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**Question:**

**How can a Lebanese retain or lose his or her newly acquired Nigerian citizenship?**

**2) Social Contract Theory explains the evolution of states, what other theories explain the same and their strengths**

**Answer**

**Question 1**

**HOW CAN A LEBANESE RETAIN OR LOOSE HIS NEARLY ACQUIRED NIGERIAN CITIZENSHIP?**

**LEBANON CITIZENSHIP**

**Who is a Lebanese?**

A Lebanese is someone who is a citizen of Lebanon and he or she is a bonafined member of that country. It can be obtained by birth or naturalization. Lebanese nationality is transmitted by paternity. Therefore, a Lebanese man who` holds Lebanese citizenship can automatically confer citizenship to his children and foreign wife (only if entered in the Civil Acts Register in the Republic of Lebanon). Under the law, descendants of Lebanese emigrant can only receive citizenship from their father and women cannot pass on the citizenship to their children or foreign spouses.

**HOW TO OBTAIN A LEBANESE CITIZENSHIP?**

**Jus Sanguinis**

A child born to a Lebanese father or whose paternity has been declared acquires Lebanese citizenship by descent, irrespective of the nationality of the mother, and irrespective of her marital status. A child whose Lebanese citizenship depends on paternal links loses citizenship when those are caught.

**By marriage**

A foreign woman who marries a Lebanese man apply for Lebanese citizenship after having been married for at least one year and their married for at least one year and their marriage has been entered in the Civil Acts Register in the Republic of Lebanon. No language test is required, but the wife must show integration into the Lebanese way of life, compliance with the Lebanese rule of law and that she poses no danger to Lebanon’s internal or external security. A Non – Lebanese husband cannot acquire Lebanese citizenship by marriage to a Lebanese woman.

**WAYS OF LOSING OR RETAINING A LEBANESE CITIZENSHIP**

**Loss due to adoption**

A Lebanese child adopted by foreign parents is considered to have lost Lebanese citizenship.

**Annulled adoptions**

Where a former Lebanese citizen lost citizenship due to adoption by foreign parents and that adoption is later annulled, the Lebanese citizenship is considered to never be lost.

**Loss due to birth abroad**

A Lebanese citizen born abroad to a Lebanese father and holding at least one other nationality loses the Lebanese citizenship at age 25.

* She/he has never been announced to the Lebanese authorities
* She/he has never written to the Lebanese authorities expressing is/her desire to retain Lebanese citizenship.
* She/he has ever sought to procure Lebanese identity documents for him/her, i.e. a passport or identity card.
* Equally, the child of a person who thus loses Lebanese nationality equally loses Lebanese nationality.
* Exceptionally, a person who has been prevented, against their will, from taking the necessary actions to retain Lebanese citizenship may undertake required actions within a delay of one year following the cessation of such.

**NIGERIAN CITIZENSHIP**

Ways by which Nigerian citizenship can be acquired

By Birth

Every person born in Nigeria after the date of independence (October 1, 1960), either of whose parents or any of whose grandparents belongs or belonged to a community indigenous to Nigeria;

Provided that a person shall not become a citizen of Nigeria by virtue of this section if neither of his parents nor any sof his grandparents was born in Nigeria.

Every person born outside Nigeria either of whose parents is a citizen of Nigeria. In this section, ‘the date of independence’ means the 1stday of October 1960

By Registration

26(1) of the 1999 constitution states that a person to whom the provisions of this section apply may be registered as a citizen of Nigeria, if the President is satisfied that

* He is a person of good character; two people to testify to that which one should a Religious minister
* He has shown a clear intention of his desire to be domiciled in Nigeria
* He has taken the Oath of Allegiance prescribed in the Seventh Schedule of this constitution

The provision of this section shall apply to

1. Any woman who is or has been married to a citizen of Nigeria or every person of full age and capacity born outside Nigeria any of whose grandparents is a citizen of Nigeria.

**By Naturalization**

Subject to the provisions of section 28 of this constitution, any person who is qualified in accordance with the provisions of this section may apply to the president for the same of a certificate of naturalization.

