

Tanzania

Rice

Tanzania, which gained its independence from Germany in 1961, was originally called the Union of Tanganyika. Julius Nyerere, the leader of the Tanganyika African National Union (TANU) was elected as its first Prime Minister. During the initial independence period, there were tensions in Zanzibar, a coastal area which was maintained by the British, but controlled by the Omani Sultanate. After a bloody uprising in Zanzibar in January 1964, Zanzibar and Tanganyika joined together to form the United Republic of Tanzania. TANU and Zanzibar's leading political party, the Afro-Shirazi Party (ASP), operated in an unofficial partnership between 1964 and 1977. In 1977, Nyerere officially merged the two parties, creating the Revolutionary Party (CCM).

Nyerere ruled from 1961 to 1985, and we do not code SOLS changes during the rule of a single leader. However, Geddes begins coding Tanzania as a single party state in 1964. In 1977, Nyerere officially merges two parties (the TANU and the ASP) and changes his party's name to CCM. It should be noted that Tanzania is not listed as being democratic in the 1961-1964 period, though Geddes does not classify it as any type of autocratic regime. From 1964 until the present day, Tanzania is classified as a single-party state under the CCM. From 1977 until 1991, CCM is only a legal party in Tanzania. Nyerere remained President until he stepped down from the office in 1985. He was replaced by Ali Hassan Mwinyi. There is no SOLS change. In 1984, a new constitution was passed which limited the President to two five-year terms. Mwinyi therefore stepped down after his terms were completed, in 1995. Benjamin Mkapa, also a member of CCM, won the presidential elections of that year. There is no SOLS change. Similarly, in 2005, Mkapa was no longer eligible to run for reelection. Jakaya Kikwete, again a member of CCM, was elected through elections that were deemed free and fair. This is not a SOLS change. Kikwete remains in office in the present day.

References

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