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Chapter 8

Citizens engagement in Democracy is not an abstraction, it takes tangible forms and serves particular purposes to improve peoples lives.

To be informed citizens need accurate & timely information, particularly government held information. They need to learn from those who compete in politics how politicians intend to employ that information for the good of the population.

Conceptual Clarifications

Citizen/citizenship: They have a political meaning that implies a certain type of relationship between the people and government. To become a citizen of a state, one must acquire the citizenship either by birth

or naturalisation. On the other hand the process by which an individual may voluntarily change his/her citizenship of a state to another state is known as naturalization. The following are some conditions under which naturalization are conferred.

a) Every person born in Nigeria before the date of independence, either of whose parent or any of whose grandparents belongs or belonged to a community indigenous to Nigeria shall not become a citizen of Nigeria if one of his parents was born in Nigeria.

b) Every person born in Nigeria after the date of independence either of whose parents or any whose great grandparents is a citizen of Nigeria and

c) Every person born outside Nigeria either of whose parents is a citizen of Nigeria.

## Chapter 8

### Citizens Right

A right can be defined as a privilege or prerogative conferred by law upon a person or group. When a privilege is expressed within the framework of the constitution of the state, it becomes a civil right.

### Democracy

Etymologically, democracy was derived from a Greek word "demos" meaning people & kratos meaning rule, that is ruled by people. Here citizens are free to make decisions and exercise their political rights.

There are some features of democracy

- ① Existence of rule of law
- ② Freedom of press
- ③ Periodic election that is free & fair
- ④ The fundamental rights of the citizen is guaranteed etc.

In conclusion, Democracy is a

System of government where citizen directly elect the government by voting. Citizens must be aware of their rights & responsibilities in the development of a better government.