

Commonwealth suspensions

Pakistan has been suspended from the Commonwealth for the second time in eight years, citing President Pervez Musharraf's failure to lift a state of emergency as a violation of the group's fundamental political values.

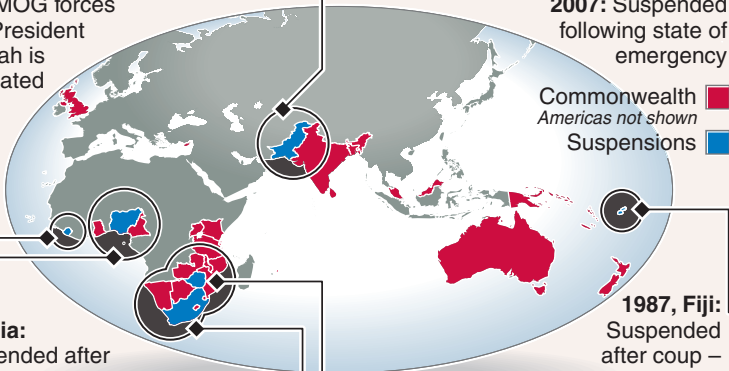
The 53-nation Commonwealth represents nearly two billion citizens

1997, Sierra Leone: Suspended after military junta replaces President **Ahmad Tejan Kabbah**. Readmitted 1998 after junta is ousted by Nigeria-led ECOMOG forces and President Kabbah is reinstated

1972, Pakistan: Walks out in protest at Commonwealth recognition of East Pakistan as Bangladesh – rejoins 1989.

1999: Suspended after bloodless coup by **Gen. Musharraf** – readmitted 2004

2007: Suspended following state of emergency



1995, Nigeria: Suspended after executions of nine minority rights activists, including writer **Ken Saro-Wiwa**. Readmitted in May 1999

1961, South Africa: Newly-created Republic quits Commonwealth before it is expelled over its apartheid policies – readmitted 1994 following first all-race election

1987, Fiji: Suspended after coup – readmitted 1997 after adoption of new constitution.

2006-present: Suspended after military chief **Frank Bainimarama** seizes power in bloodless coup

2002, Zimbabwe: Suspended for one year following **Robert Mugabe's** controversial victory in flawed elections.

2003: Mugabe quits Commonwealth