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ASSIGNMENT0o

Do a two-page review of Chapter 8, “Political Parties in Nigeria,” in Salient issues in Government and Nigeria’s Politics.

**CITIZENS ROLES IN DEMOCRACY**

In a democracy, sovereignty resides in and flows out of the people. They have a collective right to choose their governmental, political and electoral system. The authority of government likewise derives from the will of the people in their choice of these systems, and the people have a right to take part in their government, including through genuine elections to determine who will legitimately occupy governmental offices.

These precepts are embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in modern constitutions the world over. They capture the foundation for the famous formulation that democratic government is "of the people, by the people and for the people. There is no democracy without the engagement Citizens. Engagement is thus both a right and a responsibility of citric in establishing, developing and sustaining democracy. Citizen engagement is not an abstraction; it takes tangible forms and servo particular purposes to improve peoples' lives.

For democracy to deliver, citizens must become informed about Issue that can improve their lives. They must be free to come together express their views and preferences and work to see that government. responds to citizens' views, thus holding those in government accountable. To be informed, citizens need accurate and 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. Access to information’s essential to an informed citizenry.

Conceptual Clarifications

**Citizen/ citizenship**

This implies a type of relationship between the people and government. Citizens have rights and responsibilities to the state while the government has duties to the people.

Citizenship of a state is acquired either by birth or by naturalisation according to chapter 111 section 25, 26 and 32.

**Citizens Rights**

Individual's rights and liberties are the groundwork of the state since it exists to enable men to live and develop fully. In order to let the citizen, have a share in the running of his/her government, a group to rights 1s very essential. these rights are not absolute since they are limited by the rights of other citizens in the state. Right entails some duties and responsibilities on the part of every citizens. A right may therefore be defined as a privilege or prerogative conferred by law upon a person or a group.

**Democracy**

It has been etymology established that's the word democracy is derived from the Greek word demos meaning people on Kratos meaning Rule therefore democracy means rule by the people. The Greek democracy is a limited institution that's excluded Labourers , Sneeze and aliens from expressing political rights. The idea that’s all people are equal irrespective of their status in society was first advocated in England after the great civil war off the 16th century.

Abraham Lincoln the former president of America perceived democracy as the governments of the people by the people and for the people. According to him, democracy is a government of the people when it is designed to represent the common will of the citizenry in the state and that is a government by the people when it is ideologically grounded in the peoples culture and it’s a government for the people when they are the one who employ the representatives to lead them.

**Duties and responsibilities of citizens in a Democracy**

Even though the government is to serve the people, Citizens still have some duties and responsibilities to the government.There is a saying that citizens get the government they deserve. Inorder to get a good government, you have to be a good citizen. this involves voting during elections, paying taxes, being obedient to the law, restraining from uttering destructive criticism,refraining from interfering with the rights of other members of society, and supporting public education in every way possible.

Citizens should cheque on how institutions like investigating agencies, law making agencies, and even civil servants that are put in place for the well being of the democracy, are working.

Doing all these to ensure that the government of the country walks at his maximum potential the way ought to work and this will improve under develop the situation of any country.