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Matric no: 19/MHS01/390

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Course code: Gst203

REVIEW OF CHAPTER 8 ON CITIZENS ROLES IN A DEMOCRACY

The acquisition of knowledge about their rights and roles to play is important for the people involved in a democracy to obtain to ensure that the tenets of the system of democracy are fully delivered. The citizens must ensure to actively participate in the processes of democracy to ensure accountability.

The people who exist to hold the government accountable and for whom the government exist are referred to as citizens who possess certain rights and responsibilities. The act of being a citizen is referred to as citizenship which could be acquired by birth or naturalisation.

Citizenship as a concept like many others does not possess just one definition as it has different meanings to various people. It is a broad concept which has various dimensions. As a citizen of a state one is entitled to certain rights as stipulated in the constitution of the state.

Among these rights that the citizens possess is the ability to freely participate in government. This in turn relates to the concept of democracy. This concept grants access to the citizens to participate in government no matter status they may arise from.

In a democratic state in as much as citizens are granted certain rights by the state they themselves as citizens of the state have duties and responsibilities to the state. One of such duties is voting. They are saddled with the duty to select the right, suitable and desirable government by means of a voting system. They must also abide by the law, pay taxes and live harmoniously with the society and its members. For the existence of a fully operating democracy it is necessary for the citizens to participate actively and play their necessary roles in order to achieve an effective democracy while securing public interest.