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**Review on chapter seven of the salient issues in government and Nigeria politics**

 In a liberal democratic system,political parties help to keep the government accountable to public opinions and helps to maintain hold on power in a autocratic system. It is an essential political agency. The first parties developed from the first modern electoral democracy of the United state of America. In Britain 1867 was the first year in which there was a reasonably widespread extensions of the votes. Political parties in Nigeria developed following the growth of nationalist consciousness and sentiment and nationalists movement in 1920

 Political party is a group of citizens,more or less organized,having some agreements in broad principles of national policy with efforts to capture political power by some constitutional means.

Political parties have the following characteristics;

1. To capture governmental power through constitutional means

2. It takes into consideration the interest of the nation

3. It’s should be an organized body

4. It has party manifestos

The types of political parties include;

1. Elitist parties which draws memberships from highest echelon of social hierarchy in the country

2. Mass parties which draws membership from all sections of society

3. Ideological party which is formed with political ideology or benefits

4. Broker party which draws members from upper and lower classes of the society

5. Charismatic which is formed or led by individuals with charisma

 Political parties also perform political mobilization and recruitment,education,representation,aggregation,stability and goal formation.

**Political parties in Nigeria**

According to Ikelegbe, nationalist agitators formed groups and associations to organize against colonial misrule. In 1920 the National Congress of British West Africa Territories was formed.

**Early political parties 1920-1950**

The first Nigerian national Development (NNDP) was regarded as the first political party that was formed in Nigeria. It was formed in 1993 by the elective principle introduced by Clifford constitution of 1922. The party was formed was formed mainly by its leaders and its political activities and campaign aided by the Lagos daily news paper

**Political parties in Nigeria 1950-1966**

According to Ikelegbe,2010, between 1950 and 1951 two political parties were formed: the Action Group(AG) and the Northern People’s Congress (NPC). These parties emerged from cultural associations because of the prospects of the 1951 elections. The Action Group emerged from the Egbe Oduduwa while the Northern People’s Congress emerged from the Jam’iyya ‘Mutanein Arewa.

Political parties before independence in Nigeria faced some challenges and that are ; *they were without national look,they were placed with more emphasis on personality than issues,political party defection led to the weakening and collapsing of the parties during the era*

**Political parties in the second republic in Nigeria**

Following that 53 political associations sought to contest the 1979 general election,five were registered , the ban on politics was lifted in September 1978. The National Party of Nigeria was officially launched In September 1978 in Lagos. The party won the presidential election and ruled for 4 years and 3 months

**Political parties in the third republic Nigeria**

For the first time, Nigeria had a constitutional two party system which was set up by the military government. The two parties were the Social Democratic party(SDP) and the National Republican Convention(NRC). The SDP registration was approved by the Armed forces Ruling Council with chief Tony Anemia as it’s national chairman while the NRC was registered through the approval of the armed forces ruling council with Chief Tom Ikimi as its chairman

**Political parties in the fourth Republic**

The independent National Electoral Commission(INEC) registered 3 parties in preparation for the 1998 republic. The parties were Alliance for Democracy (AD), All People’s Party (APP) and People’s Democratic Party(PDP). The AD sponsored and contested election during 1998 and 1999 general election and gained political power in six states of southwest of the federation between 1999 and 2003

Since this inception Nigeria now has over 50 political parties registered under INEC Some includes;Abundant Nigeria Renewal Party(ANRP),Action Democratic Party(ADP),All Grassroots Alliance (AGA),Change Advocacy Party(CAP) and so on