***NAME; NNENNA GLORY ENUNWA***

***COLLEGE; SMS***

***DEPARTMENT; IRD***

 ***The constitution of Nigeria is the supreme law of the land which all acts of individuals must contravene. The constitution is the fundamental and organic law of a nation or state that establishes the institutions and apparatus of government, defines the scope of governmental sovereign powers, and guarantees individual civil rights and civil liberties.***

***The making of the the Nigerian constitution have been under two political dispensations, the first being the pre-independent constitution which were the, 1914, 1922, 1946, 1951, and 1954.***

***And the second being the post independent constitutions being the, 1963, 1979, 1993 constitutions.***

***Federalism became an inevitable choice for Nigerians at the terminal period of colonial rule as a result of Nigeria’s diversity. it was adopted as a mechanism for managing conflicts that resulted from interactions among diverse groups in the country. Over the years, five constitutions were promulgated by military and civilian administrators. This resulted in significant changes in the federal structure, institutions and processes of Nigeria.***

***With the return to civilian rule in 1999, there have been complaints about the nature of the federal arrangement as it attributed to constitutional flaws or inadequacies.***

***The Nigerian constitution, the fact that it was enacted by the military government, and not by a democratic one is an issue, as it was created by decrees.***

***There are laws in certain sections of the constitution which are dened by another section in the same constitution. The constitution is filled with laws that contradict other laws in the same constitution.***

***The constitution, is also rigid and cannot be easily amende, this poses a serious problem in the constitution.***

***The constitution is not clear on the functions and creation of the local governments. This makes local governments to be at the mercy of other governments. Then, this issue of the creation of more local governments has been a major source of conflict between states and federal governments. A classical example was Lagos versus Federal Government during Obasanjo’s administration.***

***The exclusive list is too bogus. It makes the federal government to be too dominant, while the states and local governments become unnecessarily dependent on the centre.***

***The Powers of the president are too much. This makes some presidents to abuse office and disregard the powers of the other organs.***

***The recognition of the sharia court contravenes the description of the country as being secular. It’s like having two contradictory constitutions.***

***The 1999 constitution was made by the military. This itself means that it was unconstitutionally made. The military usually comes to power in utter disregard for the will of the people. They simply take power.***

***The constitution was drafted without the consultation of the people.***

***The constitution fails to define the roles of the traditional rulers in government.***

***The constitution is not a product of any constitutional conference. It was hurriedly prepared by the outgoing military government of general Abdulsalam Abubakar. Thus, many Nigerians continue to criticize it and see it more as a military constitution than the civilian constitution.***

**References**

***Gboyega, A.(1987). Political values and local government in Nigeria. Lagos : Malthouse press.pp. 42-48.***

***Aliyuz, A. Y. and Kohen, P.H.(1982). Local autonomy and inter-governmental relations in Nigeria . Zaria: ABU Press. P.36.***