

OUTLINE OF THE STRUCTURE AND CONTENTS OF THE CHAPTERS

CHAPTER 1: This chapter deals mainly with the aim, rationale, literature review and methodology. The overall purpose of this chapter is to raise some theoretical and to the lesser extent, practical issues that seem to arise on elections and the PR electoral system. The best way of situating this debate is to take advantage of earlier work that locates the two case studies of Angola and Mozambique in the wider dimension of democratisation in Africa, i.e. the transition from authoritarian to liberal democratic regimes.

CHAPTER 2: This chapter provides the findings of this comparative study that will help us to understand that Angola and Mozambique in their quest for democracy, the process of instituting any form of democratic change and the success of any electoral process depend on contextual variables. Hence any process of democratisation should not be restricted to a mere process of conducting elections but informed with historical and contextual realities of a given country. All these considerations have a profound rethinking of the theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of the democratic processes in Africa.

This chapter also outlines the main similarities and differences between the two case studies, in particular the factors influencing the outcomes of the first ever multiparty elections held in Angola and Mozambique under the United Nations international supervision, ensuring the freeness and fairness of the elections. The experiences of these two countries provide us with lessons that the electoral process with the electoral system based on the principles of Proportional Representation requires that the letter and the

spirit of free and fair elections are adhered to by all parties to ensure the legitimacy of the outcome of such elections. In addition, this chapter expects to establish just how close the two electoral processes in Angola and Mozambique were, in terms of electoral outcomes, as both peace accords and the mode of their implementation were adequately satisfactory. The main lesson drawn is that the ultimate safeguard of integrity of electoral outcomes is in the hands of the parties who must take responsibility for their actions. This means that an electoral process can only produce a democratic system of government if parties and voters, but mainly the parties, share the ideological values of democracy.

CHAPTER 3: This chapter explores the main facets of democratic transition. Focusing on the National-list **PR** electoral system, some necessary pre-conditions are identified to make the democratic transition possible and successful. This partly explains why there was a reversibility of the political reform in Angola and a success in Mozambique. In other words, the democratic transition was conditioned by factors such as the role of oppositional political activity and the role of civil society. By implication this means that for democracy to hold, it is necessary to have an articulation of opposition parties and other autonomous social groups in the wide realm of political life.

CHAPTER 4: This chapter will examine the contribution to and importance of elections in Angola and Mozambique within the democratic transition and hopes to create a broader understanding of the electoral processes. The purpose is therefore to identify the underlying factors contributing to the successful or fragile transition in those two countries and as a consequence to postulate future developments in the electoral processes. The concept of consolidation of democracy extends beyond periodically held

elections. Instead it is an articulation of the elections outcomes and institutionalising democratic practices of accountability between them.

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