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LAW

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POLITICAL SCIENCE

How the Lebanese can lose or retain a newly acquired Nigerian citizenship

I have been asked how the Lebanese can lose or retain a newly acquired Nigerian citizenship and to go over this I will talk about how anyone which as well applies to a Lebanese can acquire citizenship into Nigeria

I will like to start by defining citizenship

Citizenship is the status of a person as recognized under the constitution of a country or a sovereign state as being a legal member of such country or state. It gives the person holding the citizenship access to all the benefits and rights stated the in the constitution of such country. Every country has its own law governing citizenship and other aspects of their nationality. It is known as Nationality Law. Based on the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, becoming a citizen of Nigeria is governed by the Nigerian Nationality Law. This law governs everything relating to citizenship and every other category of Nigerian nationality. There are four types of citizenship in Nigeria:

Citizenship by birth

Citizenship by Descent Citizenship by Registration

Citizenship by Naturalization

<u>**Citizenship by birth</u>**: when we talk about citizenship by birth or as written birthright citizenship we first have to talk about where the concept came from and how it developed, and then talk about how it came to be and how it settled in Nigeria.</u>

Birthright citizenship, also referred to as jus soli which is Latin to mean "right of the soil," is the right of citizenship that one acquires for being born in a particular country regardless of the nationality of their parents. This rule of acquiring citizenship is common in the Americas as compared to the other parts of the world. A study shows that out of the 194 countries that make up the world, only 30 countries grant citizenship by unrestricted jus soli. Almost all European, African, Asian, and Oceanic countries grant their citizenship through the principle of jus sanguine, meaning "right of blood," whereby children inherit citizenship through their parents but not their birthplace. The following countries allow the principle of jus soli.

But when we talk about birth right citizenship in Nigeria it is noted that 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 of his grandparents was born in Nigeria.

<u>**Citizenship by Descent</u>**: Citizenship by descent is a form of birthright citizenship. It means that if you have ancestors (such as parents, grandparents, or even great-grandparents) from a country, you may be eligible to become a citizen of that country yourself. This is the easiest form of citizenship to explain as the explanation is on the name itself.</u>

<u>**Citizenship by registration:**</u> A person born in a foreign country can acquire citizenship of another country provided a grandparent is a citizen of that country he's desirous of obtaining citizenship of. Also, citizenship by registration can also be conferred through marriage.. (1) Subject to the provisions of section 28 of this Constitution, a person to whom the provisions of this section apply may be registered as a citizen of Nigeria, if the President is satisfied that

(a) He is a person of good character; two people to testify to that which one should a Religious minister...

(b) He has shown a clear intention of his desire to be domiciled in Nigeria; and

(c) He has taken the Oath of Allegiance prescribed in the Seventh Schedule to this Constitution.

(2) The provisions of this section shall apply to-

(a) 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.

<u>**Citizenship by Naturalization:**</u> A person can obtain citizenship by naturalization if he/she meets the law requirements for such in a country. (1) 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.

(2) No person shall be qualified to apply for the grant of a certificate or naturalization, unless he satisfies the President that -

* (a) He is a person of full age and capacity;

* (b) He is a person of good character;

* (c) He has shown a clear intention of his desire to be domiciled in Nigeria;

* (d) He is, in the opinion of the Governor of the State where he is or he proposes to be resident, acceptable to the local community in which he is to live permanently, and has been assimilated into the way of life of Nigerians in that part of the Federation;

* (e) He is a person who has made or is capable of making useful contribution to the advancement; progress and well-being of Nigeria;

* (f) He has taken the Oath of Allegiance prescribed in the Seventh Schedule to this Constitution; and

* (g) He has, immediately preceding the date of his application, either-

(i) Resided in Nigeria for a continuous period of fifteen years; or

(ii) Resided in Nigeria continuously for a period of twelve months, and during the period of twenty years immediately preceding that period of twelve months has resided in Nigeria for periods amounting in the aggregate to not less than fifteen years.

Now I will be talking on how someone can lose a newly obtained citizenship in Nigeria

Voluntary renunciation of Nigerian citizenship is permitted by law. Contact the Embassy for details and required paperwork. INVOLUNTARY: The following are grounds for involuntary loss of Nigerian citizenship: Registered or Naturalized citizen voluntarily acquires the citizenship of a foreign country. Naturalized citizen, before seven years of residence, sentenced to prison for three years or more. Registered or Naturalized citizen is convicted of acts of disloyalty to the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Disloyalty to the country: The President can also deprive a registered or naturalized citizen of Nigeria of his citizenship if he is considered to be disloyal to the Federal Republic of Nigeria. This consideration would be based on his acts or speech or after due enquiry by the President in a manner stated in the regulations. Please note that the act or speech must relate to what he did or said from the records of proceedings of a court of law or tribunal established by law

<u>**Illegal trade</u>**; Also, the President may deprive a citizen by registration or naturalization of his citizenship if he trades with the enemy of Nigeria during the period of war in which Nigeria is physically</u> involved or conducts business that is against the interest of Nigeria. This applies to both registration and naturalization.

Presidential rules: finally that the president has the power to make regulations that are not inconsistent with the provision of the Constitution regarding the citizenship and the status of anybody subject to the rules of citizenship. The law requires that whatever regulations made by the president in respect of citizenship shall be laid before the National Assembly

I will also like to talk about the Lebanese

WHO ARE THE LEBANESE?

The Lebanese people are the people inhabiting or originating from Lebanon. The term may also include those who had inhabited Mount Lebanon and the Anti-Lebanon Mountains prior to the creation of the modern Lebanese state.

Now we know the things required to gain a Nigerian citizenship as well as lose the citizenship we will then know what a Lebanese has to do to gain and lose a newly acquired citizenship in Nigeria

For the second question I am asked to explain social contract theory and notify the other theories that are the same when explained and note their common strength

Social Contract Theory

Social contract theory says that people live together in society in accordance with an agreement that establishes moral and political rules of behavior. Some people believe that if we live according to a social contract, we can live morally by our own choice and not because a divine being requires it.

Over the centuries, philosophers as far back as Socrates have tried to describe the ideal social contract, and to explain how existing social contracts have evolved. Philosopher Stuart Rachels suggests that morality is the set of rules governing behavior that rational people accept, on the condition that others accept them too.

Social contracts can be explicit, such as laws, or implicit, such as raising one's hand in class to speak. The U.S. Constitution is often cited as an explicit example of part of America's social contract. It sets out what the government can and cannot do. People who choose to live in America agree to be governed by the moral and political obligations outlined in the Constitution's social contract. Indeed, regardless of whether social contracts are explicit or implicit, they provide a valuable framework for harmony in society.

Anarchist perspective

Anarchism is a political philosophy which considers the state and hierarchies to be immoral, unnecessary and harmful and instead promotes a stateless society, or anarchy, a self-managed, self-governed society based on voluntary, cooperative institutions.

Anarchists believe that the state is inherently an instrument of domination and repression, no matter who is in control of it. Anarchists note that the state possesses the monopoly on the legal use of violence. Unlike Marxists, anarchists believe that revolutionary seizure of state power should not be a political goal. They believe instead that the state apparatus should be completely dismantled, and an alternative set of social relations created, which are not based on state power at all

I will like to state that from all the theories above I have read and realized that the common strength in these theories is that they decided to be independent but with rules that help to regulate peace and harmony they as a people came together to help and remain peaceful so thee obvious strength present is co-operation they can co-exist and live as one