**NAME: Victor Ayotomide OSATIMEHIN**

**MATRIC NUMBER: 19/MHS09/019**

**COURSE CODE: GST 203 (GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS).**

**DEPARTMENT: Dentistry**

***Do a review of chapter 7, “political parties in Nigeria”, in salient issues in Government and Nigeria’s politics.* (2 PAGES)**

Chapter 7

Political parties are important in modern age and it fuels the essence of good governance in democracy and even in an autocratic system of government. They help the government maintain hold on power. A person who is engaged in politics especially an elected or appointed government official is called a Politician. Political party is a group of citizens, more or less organized, having some agreement in broad principles of national policy with an effort to capture political power by some constitutional means. Some of the characteristics of political party are capturing governmental power through constitutional means in a lawful and peaceful manner, they must be national minded in aims and functions, being an organized body because political parties can only derive strength from an effective organizational structure, etc.

**Types of political parties.**

* Elitist/cadre parties: this is a political party that draws in membership from the highest echelon of social hierarchy in a country. Members of this party boasts are; doctors, lawyers, lecturers or business tycoons.
* Mass parties: it draws its members from all sections of the society and have wide membership. This takes such names as; peoples party, labour party, workers party etc.
* Ideological parties: this is formed by political ideology or benefits which forms the bases of the party.
* Broken party.
* Charismatic or personal party.

**Functions of political party.**

* Political education
* Political mobilization and recruitment
* Political stability
* Political representation
* Goal formation
* Electoral competition and governance

**Political parties in Nigeria.**

This developed following the growth of the nationalist consciousness and sentiments, and nationalist movements. The National Congress of British West African Territories was formed in 1920, the West African Students Union in 1925 and the Lagos Youth Movement in 1934. Ernest Ikoli, Nnamdi Azikiwe, Obafemi Awolowo, H.O.Davies etc were precursors of political parties in Nigeria, were in the forefront of political activities and part formation in the 1920s and thereafter.

The first regarded political party in Nigeria is the Nigerian National Development Party (NNDP) which was formed in 1923 under the Clifford constitution of 1922. NNDP was led by Herbert Macaulay who was regarded as the father of Nigerian nationalism. The party was exclusively based in Lagos and had no national colouration. The party was formed mainly by its leaders and its political activities and campaigns were aided by a newspaper called Lagos Daily News launched in 1925. The Nigerian Youth Movement (NYM) was later formed in 1934 by a group of young Nigerians, the National Council of Nigerian and Cameroon (NCNC) was also formed in 1944 and was later renamed to the National Convention of Nigerian Citizen in 1960 when some parts Cameroons broke away from Nigeria. NCNC was the major Nigerian party until 1950. Nnamdi Azikiwe became its president in 1946 after Herbert Macaulay’s death.

After that Action Group and the Northern People’s Congress (NPC) emerged between 1950 and 1951. They are cultural based parties AG is of the Yoruba (Egbe omo oduduwa) and NPC is of the northerners. Since the inception of the fourth republic a lot of political parties have been registered by the Independent national electoral Commission (INEC) like Action Alliance (AA), African Democratic Congress (ADC), All Progressive Party (APC), All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA), Youth Party (YP), Youth Democratic Party (YDP), Young Progressive Party (YPP), People for Democratic- Change (PDC), etc.