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MEDICINE ANND HEALTH SCIENCE

NURSING

CHAPTER SEVEN

POLITICAL PARTIES IN NIGERIA

Political parties are an essential features of politics in the modern age.in liberal-democratic system and autocratic system, the political parties help to keep the government accountable to the public opinions and help the government maintain its holds on powers. In either cases political parties are important links between the government and the people. It developed in the 19th century in Reponses to the appearance of election involving large numbers of voters. The politicians used political parties as a devices to help themselves and like-minded friends get elected. The first modern electoral democracy was held USA in (United State of America) and his brought the development of the first political parties which is the democratic parties. Since 1820 more organize parties been formed. Also British, 1867 was the first year in which there was a reasonably wide spread extension of voters making the political parties appear.

Conceptual clarification of the ideal political party

* According to R.G Gretel political party is a group of citizen more or less organized, who act as a political units and who by the use of political power aim at controlling the government and carrying outs its general polices.
* Joseph lapalombora defined political party as a formal organization whose self-conscious primary purpose is to place and maintain a public office person who would control alone or in coalition with the machinery of the government.

\* According to agbaje (1999) a political party is a group of persons bound3ed in policy and opinions in support of a general of a political causes which essential is the pursuit capture and retention

Characteristic of political party

The characteristics of political party include: They capture the government through constitutional means, They possess political ideology, They are nation minded, They possess an organize body, They have party manifesto, and they are guided by party constitution

Type of political party

Those draw their there member from the highest echelon of social hierarchy the elitist, those who draw their member from all section of the government the mass party, ideological party, brokers and lastly the charismatic party.

Function of the political party

The functions of the political party include; political education, political representation, interest aggregation, political stability, organization of government, goal formation etc.

Early political parties (1920-1950)

The Nigeria national development parties was the first party to be formed in Nigeria and it was formed because of the elective principle introduced by Clifford constitution in1922. This part won election from 1923….1933 and this party was aided by the Lagos daily new paper. After that the Nigeria youth movement took over from 1934, Then the National legislative council in Lagos then the national councils of Nigerian and Cameron in1994 which was later changed to national convention for Nigeria citizens after independence. This party campaign vigorously against Richards constitution.

Political party in Nigeria 1950-1960: two major party emerge that is the action group and the northern people congress in 1950&1951.

The problems of political party in pre-independences was that; the political parties where without national outlook, they emphasize on personalities rather than issue, they were intra -party&inter party conflict.

Political parties in the second, third and fourth republic

In the second republic five political parties were register by the federal association and they include: the Nigerian people party, the great Nigerian people party, the people redemption party, unity people party and the national party of Nigeria. In the third republic during the promulgation of the civil rule two parties where establish in accordance to the federal republic of Nigeria which is the social democratic party and the national republican convention. In the fourth republic three parties were formed and they include the alliance for democracy, all Nigeria people party and lastly people Democratic parties. Since the inception of the fourth republic, other political parties have been registered by INEC.

In conclusion most political party leader see political party as away further their business interest. There is need to arrest this trend and make political party engendering the development of Nigeria