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REVIEW OFCHAPTER 7.

Political parties in Nigeria.

Political party is not a essential is not an essential of politic in the modern age because people or mass participation does not really depend on political parties to vote or elect a person in to office, majority of people vote who they think is capable of taking them to the next level, the go for their opinion weather the political party and its motto, or memorandum, manifestos is ok or not.

There are many definition of political parties as the political thinkers .scholars such as R.G GEttel defined political parties is a group of citizens more or less organized ,who act as apolitical unit and who by the use of political power aim at controlling the government and carrying out its general purposes.

Joseph LaPalombara defined political party as a formal organization whose self-conscious ,primary purpose is to place and maintain in public office person who will control alone or in coalition ,the machinery of government .there are any scholarly definition of political parties from scholars such as Shively 2008, Hughes 1972,Burke 1975,Agbaje 1999, Herman Finer etc.

Characteristic of political party

1. The central feature is to capture governmental power through constitutional means

2. Political parties always have a broad principle of public policy adopted by its organization which is referred to as political ideology.

3. Every political party must be national minded i.e its aim,intrest,goal,functions must take into consideration the interest of the whole nation.

4. Political party must be well organized body because it can only drive strength from effectiveness of the organization .

5. They must have manifestos which guide their conduct during and after winning election.

Types of political parties

1.Elitist \cadre parities: draws membership from theof highest echelon\rank of social hierarchy in a country

such as doctors, lawyers ,lecturers, traditional rulers ,business tycoons.

2.mass parties :draws their membership from all section of the polity,having a wide range of membership,take names such as people party, action congress .practiced in Nigeria.

3.ideological parties:formed on the basis of ideology of the party

4.Broker parties :members drawn from upper and lower classes of the polity

5.Charismatic or personality party : forms and operated by individuals who have charisma.

Function of political party

Political education, political stability, organization of government ,campaigning under a political party ,conflict management, understanding one another.

Political parties in Nigeria

Political parties in Nigeria was developed following the growth of nationalist conscious, sentiments and nationalist movement in 1920,it was formed to organize againts colonial misrule. The national congress of british west Africa(NCBWA) , the west afican student union in 1925 and lagos youth movement in 1934.precursors ofbpolitical parties in Nigeria include Nnamdi Azikwe , Obafemi Awolowo ,Ernest ikoli, Herbert macaulay, H.o davies and others.

Political parties

There are a lot of political parties in Nigeria the first political parti is the Nigerian national development party (NNDP) introduced by Clifford constitution and was led by Herbert Macaulay who is regarded as the father of Nigerian nationalism.the party was based in lagos with no national colouration.other political parties include Nigerian youth movement (NYM) 1934,Nigerian council of Nigeria and Cameroon (NCNC)1944 later renamed national convention of Nigerian citizen in 1960 when some part of Cameroon broke from Nigeria.

Political parties between 1950-1966 include action group() and the northern people congress () majorly, and some splinter parties were formed due to disagreement among people in the major parties;parties such as (nepu) national element progressive union 1950 by Aminu Kano ,united middle belt congress(c) by j.s tsarka in 1955,lastly (unip) united national independent party a splinter from the (ncnc).

Problems that confronted pre independence political parties.

-political parties without outlook

-intra party and inter party conflict

-focused on personalities instead of national issues.

Other political parties in the second, third and fourth republic include national party of Nigeria (NPN), Nigerians people party (NPP),the great Nigerian party (GNPP) ,People redemption party(PRP),Unity party of Nigeria (UPN), Nigerian advance party (NAP) ,the social democratic party(SDP) set up by the military government ,the national republican convention (NRC) establish by the government and state congress and national conventions. Three political parties were registered in preparation towards the fourth republic in 1998 by independent national electoral commission which include Alliance for democracy(AD) ,All people party (APP) which changed its name to all Nigerians people party(ANPP),and the people democratic party(PDP) which contested the 1998 to 1999 general election. Other political parties registered by INEC include justice must prevail party, youth party, Alliance national party, coalition for change, democratic people party, fresh democratic party, freedom and justice party, hope democratic party, change Nigerian party ,all grassroots alliance , All blending party ,All grand alliance youth party, action democratic congress advanced allied party, change advocacy party,democrative alternative, independent democrats. Etc.

In Conclusion Nigerian political parties face a lot of problems due to the lack of organization ,high level of corruption and establishment of political parties for personal gain or benefit,electoral ticket given only to the wealthy .ther is a need to be directed to fostering cohesion among Nigerians and engendering the developments of Nigeria.