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

A citizen is an indigenous member of a country who has equal rights as any member a country through birth, registration or naturalisation. A citizen has rights that he or she is entitled to, duties to perform to the nation. Citizenship is the statue that a person holds in a country, the person would be able to defend him or herself, a status a person is recognised in a country under certain laws, States do determine on what equal rights it wants to identify a person.

Citizenship can be acquired through different methods or ways: Birth, registration and naturalisation. A Lebanese is a citizen of Lebanon who wants to become a citizen of Nigeria can get it through registration or naturalisation. The citizen by registration is written in the constitution of Nigeria in section 26 the person must comply with the rules under it, the person must be of good character, the person must have a clear desire to live in Nigeria. must take the oath of allegiance. It also allows a person who married from Nigeria to become a citizen or grandparents are citizens. If can’t be acquired through birth or registration the naturalisation which is provided in section 27 and 28 of constitution. The person must be of age to acquire for citizenship, good character, desire to reside in Nigeria, able to contribute to Nigeria in a positive way also the person must have lived in Nigeria for about 15 years.

If the citizen in question didn’t acquire the citizenship by birth but by the other two ways the person can lose his or her citizenship if he or she goes against the provisions of the Nigerian constitution. If goes to jail for more than three years within the seven years of acquiring the citizenship, If found guilty also if the person has enemies in the country or found disclosing country’s secrets. If the person is

found harmful to the country his or her citizenship can be taken away if taken through illegal means. If the person does not have anything holding him or her back down like crime can still be a citizen of Nigeria.

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

A state is a form of human association distinguished from other social group by its purpose, the establishment of order. its methods, laws, enforcement, territory geographic boundaries and finally its sovereignty.

Historical concept of state

Bentham and Marx: In 19th century the state was artificial means of producing a unity of interest and a device for maintaining stability. Karl Marx for whom the state has become an apparatus of oppression determined by ruling class. He and his collaborator Friedrich Engels wrote in ***THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO*** that in order to realize complete freedom and contentment, the people must replace the government first by a ‘dictatorship of the proletariat’ which would be followed by

the withering away of the state and then by a classless society based on the organization of the means of production and the fair distribution of goods and property.

Characteristics of a state

1. Population: It is the most obvious essential feature of a state where the population shares a general political and social consensus about basic beliefs.

2. Territory: A state or country or city has certain boundaries, conflicts can arise between states over where borders should be placed or negotiations between governments.

3. Sovereignty: Political sovereignty means the state has supreme authority. It can make laws, shape foreign policy and make actions without higher authority.

4. Government: It’s the institution through which the state maintain order, provide public services and enforce decisions to bind the citizens.

5. Permanence: A state must be relatively permanent on like the government which can change from time to time.

6. Recognition: A territory must be recognised to be called a state by other states. It will hinder any form of violence or war.

Social Contract Theory As An Origin Of State

The Social contract theory is one of the theories of the origin of state. It has been emerged since the time of the sophists of the Greece but got recognition in the hands of the great trio. The names of these great philosophers were John Locke, Thomas Hobbes and Jean Jacques Rousseau.

The term social stands for the society where these individual persons live and the term contract is an agreement or a promise made between the two or more individuals. There are more theories of state but the social contract theory has explained state in a systematic manner.

This theory states that the society came into being by a contract that was made between the individual and the society. According to Hobbes people will surrender all their rights to the king and the king won’t be part of the contract whereas Locke says that the people will surrender only a part of their rights to the king and is also a part of the contract and the right to change their king if he fails to fulfil his duties. Rousseau talks about general will, it is not the will of all nor it is the will of the majority but is a general will for common good.

According to this theory there were two divisions in human history one period is prior to the establishment of the state called the state of nature and the other called the civil society. There was no law to regulate the relations of the people in the state of nature. According to social contract theory the state was a creation of the people living in a state of nature which was lawless

Value Of The Theory

As the explanation as a theory of state it has some value first the theory dashed to the ground the more worthless theory that the state was a creation of God. Secondly, it helped the growth of the modern concept of sovereignty. The third benefit is that John Locke answered some of the most critical questions by clearly distinguishing the state from government.

The Theory Of Force

The theory of force also contributed to the evolution of state the exponents of this theory holds that war and aggression by powerful tribes led to the creation of state. They rely on the quote saying ‘ war begot the king’ as the historical origin.

After establishing the state by subjecting the other people in that place the chief used his authority in maintaining law and order. Thus the theory is not only responsible for the origin but development of the state also history supports the force theory as the origin of the state.

This theory is based on the well accepted maxim of survival of the fittest. There is always a natural struggle for existence by fighting all adversaries among the animal world. The socialist condemned the coercive power of the state by curbing and exploiting the workers. The theory is supported by the German philosophers like Friedrich Hegel, Immanuel Kant, John Bernhardi and Triestchki. They maintain that war and force are the deciding factor in the creation of the state

In the second place the theory of force runs counter to the universally accepted maxim of Thomas Hill Green ‘ will, not force, is the basis of the state’ The theory clearly shows that state was created by force or brought by the show of force.

The Marxists Theory Of State

Their view is that state was created with class struggle with the help of force. The Marxists began with a primitive society where no surplus wealth to quarrel with and so there was no state. As time went on society was getting split over hostile classes with conflicting interests. This class antagonism was the root of the state. The most dominant class controlled the mode of production to establish the state to ensure its dominance over the other classes who did not own the modes of production. It was dominating by upper class. The state was the medium of the economically dominant classes.

Marx, Engels and Lenin had no faith on the social contract theory as the origin of state. They viewed the origin from a materialistic standpoints which emphasises the state is a creation of man behind this no emotions but material conditions. They divided the development of society into old communist society and industrial society

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