* No person shall be qualified to apply for the grant of a certificate or naturalization, unless he satisfies the president that
* Person is of full age 17.
* He or she has resided on Nigeria for at least 15years.
* He or she is of good character
* If he or she plans to remain in Nigeria, is familiar with Nigerian language and customs.
* If he or she has viable means of support

An individual may be denied citizenship Nigeria he defiles either of the rules that guides citizenship in Nigeria. Like the question asked, a Lebanese may be withdrawn of his citizenship if;

* The president may deprive a person, other than a person who is a citizen of Nigeria by birth or by registration, of his citizenship, if he is from the records of proceedings of a court of law or regulations made by him, that-
1. The person has shown himself by act or speech to be disloyal towards the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
2. The person has, during any war in which Nigeria was engaged, unlawfully traded with the enemy or been engaged in or associated with any business that was in the opinion of the president carried on in such a manner as to assist the enemy to Nigeria in the war, or unlawfully communicated with such enemy to the detriment of or with intent to cause damaged to the interest of Nigeria. S.30(2)(b) of the 199 constitution as amended.

This above actions the things that can make a Lebanese lose its dual citizenship in Nigeria.

 **Question 2**

**SOCIAL CONTRACT THEORY EXPLAINS THE EVOLUTION OF STAATES, WHAT OTHER THEORIES EXPLAINS THE SAME, AND THEIR STRENGTHS**

**Answer**

The social contract theory states that the creation of the people living in a state of nature which was a lawless and order-less system. The slate of nature was controlled by unwritten laws prescribed not be men but by nature. There are other theories that also led to the formulation of different theories of states and they have their strengths and weaknesses.

**Evolutionary theory**

The government originates from a family or clan-bound structure, which can explain the formation of the world’s first political structures. The earliest and very loosely formed governments were the result of a shift from hunter gather societies to more settled agricultural societies. As families joined to form clans and clans joined to form villages, the need for leaders and a central organizational structure Developed. These leaders helped determine how to address still unfamiliar issues, such as water rights for crop irrigation and the distribution of other resources. They also provided an increased sense of safety and security for the society. In many early societies, these first states developed monarchies, with rule based on membership in a ruling family. In modern times, some governments continue to be led by a succession of members from the same family. For example, in the monarchy of Saudi Arabia, the king has been descended from the Saudi Arabia family since 1744.

**Force Theory**

This idea that government originates from taking control of the state by force and is often found in a **dictatorship**—a type of government characterized by one-person or one-party authoritarian rule. Historically, this has been achieved in some cases through forcible invasion or occupation when a more dominant people or state takes control of the political system of less powerful people or state takes control of the political system of a less powerful people or state, imposing its governmental system on that group.

 New government can also be formed by force during revolutions or coups within a country. A coup is the overthrow of an established government, and the resulting leader or dictator is most often a military figure. An example of the force theory occurred in Cuba in 1959, when revolutionary Fidel Castro and a small force of guerrilla soldiers defeated the national army and took control of the government. In some cases, governments created by force take on some characteristics of a monarchy, with government power handed down within the dictator’s family. Examples are the Assad regime in Syria and the Kim regime in North Korea.

**Divine Right Theory**

The government originates with power vested in an individual by God or gods. Generally, monarchs lead governments of this type of governments of this type. His theory was followed in ancient times, including by the ancient Egyptians and Maya. The idea of divine right experienced a resurgence in western Europe in the 16th to the 18th centuries, when King James I of England, several French monarchs, and other rules asserted that their authority came directly from God and thus could not be challenged. Russian czars, such as Peter the Great, believed their power to gain territory, wage war, and impose taxation on their subjects.

**Social Contract Theory**

The government was the result of centuries of frustration with the unchecked power of monarchs. Under this theory, government is a kind of contract in which those in power have responsibility towards those they govern and the governed respect the power of the governing individuals. There are various versions of the social contract theory, ranging from an emphasis on maintaining a peaceful social order to a focus on using individual free will to determine what is est for the **public good,** or that which benefits all people in a society.

 Although the social contract theory has numerous variations, at its core is the idea that government is an agreement between those who govern and those who are governed. The founders of the United States drew heavily on social contract theory in the construction of both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S Constitution. In doing so, they formed a democracy, which literally means ‘rule by the people’

**NB**

The theory which explains and is now accepted as a convincing origin of the state, is the Historical or **Evolutionary** theory. It explains **the state** is the product of growth, a slow and steady **evolution** extending over a long period of time and ultimately shaping itself into the complex structure of a modern **state.**

**Reference**

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