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Government assignment.

4 Do a two page review of chapter 7.

Political parties are an essential feature of politics in modern age of mass participation. They help to keep Government accountable to public opinions. They are also an important link between Government and the people. Political parties first developed in the nineteenth century the first modern electoral democracy was the united state of America and it was there the first parties developed.

Conceptual Clarification of the idea of Political Party:

Political parties has so many definitions according to different people because it perform so many task in the political process that is difficult to establish a single definition.

Characteristics of Political Party:

(1) The major feature is to capture governmental power through constitution. (2) Political party guided by party manifestoes which guide their conduct during and after winning elections. (3) Guiding by constitution.

TYPES OF POLITICAL PARTIES

- (1) Elite Party: It draws membership from the highest echelon of social hierarchy in a country.
- (2) Mass Party: This political party draw its membership from all sections of the society and have wide membership.
- (3) Ideological Party: They are formed with political ideology which form the bases of the party.

FUNCTIONS OF POLITICAL PARTY:

(1) Political stability (2) Conflict management (3) Organisation of Government (4) Political Education etc.

POLITICAL PARTY IN NIGERIA

The political party in Nigeria developed following the growth of the nationalist sentiments. The National Congress of British West Africa territories was formed in 1920, and Obafemi Awolowo and others were precursors of political parties in Nigeria. The Nigerian National Development Party was regarded as the first party in Nigeria.

PROBLEMS THAT WERE IN PRE-INDEPENDENCE POLITICAL PARTIES:

(1) Intra-party conflict (2) Political party placed much emphasis on personalities (3) The political party selection were not in

POLITICAL PARTIES IN 1950-1966

According to Imoleyke, 2010, two major parties emerged between 1950 and 1961. These were Action group and Northern People's Congress. These parties emerged from cultural association because of the prospects of 1951 election.

POLITICAL PARTY IN SECOND REPUBLIC IN NIGERIA

The NPC was officially launched in September, 1975 in Lagos after lifting of ban on party politics by military Government. NPC was comprised and held by a host of social clubs, the main goal was unity.

POLITICAL PARTY IN THIRD REPUBLIC IN NIGERIA

This was the first time Nigeria had a constitutional two party system which were set up by the military Government. The two parties are the social Democratic party and the Nation Republican Convention were established by the Government.

POLITICAL PARTY IN FOURTH REPUBLIC IN NIGERIA

The three parties were registered in preparation towards the 4th republic in 1992 by independent National electoral commission among several political parties. The registered parties were Alliance for Democracy, All People's party which was later changed to All Nigerian People's party. Since the inception of the 4th republic, other political parties have been registered by INEC.

Conclusion:

Nigeria's political parties still face challenges up till now due to corruption which has turned politics to a business. However the goal of political parties in Nigeria is to link the government to with the people's opinions.

