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ASSIGNMENT

1.] 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 STRENGHTS.

QUESTION 1.

HOW CAN A LEBANESE RETAIN OR LOSE HIS OR HER NEWLY ACQUIRED NIGERIAN CITIZENSHIP.

A citizen is an inhabitant of a city or town, a member of a state that is entitled to the rights and privileges of a freeman. A native or naturalized person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to protection. A person who is entitled to enjoy all the legal rights and privileges granted by a state to the people comprising its constituency and is obligated to obey its laws and to fulfill his or her duties. A citizen of a state is entitled to different rights for example right to life, right to vote and be voted for, right to education, right to freedom of speech, right to fair hearing, right to life and so many more once you become a citizen this are some of the rights you enjoy as one of them.

Citizenship on the other hand can be defined as 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. It can also be known as the membership in a community. It is the position of being a citizen of a particular country. It is the state of being vested with the rights, privileges and duties of a citizen. A person may have multiple citizenships. A person who does not have citizenship is said to be stateless, while those who live on state borders whose territorial status is uncertain is a borderland. Citizenship is based upon the constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria, dated 1989. Those who were given birth to before independence, October 1, 1960, whose parents or grandparents were born in Nigeria and who were legally residing in Nigeria at that time, are considered citizens of Nigeria.

There are different types of citizenship in Nigeria which are as follows;

1.] By Birth OR Birth type

2.] By Naturalization OR Naturalization type

3.] By Registration OR Registration.

4.] Dual Citizenship

BY BIRTH OR BIRTH TYPE

The provision of section 25 of the Nigerian constitution states that the following people are to be regarded as citizens of Nigeria by birth;

* People who were born in Nigeria before and after the date of independence.
* People whose parents, grandparents or other relatives belong to Nigerian communities. And what is meant by Nigerian communities? Nigeria is a country with hundreds of tribes , if your grandparents or parent belong to any of the tribes you can become a citizen of Nigeria by birth. There are different types of tribes in Nigeria but amongst all we have three major types which are Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa.
* If your parents or grandparents or parents were or are citizens of Nigeria. You can be or become a citizen of Nigeria by birth. This even applies if you were born in another country.

BY REGISTRATION OR REGISTRATION TYPE

The provision of section 26 of the Nigerian constitution explains that a person who is not Nigerian by birth can become a citizen of Nigeria by registration. A person can apply to become a Nigerian citizen if he or she satisfies these conditions;

* The person must be of good character ( This statement should be testified by two people and one of them should be a religious minister).
* This person must express and show a clear intention of his inclination/ desire/ wish to be a Nigerian.
* This person has subscribed to the oath of allegiance to Nigeria, which is provided by the seventh schedule of the Nigerian constitution.
* The provision of the section 26 of the Nigerian constitution also state the following categories of the citizen can apply for the Nigerian immigration: a woman who or has been married to a citizen of Nigeria. It also includes every person who has a parent or grandparent who are indigenous Nigerian tribe or people.

BY NATRALIZATION OR NATRALIZATION TYPE.

If a person cannot apply to become a Nigerian citizen by birth or registration, he can still apply to become a naturalized Nigerian citizen if he meets these requirement:

* The person has to be of full age { legal age }
* The person has to be of good character { just like the type before}
* The person has to show a clear desire to be domiciled {reside} in the country.
* The governor of the state where the person is applying for citizenship wants to reside has to confirm the desire of the community to assimilate this person.
* The person should be capable of contributing to the wellbeing of Nigeria and its citizens
* The person has to live in Nigeria for fifteen years preceding the application date.

DUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Dual is characterized by having two or double of something while citizenship is the legal recognition of a citizen, it is the state of being a citizen. Therefore, dual citizen is the state or ability to own two different nationality of two different states {country}.

A person who is a citizen of Nigeria by birth can acquire the citizenship of another country. Nonetheless, its not an option for the people who become citizens of Nigeria by naturalization or registration. A person who wants to acquire the citizenship of Nigeria by registration or naturalization will have to renounce his/ her other citizenship within 12 months. Nigerian nationality law allows dual nationality of the people of Nigeria descent either through birth or parentage. They are also allowed to hold public offices in Nigeria. Some in Nigeria feel that dual nationality damages nationality unity of the country.

HOW TO BECOME A CITIZEN OF NIGERIA

* Citizenship by birth; This is for those who were born in Nigeria.
* Citizenship by descent; This means that at least one of the parents of the person is Nigerian even if the person was born outside Nigeria.
* Citizenship by naturalization; Anyone who is of full age and has lived in Nigeria for at least fifteen years and has intentions to continue residing in Nigeria. Such fellow must be familiar with the customs and language of Nigeria and must be able to support himself/ herself.
* Citizenship by registration; This type of citizenship can be obtained by any of the following persons;

* A foreign woman who is married to a Nigerian man.
* A foreign child adopted by Nigerian parents.
* Anyone who is age (18) born outside the country whose either one or both grandparents is or was a Nigeria.

There are three general ways of acquiring citizenship in Nigeria;

1. By birth
2. By registration
3. By naturalization

A Lebanese can obtain Nigerian citizenship through naturalization which requires that the individual must have at least resided in Nigeria for 15 to 17 years, he or she must be of good character, he or she must have a plan of staying in Nigeria, he or she must be familiar with the Nigerian customs, tradition and language.

