

EKWEALO PROSPER

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MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES

GST 203:GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

A REVIEW OF CHAPTER 8

This chapter enlightens us on roles of citizens in a Democracy. The introductory paragraph talks about what sovereignty entails and the author let's us know that the citizens have a collective right to choose their governmental, political and electoral systems as part of self-determination and they are written in the universal declaration of human rights.. There are several conceptual clarifications

and the first one is citizen/citizenship, citizen has a relationship between the people and government. Citizenship of a state may be acquired by birth and naturalization. citizenship is divided into civil, political, and social citizenship.

In defining citizenship the rights of citizens were also discussed, rights enable men to live and develop fully and some of this rights include right to life, right to freedom of religion, right to work, right to education etc... Democracy is derived from the greek word "demos" meaning people and kratos meaning rule which is rule by the people. The concept originated from ancient greece where in the city states citizens were free to meet frequently in assemblies which had the power to make laws. Citizens have rights and duties to the state just as the state provides rights and liberties.

Some of the duties are a citizen in a democracy should have the duty to vote, they should be willing to pay taxes and also they have a duty to obey the law, they must support public education in every way possible.. Just as the state plays a role in

democracy, citizen also plays a role too because there won't be democracy without the cooperation and commitment of citizens.