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TOURISM AND EVENT MANAGEMENT.

Government in Nigeria Politics.

Chapter 8: Citizens role in a democracy.

Sovereignty resides in and flows from the people in a democracy. The authority of government like wise derives from the will of the people in their choice of these systems, and the people have a right to take part in their government, including through genuine elections to determine who will legitimately occupy governmental offices. These people are embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in modern constitutions the world over. There is no democracy without the engagement of citizens. For democracy to deliver, citizens must become informed about issues that can improve their lives. They must be free to come together to express their views and preferences and work to see that government responds to their citizens' views this holding these government accountable.

Conceptual Clarification

- **Citizen/ Citizenship**

Citizen has an inherently political meaning that implies a certain type of relationship between the people and government. Citizens have a set of rights and responsibilities, including the right to participate in decisions that affect public welfare.

In Rome it was considered a privilege to be called citizen because the status to be called citizen because the status was not accorded to all inhabitants of the Roman empire.

Citizenship of a state may be acquired either by birth or by naturalisation. A man becomes a citizen of a particular state if his parents are citizens of that state or if he or she is born within the territory of that state.

- **Citizens 'Rights**

In order to let the citizens have a share in the running of his/her government, a group of rights is very essential. These rights are not absolute since they are limited by the rights of other citizens in the state. When a privilege is expressed within the framework of the constitution of the state, it becomes a civil right.

Democracy

The word democracy is derived from the Greek word "demos" meaning people and kratos meaning rule, that is "rule by the people" (Emiri, 2003, cited in Ojo, 2015). The concept of democracy, like many other political concepts first originated from Ancient Greece where in the

city states, citizens were free to meet frequently in assemblies I, citizens are free to discuss state affairs, take decisions and exercise political rights.

Since there is no single definition of democracy how, what can be deduce from the various definitions of democracy are the following features.

1. The fundamental rights of the citizens in guaranteed.
2. Independent and impartial judiciary
3. Existence of rule of law
4. Periodic election that is free and fair

Democracy is a system of government where the citizens directly elect the government by voting. It can also be defined as the system of government by the people, of the people and for the people. Citizens play an important role in democracy. There would probably be no democracy without the co-operation and commitment of citizens. Citizens must be away of there rights and responsibilities as without the awareness among the citizens, a government may turn into tyranny.