**POLITICAL SCIENCE: CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL**

**CONSTRUCT THEORY**

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

First of let’s start by defining citizenship. Citizenship is the status of a person recognized under the custom or law as being a legal member of a sovereign state or belonging to a nation. The idea of citizenship has been defined as the capacity of individuals to defend their rights in front of the governmental authority.

**HOW CITIZENSHIP IS ACQUIRED.**

* Application - the applicant lodged an application to become a citizen of the country. This is also known as 'naturalization’ in some countries.
* Automatic - the applicant performed an action that resulted in receiving citizenship of the country automatically. For example, in some countries if you marry a citizen of that country you then receive citizenship of that country without applying for it.
* Birth - the applicant was born in the country and met the country's requirements to receive citizenship by birth.
* Descent - the applicant was born in another country and became a citizen of their parent's country. This is also known as 'registration' in some countries.

**FACTORS THAT CAN CAUSE CITIZENSHIP TO BE REVOKED**

There are generally two categories of grounds for loss of citizenship. "Involuntary loss" may occur due to either automatic lapse of citizenship from the citizen for failure to take some action to retain citizenship, or active withdrawal of citizenship by the country. In contrast, "voluntary loss" is initiated by the citizen.It is not always easy to make a clean distinction between the two categories: loss of citizenship due to an initial cause undertaken voluntarily (for example, voluntarily serving in a foreign military or voluntarily naturalizing as a citizen of a foreign country) could be seen either as "voluntary loss" or "involuntary loss".

The European Union Democracy Observatory, in a study of the nationality laws of thirty-three European countries, found nine broadly-defined cases in which a citizen of a country may lose his or her citizenship:

* Voluntary acquisition of another citizenship
* Residing abroad on a permanent basis
* Fraud in the naturalization process, including sham marriages, or failure to give up the other citizenship in countries which require that as a condition of naturalization
* Serving in a foreign military or foreign government
* Upon adoption by a foreign citizen, or other change in the child's legal relation to the parents such as annulment of maternity/paternity
* For a minor, upon the loss of citizenship by the parents
* Failure to fulfill conditions, for example in Japan, where Japanese children born with an additional citizenship lose Japanese citizenship if they fail to give up the other citizenship before the age of 22

**Voluntary renunciation**

Involuntary loss of citizenship does not necessarily mean automatic and immediate loss. Even if a country's laws state that under certain circumstances citizenship is automatically removed, until officials of the government or embassy are informed, that country's government will probably still retain that person's name in its citizenship records.

This are the general ways that an individual can have their citizenship revoked. However, some are country specific. A Lebanese can have their Nigerian citizenship revoked for the following:

VOLUNTARY: 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.

**RETAINING CITIZENSHIP**

There are steps an individual can take to retain his or her citizenship. The Lebanese in question would be an example. In order to retain your citizenship, you may need to apply for a permanent one of the one you had was temporary. In addition don’t go against the law or get involved in any activity that can tarnish the image of the country of which your citizenship has been issued .

**SOCIAL CONTRACT THEORY**

1. Social contract theory explains the evolution of states, what other theories explain the same and their strengths?

Let’s start by defining social contract theory . Social contract theory, nearly as old as philosophy itself, is the view that persons' moral and/or political obligations are dependent upon a contract or agreement among them to form the society in which they live.

There are three main theories asides the social contract theory that explain the evolution of state. They include

1. Force Theory: This process of establishing a new state or government through the use of force is what's known as force theory, which is also sometimes referred to as conquest theory. Force theory occurs when a person or a group of people take control of an area, such as a state, and make everyone in that area follow their rules and beliefs. For example, if you were to successfully invade Canada and make everyone in the country abandon their old ways and adopt my new rules, it would be a demonstration of force theory.

One important element of force theory is occupation by a foreign military or government. For example, when the German Army invaded France in 1940, they took control of the people and government through military occupation. This occupation was done with the intention of bringing France under Nazi governmental rule, but was overthrown by Allied forces in 1944.

1. Evolutionary Theory of State : This Evolutionary theory is also known as sociological or the correct theory of the origin of the state. So long as social sciences had not made any development and it was very difficult to determine the correct theory the origin of the state. The advancement of the fields of history, anthropology and archaeology helped in finding out various forces and factors responsible for the creation of the state. The Evolutionary Theory is regarded as the true and correct theory regarding the origin of the state. This theory helps in understanding the forces and factors, which created the state and historical stage through which it passed.

Following are the forces and factors evolutionary theory of state:

* Kinship
* Magic and Religion
* Property and the rise of Economic Classes
* War and Force
* Political Consciousness

1. Divine Right Theory: According to divine right of kings theory, God created the State, the rulers were appointed by God. They were responsible to God alone and not to any human being. The people must obey the King. Disobedience means not only a crime but also a sin. The Kings became so important that some people considered him to be shadow of God on earth.

Divine right theory was modified by King James 1st of England and Sir Robert Filmer in the 17th Century. James 1st had a dispute with the parliament over a share in the government of the country. He told the parliament: A king can never be wicked. Even if a King is wicked, means God has sent as a punishment for people’s sins and it in unlawful to shake off the burden which God has laid upon them

**Criticism on Divine Right of Kings Theory**

**State is not a Divine Institution**

It is wrong to say that the state was created by God. It is a human need. Human beings cannot live without a state. No doubt religion has played a part in the development of the state but it is not the only factor.

**Justifications of Mis-rule and Tyranny**

This theory justifies mis-rule and tyranny and leaves the people at the mercy of an incompetent person. It also goes against human reason. Besides, it is also dangerous because it is not allow the people to think and question the rulers. It makes the people passive.

**Importance of Divine Origin Theory of State**

Although divine right of kings theory also known as divine right theory is defective yet in the past it had some vales. In the past it was very difficult or a ruler to control uncivilized people. Something more than human was needed. So the kings posed themselves as the agents of God on earth. As a human being he could be Oppose but as an agent of God the people feared him because to disobey the king is like to disobey God. In this way the kings controlled anarchy and protected the life and liberty of the people.