After the person has gained citizenship and is now recognized as a Nigerian the person must fight hard to retain it by doing things which include;

1. Paying of taxes
2. Do not break any of the laid down laws
3. Do not bear false witness against the government
4. Be a patriotic citizen

RENUNCIATION AND DEPRIVATION OF CITIZENSHIP

A person of full age can renounce his/her citizenship by applying to the president. The president will register the application upon which the person will cease to be a citizen of Nigeria. However the president may reject the application if Nigeria is at war.

Also, any naturalized citizen of Nigeria can be deprived of their citizenship by a president if he/she gets imprisoned for more than three years within the seven years after naturalization. Any citizen of Nigeria by naturalization or registration can be deprived of citizenship if he/ she proves disloyal.

The statement of his/her disloyalty should be proved in court of law. The citizens of Nigeria by registration or naturalization can be deprived of citizenship if it can be proved that they are the enemies of the country or have collaborated with enemies of the country.

This includes conducting business deals with organizations who fight against Nigeria, and applies to traitors who have fought against Nigeria. The president can also make any decisions regarding the citizenship of anyone in the country, even though this is not written in the constitution. However, this kind of decision should be submitted to and approved by the national assembly.

WAYS OF LOSING YOUR CITIZENSHIP

Loss of citizenship is referred to as loss of nationality, it is the event of ceasing to be a citizen of a country under the nationality law of that country. It is a blanket term covering both involuntary loss of citizenship, such as through denaturalization as well as voluntary renunciation of citizenship. The following are grounds to lose citizenship:

1. Through disloyalty; A naturalized citizen can lose his citizenship if his activities are prejudicial to the country’s corporate existence.
2. Supporting another country: if a citizen is found supporting another country engaged in war with his country, his citizenship may be deprived and taken from him.
3. Imprisonment ; The individual can also lose his/ her citizenship if within a period of maybe five (5) to seven (7) years after becoming nationalized, he gets involved in a criminal case resulting in his incarceration for some years.
4. Treason; This is the crime of betraying ones government , providing aid and comfort to the enemy. The nationalized citizen can equally lose his citizenship if found guilty of this offence.
5. Renouncement; This is when the individual decides to renounce their citizenship by decided not to be citizens of that country again.

QUESTION 2

SOCIAL CONTRACT THEORY EXPLAINS THE EVOLUTION OF STATES, WHAT OTHER THEORIES EXPLAIN THE SAME AND THEIR STRENGTHS.

There are different types of the theory of state but we will be talking about THREE state theories namely;

1. Divine origin theory.
2. Force theory of origin of the state.
3. The patriarchal theory as the origin of the state.

DIVINE ORIGIN THEORY:

The oldest theory about the origin of the state is the divine origin theory. It is also known as the divine theory of kings. The exponents of this theory believe that the state did not come into being by any effort of man. It was created by God. The king who rules over the state is an agent of god on earth. The king derives his authority from God and for all his actions he is responsible to God alone. Obedience to the king is ordained to God and violation of it will be a sin. The king is above law and no subject has any right to question his authority and his action. The king is responsible to God alone.

The concept of the divine creation of the state can be traced back to antiquity. It was universal belief with the ancient people that the king is the representative of God on earth and the state is a bliss of God. Thus the king had both political and religious entity. The state is said to be created by God in the religious books. In some religions this conception is explicit but in others it is implicit.

This theory prevailed in the old age when religion and politics were combined in the person of the king. In ancient India the kings ruled over the people according to the injunction of the dharma, which stood for both religion and politics.

In the medieval period the Christians held the pope in semi God status. In the Muslim world the caliph was the priest king. Both in the church and the state in their mutual rivalry used the theory of the divine origin in the medieval age. The church asserted the supremacy of the church over the state.

ADVANTAGES OF DIVINE COMMAND THEORY

* Metaphysical and objective; God is the origin and regulator of morality. Surely there is no better source for deciding what is 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 an affair, but Gods law is against this for a reason.
* Absolute rules; the laws we have to stick by are often clear such as the ten commandments.
* Takes away human responsibility; goodness isnt subject to our misunderstanding of situations our reason is fallible and so following Gods law safeguards against this.

FORCE THEORY OF ORIGIN OF THE STATE;

Another early theory of the origin of the state theory of force. The exponents of this theory hold that wars and aggressions by some powerful tribe were principal factors in the creation of a state, they rely on the oft quoted saying WAR BEGOT THE KING as the historical explanation of the origin of the state. The force or might prevailed over the right in the primitive society. A man physically stronger established his authority over the less strong persons. The strongest person in tribe is, therefore, made the chief or leader of that tribe.

Force theory is the process of establishing a new government or country through the use of force. This process involves one group of people entering into an area and making everyone else within that territory submit to the new government and social system. History supports the force theory as the origin of the state.

THE PATRIARCHAL THEORY AS THE ORIGIN OF THE STATE;

The principal exponent of this theory is Sir Henry Maine. According to him, the city is a conglomeration of several families which developed under the control and authority of the eldest male member of the family. The head or father of the patriarchal family wielded great power and influence upon the members of the family.

The head or father of the patriarchal family wielded great power and influence upon the other member of the family. Through the process of marriage the families began to expand and they gave birth to gens which stands for a household.

The male child carried on the population though marriages with one or several women, because both monogamy and polygamy were the order of the day. The eldest male child had a prominent role in the house. As for documentary evidence in support of this theory, there were twelve tribes who formed the Jewish nation as we gather from the bible.