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NAME: UBA RITA-DORIS

CHIAMAKA

MATRIC NUMBER: 19/

LAW01/252

DEPARTMENT: LAW

ASSIGNMENT

DO A TWO PAGE REVIEW ON

CHAPTER 7, "POLITICAL

PARTIES IN NIGERIA," IN

SALIENT ISSUES IN

GOVERNMENT AND NIGERIA'S

POLITICS.

DO A TWO PAGE REVIEW OF

CHAPTER 8, CITIZENS ROLE IN

A DEMOCRACY, IN SALIENT ISSUES IN GOVERNMENT AND NIGERIA'S POLITICS

CHAPTER 7; POLITICAL PARTIES IN NIGERIA.

Political parties are essential features of politics in the modern era of mass/people participation. They help to keep governments accountable to public opinion. Also they help the government to maintain its hold on power. Parties can be considered and essential political agency. It was first developed in the 19th century.

Conceptual Clarification of the

Idea of Political Party.

To R.G Gettel, "political party is a group of citizens more or less organized, who act as a political unit and who by the use of political power aim at controlling the government and carrying out its general policies".

To Herman Finer, "political party is an organized body with voluntary membership, its concerted energy being employed in the pursuit of political power"

To Agbaje, "political party is a group of persons bonded in policy and opinion in support of a general political cause, which essentially is the pursuit, capture and retention, for as long as democratically feasible, of government and its offices.

CHARACTERISTICS OF POLITICAL PARTY

1. It captures governmental powers through constitutional

means.

2. It must be national minded.
3. It has manifestoes that guide their conduct during and after winning elections.
4. They are guided by party constitution.
5. They always adopt a broad principle of public policy.

TYPES OF POLITICAL PARTIES

1. Elitist/Cadre Parties
2. Mass Parties
3. Ideological Parties
4. Broker Parties
5. Charismatic or Personality Parties

FUNCTIONS OF POLITICAL PARTY

1. Political mobilization and recruitment
2. Political education
3. Political representation
4. Interest aggregation
5. Political stability
6. Conflict management and political integration

7. Organization of government.
8. Provision of alternative government and policies
9. Electoral competition and governance
10. Goal formation

POLITICAL PARTIES IN NIGERIA

- Early political parties; NNDP (1923), NYM (1934), NCNC (1944).

- Political parties in Nigeria: 1950-1966; AG, NPC (1951), NEPU (1950), UMBC (1955), UNIP.

PROBLEMS THAT CONFRONTED PRE-INDEPENDENCE POLITICAL PARTIES

1. The political parties were without national outlook.
2. They placed more emphasis on personalities rather than issues.
3. Political party defection weakened or led to the collapse of political parties during this era.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE SECOND REPUBLIC IN NIGERIA

- NPN

- GNPP
- NPP
- PRP
- UPN
- NAP

POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE THIRD REPUBLIC NIGERIA

- SDP
- NRC

POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE FOURTH REPUBLIC

- AD
- APP
- PDP
- ANPP, ETC

CONCLUSION

From the look of things Nigeria has gone a long way in gaining political parties but the question is can they be classified as political parties or money laundering machines?