiring large estates of land using his position as Governor of the Cape colony.
- He diverted or changed the company's workers towards developing his own estates instead of doing the company's work and this resulted into the collapse of the company.
- He used or embezzled most of the company's funds for his personal gains and therefore failed to pay the company workers better wages.
- During his reign, many company workers relaxed in their duties, leading to the weakness of the company.
- At his home, he received visitors who brought gifts to him like gold, slaves, copper etc.
- When the prices of the agricultural produce fell he was bribed to favour some people by awarding them monopoly over the supply of meat and wine. This annoyed other farmers which eventually led to the collapse of the company.
- He forced the farmers to give him the best produce of the colony.
- He broke all the existing company laws and controlled $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total wine stocks at the Cape yet the company officials were not allowed to do so.
- By 1705, he had become very unpopular to the extent that the colonists demanded that he should step down which was done in 1707.
- By 1707, Willem Adrian Vander Stel had become so corrupt that him and his close relatives and friends owned a third of the company's land in South Africa.
- Willem and all his corrupt officials were dismissed and all his estates were taken by the government hence he worked for nothing.
- **HIS ACHIEVEMENTS:**
- He built a large hospital at the Cape and this greatly reduced the death rate among the Dutch settlers.
- The defence castle or wall was completed which increased the defence and security of the colony.
- A large water reservoir was completed to be used by the colonists during the day season.

He encouraged the expansion of the Dutch Reformed Church which established elementary schools throughout the Cape colony and this reduced on illiteracy