Student Learning Resources: The Fight for Human Rights

Martti Ahtisaari

Watch the video on Nobel Prize-awarded peace negotiator Martti Ahtisaari and then answer the questions.

1. Who is Martti Ahtisaari?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

2. What was it like in Namibia when Ahtisaari arrived there in 1989?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

3. What did the United Nations want to achieve by sending Ahtisaari there? What did he do to achieve that goal?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

4. What human rights do you see as connected to Martti Ahtisaari’s work and the situation in Namibia?

Here’s an idea:
Start by looking at the diagram on the next page and decide what kind of rights he was fighting for. Then use Amnesty’s summary version of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights’ to identify one or more specific articles.

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Human Rights

Use this image to answer question number 4.

Additional resources – Namibia

5. What does the political situation in Namibia look like today, 30 years later? And what is the condition of human rights in the country? Search for information on the Internet. Use evidence from at least two sources in presenting your answer. Some recommended sources of information:

- https://www.britannica.com/place/Namibia/The-road-to-Namibia#ref44020
- https://freedomhouse.org/country/namibia/freedom-world/2019

6. **Freedom House** is an organisation that works to increase freedom and democracy all over the world. Take a look at their map of the world*. Here they have given countries different scores based on how many freedoms and rights their citizens have. Namibia is considered to be a country of great freedom, but it scores lower than Ghana and Mongolia, for example. What do you think is needed for Namibia to score higher?

*https://freedomhouse.org/explore-the-map?type=fiw&year=2020