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SUMMARY OF CHAPTER 8 (CITIZENS ROLE IN A DEMOCRACY)

Citizens of a state have a set of rights and responsibilities and this include the right to participate in decisions that affect public welfare. Citizenship according to Turner can be defined as a formal legal identity that the individual person inherits through a collection of legal rights and obligations, controlling access to the scarce political, economic and cultural resources of society. Citizenship of a state may be acquired either by birth or by naturalisation. Citizenship is divided into Civil citizenship (It refers to the rights necessary to protect individual liberty), Political citizenship (It is associated with participation in the democratic exercise of political power), and social citizenship (It has to do with access to those resources that allow them to live a civilized existence in accordance with the standard prevailing the society). According to Clover there are 3 dimensions of citizenship;

1. Ethical citizenship-It understands active participation in a collective strive towards the public good as an essential feature.
2. Integrative citizenship- it needs engagement in a wide sphere of participation that can go beyond formal political practice and institutions.
3. Educative citizenship- it refers to processes that develop a moral, practical, and intellectual sense of self in individuals when they practice citizenship.

**Citizens Right**

Individual right allows men to live and develop fully. Rights bestow duties and responsibilities on every citizen and it is limited. A civil right can be defined as a privilege expressed within the framework of the constitution of a state. Some important civil right of Nigerians include right to life, right to work, right to freedom of religion, right to education etc.

**Democracy**

Etymologically, the word democracy is derived from the Greek word *demos* meaning people and *kratos* meaning rule. In Greece direct democracy was practice but aliens, slaves and labourers were excluded but in England every citizen but of high or low class were allowed to participate in democracy. According to Abraham Lincoln, democracy is government of the people, by the people and for the people.

**Features of the definition of democracy**

1. The fundamentals law of the citizen is guaranteed
2. Independent and impartial democracy
3. Existence of rule of law
4. Freedom of press and Periodic election that is free and fair.

**Duties and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy**

All citizens have their duties and responsibilities as members of a state or country the most important one are;

1. All citizens are expected to vote
2. Citizen of a country should always ensure to pay taxes so democracy can be conducted
3. All citizens must obey the law
4. No citizen is allowed to interfere with right of other citizens in a state etc.