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QUESTIONS.

1. How can a Lebanese retain or lose his or her newly acquired Nigerian Citizenship?
2. Social construct Theory explains the evolution of states, what other theories explain the same, and their strengths.

QUESTION 1

The following are ways to gain and retaining citizenship as a foreigner in Nigeria

* By Birth
* By Registration
* By Naturalisation

**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:** 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](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/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:** 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;
* \* (e) He is a person who has made or is capable of making useful contribution to the advancement; progress and well-being of Nigeria;
* \* (f) He has taken the Oath of Allegiance prescribed in the Seventh Schedule to this Constitution; and
* \* (g) He has, immediately preceding the date of his application, either-

(i) Resided in Nigeria for a continuous period of fifteen years; or

(ii) Resided in Nigeria continuously for a period of twelve months, and during the period of twenty years immediately preceding that period of twelve months has resided in Nigeria for periods amounting in the aggregate to not less than fifteen years.

28. (1) Subject to the other provisions of this section, a person shall forfeit forthwith his Nigerian citizenship if, not being a citizen of Nigeria by birth, he acquires or retains the citizenship or nationality of a country, other than Nigeria, of which he is not a citizen by birth.

29. (1) Any citizen of Nigeria of full age who wishes to renounce his Nigerian citizenship shall make a declaration in the prescribed manner for the renunciation.

(2) The President shall cause the declaration made under subsection (1) of this section to be registered and upon such registration, the person who made the declaration shall cease to be a citizen of Nigeria.

(3) The President may withhold the registration of any declaration made under subsection (1) of this section if-

(a) The declaration is made during any war in which Nigeria is physically involved; or

(b) In his opinion, it is otherwise contrary to public policy.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section.

(a) "full age" means the age of eighteen years and above;

(b) Any woman who is married shall be deemed to be of full age.

30. (1) The President may deprive a person, other than a person who is a citizen of Nigeria by birth or by registration, of his citizenship, if he is satisfied that such a person has, within a period of seven years after becoming naturalized, been sentenced to imprisonment for a term of not less than three years.

(2) The President shall deprive a person, other than a person who is citizen of Nigeria by birth, of his citizenship, if he is satisfied from the records of proceedings of a court of law or other tribunal or after due inquiry in accordance with regulations made by him, that -

(a) The person has shown himself by act or speech to be disloyal towards the [Federal Republic of Nigeria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Republic_of_Nigeria); or

(b) The person has, during any war in which Nigeria was engaged, unlawfully traded with the enemy or been engaged in or associated with any business that was in the opinion of the president carried on in such a manner as to assist the enemy of Nigeria in that war, or unlawfully communicated with such enemy to the detriment of or with intent to cause damage to the interest of Nigeria.

31. For the purposes of this Chapter, a parent or grandparent of a person shall be deemed to be a citizen of Nigeria if at the time of the birth of that person such parent or grandparent would have possessed that status by birth if he had been alive on the date of independence; and in this section, "the date of independence" has the meaning assigned to it in section 25 (2) of this Constitution.

32. (1) The president may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Chapter, prescribing all matters which are required or permitted to be prescribed or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to the provisions of this Chapter, and for granting special immigrant status with full residential rights to non-Nigerian spouses of citizens of Nigeria who do not wish to acquire Nigerian citizenship.

(2) Any regulations made by the president pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be laid before the National Assembly NIGERIA

CITIZENSHIP: Citizenship is based upon the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, dated 1989. (UKC-Commonwealth Nation) Those born before or on the date of independence, October 1, 1960, whose parents or grandparents were born in Nigeria and who were legally residing in Nigeria at the time, are considered citizens of Nigeria. BY BIRTH: Birth within the territory of Nigeria does not automatically confer citizenship. BY DESCENT: Child, at least one of whose parents is a citizen of Nigeria, regardless of the child's country of birth. REGISTRATION: The following persons are eligible to become citizens through registration: A foreign woman who marries a citizen of Nigeria. Person who is of adult age (17), born outside Nigeria, any of whose grandparents is or was a citizen of Nigeria. A foreign child adopted by Nigerian parents. BY NATURALIZATION: Nigerian citizenship may be acquired upon fulfillment of the following conditions: Person is of full age (17), has resided in Nigeria for at least 15 years, is of good character, plans to remain in Nigeria, is familiar with Nigerian language and customs, has a viable means of support, and has renounced previous citizenship.

It should be noted that even though Lebanese nationality law permits multiple citizenship, a Lebanese national who also holds another country's citizenship may be required to renounce the foreign citizenship, under the foreign country's nationality law.

B. WAYS A LEBANESE CAN LOSE HIS OR HIS ACQUIRED NIGERIAN CITIZENSHIP.

* Through disloyalty: A naturalized citizen can lose his citizenship if his activities are prejudicial to the country’s corporate existence.
* Supporting Another Country: If a citizen is found supporting another country engaged in war with his country, his citizenship may be deprived of him.
* Imprisonment: The individual can also lose his citizenship if within a period of say 5-7 years after of becoming nationalized, he gets involved in criminal case, resulting in his incarceration for some years.
* Treason: The nationalized citizen can equally lose his citizenship, if found guilty of this offence.
* False Declaration: If there’s a fundamental breach of the citizenship agreement binding him e.g. false declaration.
* Renouncement: The individual can lose his citizenship by renouncing it.

N.B. It should however be noted that, Nigeria hardly gives its citizenship to foreigners as it frowns on dual citizenship for people with non-Nigerian ancestry/descent.

QUESTION 2

There are four major theories of how government originates: evolutionary, force, divine right, and social contract. However, as the question entails, in this write up, the Social Contract Theory would not be spoken about.

A state is a community of persons, permanently occupying a definite territory, legally independent of external control, and possessing a organized government which create & administrates law over all persons and groups within its jurisdiction. The elements of a state are; population, territory, government, sovereignty.

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.

Strengths;

The state came into existence as a result of the forced subjection of the weak to the strong.

Criticisms:

Two arguments in force theory.

One group of thinkers used this theory to justify the state on the ground that the state is power, that might makes right and that the essence of the state is a sovereign will.

Second group, to attack the state because of its injustice and urge individual freedom and limited state action

In middle ages theologians argued that, the state was based upon force and injustice and decried the origin of earthly sovereignty in order to subordinate temporal to spiritual power.

Individualist & anarchist believe that the State is an evil because of their desire for individual freedom.

Socialist believe that , the state resulted from the aggression and exploitation of laborers by capitalist and attack, not the idea of the state itself.

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.