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Question1: How can a Lebanese retain or lose his or her newly acquired Nigerian citizenship

**Introduction:**

I would begin this discussion by describing what citizenship is and who a citizen is, types of citizenship in Nigeria, how foreigners can obtain citizenship in Nigeria and how such citizenship can be retained or lost.

**What is Citizenship?**

A Citizen is a legitimate member of a particular country**.** Therefore,Citizenship can be defined as a relationship between an individual and a State to which such individual owes allegiance and in turn is entitled to its protection. Citizenship is the status of a person as recognized under the Constitution of a country or 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 in the constitution. Citizenship implies the status of freedom with accompanying responsibilities. Citizens have certain rights, duties and responsibilities the have to do for their country, which includes participating in political matters, military services, allegiance, paying tax and maintaining orderliness and keeping the environment clean and also the government, has responsibilities to its citizens such as protecting the rights of its citizens, protecting the citizens and ensuring the welfare of its citizens. Citizenship is the most privileged form of nationality.

**Types of Citizenship in Nigeria**

Every country has its own law governing citizenship and other aspects of their nationality which is known as Nationality Law. The law governs everything relating to citizens and every other category of Nigerian nationality. There are four types of citizenship in Nigeria:

1. **Citizenship by Birth:** this type of citizen is for those who are born in Nigeria. Although being born in Nigeria does not automatically confer Nigerian citizenship.
2. **Citizenship by Descent:** this type of citizenship means at least one of the parents of the person is Nigerian even if the person was born outside of Nigeria.
3. **Citizenship by Registration:** This type of citizenship can be obtained by either a foreign woman get married to a Nigerian man, a foreign child adopted by Nigerian parents, anyone who is of age (17) born outside of the country whose either one or both grandparents is or was a citizen of Nigeria.
4. **Citizenship by Naturalization:** This type of citizenship when an individual who is above 18 and has lived in Nigeria for at least fifteen years and has intentions to continue residing in Nigeria. Such person must be familiar with the customs and language of Nigeria and must be able to support himself/herself.

**How can a Lebanese obtain citizenship in Nigeria?**

A Lebanese can obtain citizenship through the three general ways in Nigeria by;

1. Birth
2. Registration
3. Naturalization

The provisions for obtaining Nigerian citizenship are stated in Chapter 3 of the Constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 known as the Nigerian Citizenship Act.

1. **By Birth:** Under the section 25 of the constitution the following persons are citizens of Nigeria by birth; a person born in Nigeria after the date of Independence (October1, 1960), either of whose parents or any of whose grandparents belongs or belonged to a community indigenous to Nigeria, or any citizen born outside the country but whose parents are Nigerians are considered citizens and citizens born in Nigeria are citizens of Nigeria.
2. **By Registration**: Under the provision of section 26 of the Constitution, a person to whom the provisions of this section apply may be registered as a citizen of citizen of Nigeria, if the President is satisfied that; He is a person of good character and two people to testify to that which one should be 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 to this Constitution. The provision of this section applies to 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.
3. **By Naturalization:** According to the section 27 of the Constitution, subject to the provision 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 a certificate of naturalization, no person shall be disqualified to apply for the grant of a certificate of naturalization, unless he satisfies the President that; He is a person of full of age and capacity, He is a person of good character, he has shown a clear intention of his desire to be domiciled in Nigeria and 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.

**How can a Lebanese (foreigner) retain or lose his new obtained Nigerian citizenship?**

Nigerian Nationality Law allows dual nationality of people of Nigerian descent either through birth or parentage. They are also allowed to hold public offices in Nigeria. Therefore, A Lebanese man who has newly obtained citizenship of Nigerian can retain his citizenship by obeying rules and regulations of Nigerian Constitution, by showing patriotism and paying allegiance to the country, paying tax, participating in political activities, and contributing to the National growth of Nigeria. He can as well loose or cease to be a citizen of Nigeria whenever he renounces his obligations to Nigeria. This process is done through what is referred to as **RENUNCIATION.**

