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NURSING

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REVIEW ON CHAPTER 7: Political Parties in Nigeria.

           Political parties are an important link into government and the people. A political party is an organized group of people who have the same ideology, or who otherwise have the same political positions and who field candidates for the elections, in an attempt to get them elected and thereby implement their agenda.

           A political party is an organized group of people and bodies who seek to capture political power through and election in order to run the affairs of a country. It often puts forward candidates for public office. In a democracy, leaders must “run for office” in an election. Political parties in Nigeria developed following the growth of nationalist consciousness and sentiments and nationalist movement in the 1920s.

           R.G Gettel defined political party as a group of citizens more or less organized, who act as political unit and who by the use of political power aim at controlling the government and carrying out its general policies. A political party joins people together in a formally organized structure. The major characteristics of a political party is to capture governmental power through constitutional means. The capturing of power should be peaceful and lawful, capturing of power by violence and unlawful means cannot be allied in the arena of political parties. The party ideology also serves as the basis for classifying parties as either rightist, communist, labour or conservative. Each political party must be national-minded, in aims and functions it must take into consideration, the interest of the nation. Party constitution direst the conduct of party officials and members within and outside government.

Elitist and cadre parties, this political party that draws its membership from the highest echelon of social hierarchy in a country. Mass parties are political parties that draws its membership from all sections of the society and have wide membership. Ideological party, this party is formed with political benefits which form the bases of the party. Broker Party, this party members are drawn from upper and lower classes of the society. Charismatic or personality party, this party is formed or led by individuals with charisma. Functions of political party are political education, political stability, organized by government, political recruitment and political representation. Nigerian political parties face some challenges, there is an extremely high level of corruption which has made politics an competitive business. Some problems that confronted independent political parties are: the political parties where without national outlook, political parties placed much emphasis on personalities rather than issues, political party defection weakened or led to the collapse of political parties during this era. Political parties before independence in Nigeria were not with some challenges. Political parties faced a lot of challenges and problems in this era. Most political party leaders see their political party activity as a means to their further their business interests. There is a need to stop this trend and engendering the development of the Nigeria.