NAME: EFFIONG BLESSING EDET

COURSE: POLITICAL SCIENCE

MATRIC NUMBER: 19/LAW01/074

COLLEGE: LAW

LEVEL: 100

1. *How a Lebanese can retain his or her newly acquired citizenship in Nigeria*

A citizen is an individual that is legally recognized as a subject in a state or country either by native or naturalized, where he or she is allowed to exercise these rights and the laws of the land binds every individual. Citizenship is the status or position of being a citizen of a particular country. The idea of citizenship is the capacity of legal individuals to exercise and defend their rights in front of governmental authorities. Every country has a particular name given to their citizens as a whole For instance: In Nigeria their citizens are called Nigerian, England they are referred to as the English, and Lebanon they are referred to as the Lebanese. In the 1700’s citizenship changed to belonging to a nation and that the people give the power to the government. Not all the people were fully accepted as citizens from the creation of the United States. But later it was made possible for people to be fully accepted as citizens as they passed certain criteria that were imposed by the government on the people.

A Lebanese is someone who is from Lebanon which is also known as Lebanese republic located at Western Asia. This citizenship can be acquired through dual nationality where an individual is a legal citizen in two or more countries therefore giving such an individual the legal right to perform political duties like participating in running for elective offices. There are ways of acquiring a second citizenship which is the consideration of your country giving birth grants for instance a Lebanese who was born in Nigeria, you are therefore entitled to the Nigerian citizenship through the unrestricted jus soli or an automatic birthright. Another way of acquisition is citizenship by descent, where one of the parents of the individual is a Nigerian; the citizenship could also be gotten through naturalization, where a foreign woman marries a Nigerian man , when a foreign child is adopted by Nigerians or if he or she has lived in the country fir more than 17 (seventeen years). Dual Citizenship is also gotten through investment, this occurs where individuals invests on the country’s economy and are given resident visas or permit which therefore makes them eligible enough to become citizens and exercise rights in the society. Most times, these permits are conditional therefore restricting you from carrying out certain activities and these permits are often given as rewards for investing in the country’s economy despite the fact that some of these permits tend to last for as long as the individual invests in the country. Marriage can be seen as another successful way of acquiring a dual citizenship, where your spouse automatically makes you a citizen of him or her country though the process requires for one to apply for a resident permit that would qualify one on the platform of marriage. The processes apply in different countries according to their preference, for instance, the British government require one to be above the age of eighteen(18) and be of good character with the absence of any criminal record and the individual must also meet their language which is the English Language. Through applying for an employment visa, one could become a citizen where an individual tends to apply for a job in an entirely different country but some countries requires for the individual to change to a permanent residence before he or she is allowed to become a citizen. Not all countries in the world tend to allow dual citizenship as they believe it is an act of disloyalty and are not comfortable with that kind of citizenship and cannot also manage such a system. Nigeria is among the countries that allows an individual to acquire dual citizenship where it citizens can only et dual citizenship by descent where at least one of the parent is from Nigeria regardless the child’s place of birth. When this citizenship is gotten, it is expected of the individual to stick to the laws of the land and ensure he or she performs their duties and obligations properly in the society. For a Lebanese to maintain his or her acquired citizenship from Nigerian he or she must be loyal to the law set aside therefore abiding to it strongly following what is expected of a citizen of the society, with this he or she is taking up ways in retaining his citizenship in Nigeria. Citizens that acquire this citizenship are moreover prone to disobeying the laws in the country as they may see it as strange but have to stick to it in order to maintain and retain the citizenship. A good start would begin from going through with the laid down duties and obligations set aside by the constitution and strictly avoiding breaking the rules that would lead them into losing their citizenship in the society. By promoting the Nigerian Culture also assists in retaining the citizenship and an act of patriotism which is consider as showing great love and support for your country. Participating in activities like political, social and economic activities in the society aids perfectly in retaining one’s citizenship. Politically one could campaign and vote during election or even join political parties in the society like the APC (All progressive Congress), PDP (People’s Democratic Party) and so on. This ways would help greatly in retaining ones newly acquired citizenship. There are also ways by which one could lose his or her citizenship. The major is by continuously breaking the rules and regulation that guides the land therefore having to face the consequences that go alongside with the laws of the land. Normally, facing consequences that leads one in a punishment of more than 3(three) years in prison result in an exile by the government some other punishment could also be an immediate denouncement of the one’s Nigerian citizenship and an immediate exile. An attempt to overthrow the government by force would contribute immensely to the denouncement of one’s citizenship. Being convicted by the court of law or the tribunal may also contribute to the deprivation of one’s citizenship especially if the individual was not born in the country, therefore making the risk higher ***(Section 30(2) of the Nigerian 1999 Constitution)***. Dealing with illegal substances in the society would also contribute to one losing their citizenship as such an individual tends to be breaking the laws in the society. Assisting an enemy country especially during times of war and also counted as deceit with the purpose of acquiring this citizenship was to bring down the country. This would contribute the renunciation of the individual citizenship. These individual acquiring this citizenship are expected to show love to the country which the acquired their citizenship.