**Renunciation:** is the voluntary act of relinquishing one’s citizenship or nationality. Renunciation is the far from Denaturalization where the loss of citizenship is forced by a county which is the opposite of Naturalization, where by a person voluntarily acquires a citizenship. In Nigerian, the right to renounce Nigeria citizenship is established in section 29 of the 1999 Constitution of Nigeria, which states that *“any citizen of Nigerian of full age who wishes to renounce his or her Nigerian citizenship shall make a declaration in the prescribed manner for the renunciation”,* which the government is obliged to register except when Nigeria is physically involved in a war or when the President of Nigeria is of the opinion that the renunciation is contrary to public policy. Under section 29(4)(a) of the Constitution, a person is only of either gender becomes “of full age” at eighteen years, while under section 29(4)(b) a girl younger than that is still deemed to be “of full age” if she is married is also capable of renouncing her citizenship of Nigeria.

Question2: Social Contract Theory explains the evolution of states what other theories explain the same, and their strengths.

**Social Contract Theory**

Social contact theory is the result of the contract/agreement entered into by men in other to live in a just society. The history of the world today is divided into two? The period’ before’ and ‘after’ whish the state came into been. Prior to this history, there is been a lot of purported theories about the origin of the state and amongst these schools is the social contract theory of the evolution of the state was short, nasty and brutish. Men lived according to there might and strengths, in a state of anarchy, lawlessness and war. In other for them to live in peace and harmony, they decided to come together and form the government. Thus from that period the state began to exist with a government acting on behalf of the state. There are many theories about the evolution of the state and amongst them is the social contract theory which men came into agreement to form a government and the automatically began to exist with essential feature like territory, sovereignty and population. Other theories include: the divine of kings, force theory and evolutionary theory.

According to Hobbes, this extends to human behavior. Human macro-behavior can be aptly described as the effect of certain kinds of micro-behavior, even though some of this latter behavior is invisible to us. So, such behaviors as walking, talking, and the like are themselves produced by other actions inside of us. And these other actions are themselves caused by the interaction of our bodies with other bodies, human or otherwise, which create in us certain chains of causes and effects, and which eventually give rise to the human behavior that we can plainly observe. We, including all of our actions and choices, are then, according to this view, as explainable in terms of universal laws of nature as are the motions of heavenly bodies. The gradual disintegration of memory, for example, can be explained by inertia.

In Hobbes’ view, this mechanistic quality of human psychology implies the subjective nature of normative claims. ‘Love’ and ‘hate’, for instance, are just words we use to describe the things we are drawn to and repelled by, respectively.

**Divine right of kings:**

The doctrine that kings derive their authority from God not their subjects, from which it follows that rebellion, is the worst of political crimes. It was enunciated in Britain in the 16th and 17th centuries under the Stuarts and is also associated with the absolutism of Louis xiv of France. The divine right of kings, divine right, or God’s is a political and religious doctrine of royal and political legitimacy. It stems from a specific metaphysical framework in which the king (or queen) is pre-selected as an heir prior to their birth. By pre-selecting the king’s physical manifestation, the governed populace actively (rather than merely passively) hands the metaphysical selection of the king’s soul which will inhabit the body and thereby rule them – over to God. In this way, the divine right originates as a metaphysical act of humanity or submission toward the God head. Consequently, it asserts that a monarch (e.g. a king) is subject to no earthly authority, deriving the right to rule directly from a divine authority, like the monotheist will of God.

The monarch is thus not subject to the will of his people, of the aristocracy, or of any other estate of the realm. It implies that only divine authority can judge an unjust monarch and that any attempt to depose, dethrone or restrict their powers runs contrary to God’s will and may constitute a sacrilegious act. It is often expressed in the phrase ‘by the grace of God’, attached to the title of a monarch; although this right does not make the monarch the same as the secret king. The divine right has been a key element for legitimizing many absolute monarchies.

**Strengths**

* Metaphysical and Objective: God is the origin and regulator of morality. Surely there is no better source for deciding between right and wrong than Gods unchanging law.
* God knows us best: God is Objective as well as our creator. We may think that things are good for us such as having affairs but Gods law is against this for a reason.
* Absolute rules: The laws we have to stick by are often clear such as the 10 commandments.
* Take away human responsibilities: Goodness isn’t subject to our misunderstanding of situation our reasoning is fallible, and so following Gods law safeguards against this.
* God is inherently good: The bible describe God as “holy”, meaning separate from sins therefore, what he commands must be good.

