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COLLEGE: LAW.

LEVEL:100L.

COURSE:POLITICAL SCIENCE.

COURSE CODE: POL 102.

ASSIGNMENT: (Term Paper)

N.B: Don't exceed 15pages.

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 strengths.

Pls note that your assignment will be submitted via mail @Maitoyekini@abuad.edu.ng , and hard copy will be collect till further notice.

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

WHAT IS CITIZENSHIP?

Citizenship can be referred to as the position or status of being a citizen of a particular country.

It can also be defined as the [status](/wiki/Status_%28law%29%22%20%5Co%20%22Status%20%28law%29) of a person recognized under the [custom](/wiki/Custom_%28law%29%22%20%5Co%20%22Custom%20%28law%29) or [law](/wiki/Law%22%20%5Co%20%22Law) as being a [legal](/wiki/Law%22%20%5Co%20%22Law) member of a [sovereign state](/wiki/Sovereign_state%22%20%5Co%20%22Sovereign%20state) or belonging to a [nation](/wiki/Nation%22%20%5Co%20%22Nation). The idea of citizenship has been defined as the capacity of individuals to defend their [rights](/wiki/Rights%22%20%5Co%20%22Rights) in front of the [governmental](/wiki/Government%22%20%5Co%20%22Government) authority. Individual states and nations recognize citizenship of persons according to their own policies, regulations and criteria as to who is entitled to its citizenship.

WHO IS A CITIZEN?

A citizen is a legally recognized subject or national of a state or commonwealth, either native or naturalized.

TYPES OF CITIZENSHIP IN NIGERIA

### >Birth Type:

The provisions 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 indigenous Nigerian communities. And what is meant by the indigenous communities from Nigeria? Nigeria is a country with hundreds of tribes and if your parents or grandparents belong to one of these tribes, you can be or become a citizen of Nigeria by birth. It includes Igbo, Yoruba, Hausa, Fulani, Efik and many other tribes.
* If your parents or grandparents were or are citizens of Nigeria, you can be or become a citizen of Nigeria by birth; this applies even if you were born in another country.

### >Registration Type:

The provisions of section 26 of the Nigerian Constitution explain 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 by registration if he or she satisfies these conditions:

* The person is of good character (This statement should be testified by two people, and one of them should be a religious minister).
* This person expresses and shows a clear intention of his inclination/desire/wish to be domiciled in Nigeria.
* This person has subscribed to the oath of allegiance to Nigeria, which is provided by the seventh schedule of the Nigerian Constitution.
* The provisions of section 26 of the Nigerian Constitution also state that the following categories of the citizen can apply for the Nigerian immigration: A woman who is or has been married to a citizen of Nigeria. It also includes every person who has parents or grandparents of any indigenous Nigerian tribe.

### >Naturalization 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 requirements:

* This person is of full age.
* This person is of good character (just like in the type before).
* This person has shown a clear desire to be domiciled in the country.
* The governor of the state where the person 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 lived in Nigeria for fifteen years preceding the application date.

## Dual Citizenship

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 became 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 citizenships within 12 months. Nigerian nationality law allows dual nationality of people of Nigerian descent either through birth or parentage. They are also allowed to hold public office in Nigeria. Some in Nigeria feel that dual nationality damages nationality unity of the country.

WAYS BY WHUCH A PERSON CAN ACQUIRE CITIZENSHIP STATUS IN NIGERIA THROUGH THE CONSTITUTION

There are three general ways of acquiring citizenship in Nigeria:

1. By Birth
2. By Registration
3. By Naturalisation

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

### By birth

Section 25

(1) The following persons are citizens of Nigeria by birth-namely-

(a) 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.

(b) Every person born outside Nigeria either of whose parents is a citizen of Nigeria.

(2) In this section, "the date of independence" means the 1st day of October 1960.

### By registration

Section 26

(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.

### By naturalization

Section 27

(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 naturalisation.

(2) No person shall be qualified to apply for the grant of a certificate or naturalisation, 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; and so on.

★Each country sometimes take different ways or measures in giving an immigrant citizenship status.

THINGS/WAYS BY WHICH A PERSON CAN RENUNCIATE OR DEPRIVE HIS/HER CITIZENSHIP STATUS ARE:

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 the 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 a court of law.

The citizens of Nigeria by registration or naturalization can be deprived of citizenship if it can be proved that they are 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 a Lebanese can lose their newly acquired Nigerian citizenship are;

**Multiple citizenship**
In Nigeria, despite the fact that **S. 28** of the 1999 constitution allows for dual citizenship, on the other hand, it has also limited same by making a person to forfeit his citizenship where it appears that such person is not a citizen by birth and he later acquires or retain the citizenship or nationality of another country other than Nigeria.

Such person(s) has committed an act of treason or an attempt to overthrow the government by force and being convicted by a court of law or tribunal may be deprived of his citizenship by the president although subject to the fact that such person is not a citizen by birth. **see S. 30 (2) of the 1999 constitution**

Such person(s) has traded or assisted the enemy of Nigeria during the time of war with the intent to cause damage to the interest of Nigeria.

**Oath of allegiance**
If a Lebanese pledges his allegiance or loyalty to another country other than this country, he advertently or inadvertently relinquishes his citizenship of a Nigerian.This can overtly be carried out by joining the armed forces of the country or accepting jobs where an oath of allegiance or other form declaration of allegiance is required.

