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REVIEW OF CHAPTER 8 ON SALIENT ISSUES IN GOVERNMENT AND NIGERIA’S POLITICS

CITIZENS ROLES IN A DEMOCRACY.

Sovereignty is vested in the people in a democratic government. They have a collective right in choosing as a part of self determination. That’s why voters have the right in elections to determine who they want in power.

These principles have been incorporated in the UDHR and in modern constitutions all over the world. They portray the grounds for the famous frame that is democracy is’’ for the people by the people and for the people’’. Simply meaning the government of the majority of people. Thus it can not exist without engaging the people. Engagement is a right and responsibility of citizens for the smooth running of a democratic government .

Citizens must be informed on issues going on the better their lives. They must be free and express their view on the government and the government should respond.for a citizens to be informed they would need more reliable information that’s dispensed well particularly government information.for one to be a good citizen one would need to be well informed and up to date with the news especially government information, thats why the government should be transparent.

In countries there are both subtle and obvious,small and formidable barriers to a citizens participation.for the full involvement of citizens government must remove barriers such as race, gender wars ,age and religion if not universial and equal suffrage is being denied.

The word citizen means an inhabitant of a state, seen as a member of a state. It has a political meaning hinting a particular type of relationship between the government and the people. Citizens have rights and duties . in ancient Rome it was considered an honour to be called a citizen as because it wasn’t given to everyone.modern states confer citizens on practically their whole populations. The importance of a state is to make provision of opportunities to enable citizens to live a good life.

Citizenship can be obtained either by birth of naturalization. An individual can become a citizen if his/her parents are from the country or born within that legal geographical area. This is what determines citizenship in most countries.on the other hand the act of an individual voluntarily trying to change his/her citizenship is called naturalization. The conditions vary in every country. It is found in chapter 111 section 25 of constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria. Section 26 [1] to section 32 stipulates the conditions for one trying to naturalize which must be fulfilled.

Citizenship maybe perceived to be made up or divided into civil, political,and social citizenship.civil refer to the rights that protects an individual’s freedom. Political refers to one that has to do with your involvement in exercising your power, social has to do with rights or things that enable to live in an enviroment . there are indeed many concepts behind citizenship and it means different things to different people.

A Citizen right is the groundwork of a state since it allows for the existence of humans.these rights are not absolute and rights are obligations and duties.

Democracy

There is not a particular defintion to democracy. But what has been deduced from various definition from various people is that a] the fundamental rights of citizens is guaranteed. B] independent and impartial judiciary. C] existence of rule of law. D] freedom of press. E] periodic election that is free and fair.

Duties and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy.

In a state providing for citizens. citizens also have duties and obligations to the state. Democracy requires an investment of time and hardwork.

1. a citizen in a democracy should have to vote in an election because its a duty.
2. A citizens should be willing to pay taxes, in order for a government to be able to provide for citizens.
3. A good citizen should obey the law.
4. A good citizen should offer constructive alternatives to government policies.
5. A good citizen should refrain from interference with the legal freedom of other members in the society.
6. A good citizen should support public education as it is the foundation of democracy.

Democracy is simply the government of the majority,citizens play an important role in democracy. There is no democracy without its citizens . though they work hand in hand. A positive attitude must be maintained for democracy to be a success.