

Sovereignty resides and flows from the people in a democracy. They all have a collective right to choose their government. The foundation of the famous formulation that democratic government is for the people, by the people and of the people. Citizen engagement is not abstraction, it pursues economic, social, cultural and political development including the provision of opportunity, resources, services and security..

Barriers to citizen participation are multiple in every country. They are both subtle and obvious abs are based on numerous factors. Citizens must therefore understand ideas about citizenship, politics, and government. They need knowledge to make decisions about policy choices and the proper use of authority. There are some conceptual clarification which is to be used to clarify a few concepts. The first is citizen/citizenship, a citizen is a political meaning that implies a certain relationship between the people and the government. Citizens have set of rights and responsibilities to participate in decisions that affects public welfare

In ancient Rome, it was a privilege to be acknowledged as a citizen. Because the status was not accorded through all inhabitants of the Roman Empire slaves. Modern states confesses on practically their whole residents or population. Citizenship of a state may be acquired either by birth or by naturalisation. A man becomes a citizen of a particular states if his parents are citizens of that state. on the other hand do you process by which an individual may voluntarily change his or her citizenship Two another state is known as naturalisation. Chapter 111 section 25 defines citizenship as many things. Citizenship can be perceived to be made up of civil citizenship, political citizenship and social citizenship. Citizenship Has more than one definition. It means different things to different people. Citizenship is about being willing to contribute to social action as well as political debate.

Citizens rights Exists exists to enable men to live and develop fully. These rights are not absolute since they are limited buy the rights of other citizens of the states. Important civil rights according to Nigerian citizens include: right to life, right to work, rights to freedom of religion, right to education, etc. It has been established that the word democracy waas established from the Greek word, "demos meaning people want kratos, meaning rule. The Greek democracy was a limited institution. Abraham Lincoln, former American president Perceived demockracy as government of the people, by the people and for the people. According to him, democracy is a government by the people when its ideological undercurrents is grounded in the people's culture.

There is however no single definition of democracy but it can be deduced from the various definitions of democracy are the following features:

1. The fundamental rights of citizens is guaranteed.
2. Independent and impartial judiciary
3. Existence of rule of law, etc.

There are also various duties and responsibilities of citizens is democracy. All citizens have duties to the state. Citizens play a very important role in democracy, as without cooperation and unity of the citizens, there would be no democracy.