1. ***Social Contrast Theory***

This theory is seen to have different versions where many sociologists define the theory based on their point of view. This theory was originated during the age of enlightenment (according to the moral and physical philosophy) which concerns the authority of the state goes according to the law. The theory was seen to have to be gotten by the term ***social contract***. In 1651, Thomas Hobbes had discussed the concept of the social contract theory in his work (book) called ‘**Leviathan.’** The theory was developed in 1762 by Jean-Jacques Rousseau, a French sociologist given a version of the theory based on his perspective. The Social Contract theory according to Thomas Hobbes states that **“morality consists in the set of rules governing behaviour, the rational people would accept, on the condition that others accept them as well.”** This theory explains the fact that it is being created so that the states would exist to enforce the rules and necessary for social living, while morality consists in the whole set of rules that facilitates social living. And the government was a result. It is the duty of the government to enforce this rule on the citizens or the people of the community. Therefore making the society a *legitimate* one as the people and their activities go according to the laws of the land.

There are other theories that explain the evolution of the states. They include;

1. Historical and evolutionary theory
2. Force theory
3. Divine right theory

***The evolutionary or historical theory*** believes that the government originates from a family which afterwards becomes a political structure. Families joined to form clans and clans joined to form villages this also led to the need of a leader and a well developed structure. This theory resulted in creating the world first political culture where the earliest and loosed form of government was created resulting from hunter societies to more settled agricultural societies. This theory further explains that the state is a product of growth.

***Strength of the evolutionary theory***

There was a strong bond between the people as the family constituted the first link in the in the process of state evolution. Kinship was what bounded the people together and also led to the multiplication of families. Protection of property was particular among them as it was necessary to acquire property as they were developing and increasing in the population leading to the development of the social structure. The need to protect the property required the establishment of regions. Political consciousness was seen to have developed from the needs of life and protection where the people settled in a territory to safeguard each other and their property. The need for regulating persons and the activities led to political consciousness.

***Force theory***

This theory has the idea that government comes from taking control of the state by force. It is also referred to as a state of dictatorship where a one-man ruler dominates the state through force on the citizens. Historically, this has been achieved mostly by forcible invasion where they impose rules on the people not minding their reaction to the rules. New governments could also be formed by a coup where the government is forcefully brought down in order to create a new with the same system or can be handed to family where a little of monarchy was inserted. An example of this theory was recognized in Cuba in 1959.

***Strength of the force theory***

Orderliness was created in the country as everyone was made to follow directions of the government or would face consequences of not following these directions. Abiding to the rules and regulations in the society in order to avoid certain difficult which countries operating civil system tend to face is therefore prevented with the use of this theory. This theory has less advantage than any other theory used in the development of a state due to its use of force.

***Divine right theory***

The government is formed with the power invested on individuals by God or gods. Most monarchs tend to operate by this theory. The theory is regarded as ancient and exercised by the ancient Egyptians and Maya. The idea of this theory is that their powers and authority is gotten directly from God and therefore cannot be challenged by anyone. This theory was experienced as resurgence in Western Europe in the 16th and 19th centuries. Though some of the rulers tend to misuse this rule in imposing on people heavy taxes and manual labour, wage war and even gain territory, some rulers where doing what was right in the sight of God as they believed.

***Strength of the Divine Right theory***

It encouraged the practice of religion among the people or the subjects to this theory therefore also encouraging a bound among the subject thought they faced certain difficulties. It is also encouraged dedication among the subjects of the theory. It also encouraged the leaders to be steadfast and strong as they believed strongly despite the fact that the Russians Czars neglected and turned the rule to become an autocratic one as they had believed that it was an opportunity given by God.