**Force theory of origin of state:**

Force theory of origin of state is another fallacious theory, but historically important, which is offered as an explanation of the origin and meaning of the state. There is an old saying that war begets the king and true to this maxim, the theory of force emphasizes the origin of the state in the subordination of the weak to the strong. The advocate of the theory argue that man, apart from being a social animal is bellicose by nature. There is also lost for power in him. Both these desire prompt him to exhibit his strength and in the early stage of the development of mankind a person physically stronger than the rest capture and enslave the weak. He collected in this way a band of followers, fought with others, and subjugated the weak.

**Strengths:**

* In so far as this theory explains the origin and development of the state, it contains a considerable amount of truth because war and conquest have gone a long way in building of state in all ages.
* The theory brings to the forefront the fact that ‘might’ or force is indispensible to the state and without it a state can neither exist nor function.
* The theory contains the truth that some states at certain point of time where definitely created force or brought to existence by the show of force.

**Evolutional theory of state:**

According to evolutional theory, government originates from a family or clan-bound structure, which can explain the formation of the world’s first political structures. This earliest and very loosely formed government was the result of a shift from hunter-gatherer societies to more settled agricultural societies. As families joined to form clan sand clans joined to form villages, the need for leaders and a central organizational structure developed. These leaders help to determine how to address still unfamiliar issues, such as water right for crop irrigation and the distribution of other resources. They also provided an increased sense of safety and security for the society. In many societies, these first state developed monarchies, with rule based on membership in a ruling family.

In modern times, some government continues to be led by a succession of members from the same family. For example from the monarchies of Saudi Arabia, the king has been descended from the AI Saud family since 1744. The theory of evolution by natural selection, first formulated in Darwin’s book ‘on the origin of species’ in 1958, is the process by which organism change over time as the result of changes in heritable physical or behavioral traits. Changes that allow an organism to better adapt to its environment will help it survive and have more offspring. The theory is sometime described as ‘survival of the fittest’, but that can be misleading, Pointer said. Here ‘fitness’ refers not to an organization’s strength or athletic ability, but rather the ability to survive and reproduce.

**Strengths**

* The evidence of fossils and the connection between living animals
* The Darwin’s theory of survival of the fittest and freedom of States.

Among the theories that explain the evolution of States, we also have Patriarchy and matriarchy**:**

**Patriarchy Theory:**

A Patriarchy is a social system in which men hold primary power and predominate in roles of political leadership, moral authority, social privilege and control of property. Some patriarchal societies are also patrilineal; meaning that property and title are inherited by the male lineage. Patriarchy is associated with a set of ideas, a patriarchal ideology that acts to explain and justify this dominance and attributes it to inherent natural differences between men and women. Sociologists tend to see patriarchy as a social product and not as an outcome of innate differences between the sexes and they focus attention on the way that gender roles in a society affect power differentials between men and women. Historically, patriarchy has manifested itself in the social, legal, political, religious, and economic organization of a range of different cultures. Even if not explicitly defined to be by their own constitutions and laws, most contemporary societies are, in practice, patriarchal.

**Strengths**

* In the Patriarchy family the element of paternity was the chief fact.
* Descent we traced not only through males and from the same ancestor. None of the descendants of a female was included in the primitive notion of family relationship.

**Matriarchal Theory of State**

The Matriarchal theory of state is very old. There are many people who support this theory. There was a time in human history when there was no system of permanent marriage and family. At that time people were still in the hunting stage of human civilization. People lived in-groups. The life was dependent on the fruits and hunting animals. When two groups were met, there would be union between a man and woman. After this the groups separated, children born as a result of this union did not know their fathers and their mothers. So, all relationships and descent were traced through the mother. At this stage people were still leading a nomadic life. So there was no concept of private property. In this way population increased and finally people got settled and radical changes took place as a result of which **Matriarchal society** changed into Patriarchal society and the state was born.

**Strengths**

* First there was a tribe and it was the oldest and primary social group.
* In course of time a tribe breaks into clans.
* Clans in their turn give place to households.

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