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***CITIZENS ROLES IN A DEMOCRACY***

**The term citizens has a inherently political meaning that implies a certain type of relationship between the people and government. Citizens play an important role in democracy. There would probably be no democracy without the co-operation and committment of citizens. Citizens must be aware of their rights and responsibilities as without the awareness among the citizens,a government may turn into a tyranny. Citizenship of a state may acquired either by birty or nationalisation.**

***Civil citizenship* is a type of citizenship that refers to the rights necessary to protect individuals liberty e.g freedom of speech,etc. *Political citizenship* is a type of citizenship that is associated with participation in the democratic exercise of political power either as a member of the political community e.g voters or an individual elected by the member of such community e.g politician. *Social citizenship* is a type of citizenship that embodies the claim that citizens ought to have access to those resources that allow them to live a civilised existence in accordance with the standards prevailed in the society.**

***Ethical citizenship* is a dimension of active citizenship that understand active participation in a collective strive towards the public good as an esssential feature of citizenship. *Integrative citizenship* needs engagement in a wide sphere of participation that can go beyond formal political practices and institution . *Educative citizenship* is a dimension of active citizenship that refers to the process that develops a moral,practical and intellectual sense of self in individuals when they practice their citizenship. *A right* may be defined as a privillege or prerogative conferred by law upon a person ir a group. When a privelege is expressedbwithin a framework of the constitution of the state, it become a civil right. Democracy assures basic fundamental rights for citizens.**

***Democracy* may be defined as a system of government where the citizens directly elect the government by voting. It is also defined as a system of government by the people, of the people and for the people. In essence, it means the government belongs to the people,governmental processes belongs to the people,and elections belong to the people. It is considered as the best form of government in the modern era as it allows citizens to exercise and ejoy many rights and it gives them responsibilities at the same time.**

**Since there is no single definition of democracy however,what can be deduced from the various definition of democracy are:The fundamental rights of citizens is guaranteed, Independent and impartial judiciary, existence of rule of law freedom of press, periodic election that is free and fair. The duties and responsiblities of citizens include:a citizen should have the duty to vote, a citizen should be willing to pay their taxes, a good citizen must obey the law, a good citizen must refrain from destructive criticism but be prepared to offer constructive ones, a good citizen must refain from interference with the rights of other members of the community, a citizen must support public education in every way possible. A posive attitude should be maintained with development of the state being the priority.**