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

# 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. Socrates uses something quite like a social contract argument to explain to Crito why he must remain in prison and accept the death penalty. However, social contract theory is rightly associated with modern moral and political theory and is given its first full exposition and defense by Thomas Hobbes. After Hobbes, John Locke and Jean-Jacques Rousseau are the best known proponents of this enormously influential theory, which has been one of the most dominant theories within moral and political theory throughout the history of the modern West. In the twentieth century, moral and political theory regained philosophical momentum as a result of John Rawls’ Kantian version of social contract theory, and was followed by new analyses of the subject by David Gauthier and others. More recently, philosophers from different perspectives have offered new criticisms of social contract theory. In particular, feminists and race-conscious philosophers have argued that social contract theory is at least an incomplete picture of our moral and political lives, and may in fact camouflage some of the ways in which the contract is itself parasitical upon the subjugations of classes of persons.

* Evolutionary Theory: According to **evolutionary theory**, government originates from a family or clan-bound structure, which can explain the formation of the world's first political structures. These earliest and very loosely formed governments were the result of a shift from hunter-gatherer societies to more settled agricultural societies. As families joined to form clans and clans joined to form villages, the need for leaders and a central organizational structure developed. These leaders helped determine how to address still unfamiliar issues, such as water rights for crop irrigation and the distribution of other resources. They also provided an increased sense of safety and security for the society. In many early societies, these first states developed monarchies, with rule based on membership in a ruling family. In modern times, some governments continue to be led by a succession of members from the same family. For example, in the monarchy of Saudi Arabia, the king has been descended from the Āl Saʿūd family since 1744.
* Force theory: The **force theory** is the idea that government originates from taking control of the state by force and is often found in a **dictatorship**—a type of government characterized by one-person or one-party authoritarian rule. Historically, this has been achieved in some cases through forcible invasion or occupation when a more dominant people or state takes control of the political system of a less powerful people or state, imposing its governmental system on that group. New governments can also be formed by force during revolutions or coups within a country. A coup is the overthrow of an established government, and the resulting leader or dictator is most often a military figure. An example of the force theory occurred in Cuba in 1959, when revolutionary Fidel Castro and a small force of guerrilla soldiers defeated the national army and took control of the government. In some cases, governments created by force take on some characteristics of a monarchy, with government power handed down within the dictator's family. Examples are the Assad regime in Syria and the Kim regime in North Korea.
* Divine right theory:With the **divine right theory**, government originates with power vested in an individual by God or gods. Generally, monarchs lead governments of this type. This theory was followed in ancient times, including by the ancient Egyptians and Maya. The idea of divine right experienced a resurgence in western Europe in the 16th to the 18th centuries, when King James I of England, several French monarchs, and other rulers asserted that their authority came directly from God—and thus could not be challenged. Russian czars, such as Peter the Great, believed their autocratic rule was God-given, and they used their power to gain territory, wage war, and impose taxation on their subjects.
* Also looking at the social contract theory; the **social contract theory** of government was the result of centuries of frustration with the unchecked power of monarchs. Under this theory, government is a kind of contract in which those in power have responsibility toward those they govern and the governed respect the power of the governing individuals. There are various versions of the social contract theory, ranging from an emphasis on maintaining a peaceful social order to a focus on using individual free will to determine what is best for the **public good**, or that which benefits all people in a society. Although the social contract theory has numerous variations, at its core is the idea that government is an agreement between those who govern and those who are governed. The founders of the United States drew heavily on social contract theory in the construction of both the [Declaration of Independence](/sg/american-government/declaring-independence-from-britain/%22%20%5Cl%20%22declaration-of-independence) and the U.S. Constitution. In doing so, they formed a democracy, which literally means "rule by the people."

The strength of the Divine Theory

Although the divine theory is totally discredited as an origin of the state, there are some good things in it. The summum bonum of the theory is that it stimulated discipline and law-abidingness among the subjects at a time when these were the needs of the hour in those anarchical conditions. This theory also created the moral responsibility of the rulers, because they were cast with a divine injunction to rule to the perfect satisfaction of the heaven.

The strength of the Force theory

**The theory of force, though untenable as an explanation of the origin of the state, has some redeeming features:**

First, the theory contains the truth that some states at certain points of time were definitely created by force or brought to existence by the show of force. When the Aryans came to India they carried with them weapons of all kinds and horses to use in the war against the non-Aryans and by defeating the non-Aryans they carved out a kingdom in India.

Later on, the Aryans sprawled their kingdoms and broad-based their government and ruled with the backing of the people.

Secondly, the other silver lining of the theory is that it made the slates conscious of building adequate defense and army to protect the territorial integrity of the state. That is why we find commanders of war or Senapati as an important post in the ancient kingdoms.

In the modern state, we find a substantial amount of money used on defense budget. Every state in the modern world has got a defense minister which unmistakably recognizes the use of force in modern statecraft too.

The strength of the Social contract theory

Although as an explanation of the origin of the state the social contract theory is unacceptable, it has some merits or values. First, the theory dashed to the ground the more worthless theory that the state was the creation of God. There might not be any social contract anywhere in history but it carried the message of the supremacy of the people in the statecraft and gave encouragement to the growth of democracy and gave a deterrent to the arbitrariness of any government.