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**Question**

**Do a two page review of Chapter 7, "Political Parties in Nigeria," In Salient issues in Government and Nigeria's Politics**

**Political parties are an essential feature of politics in the modern age of mass participation The political party crops up in all aspects of politics.
The first modern electoral democracy was the United States of America, and it was here that the first parties developed from.

Conceptual clarification of the idea of political party
There are deferent and many other definitions of political parties as the political thinkers examples are.
G Gettel, “political party is a group of citizens more or less organized, who act as a political unit and who by the use of political power aim at controlling the government and carrying out its general policies.
” According to Agbaje (1999) , “ a political party is a group of persons bonded in policy and opinion in support of a general political cause, which essentially is the pursuit, capture and retention for as long as democratically feasible, of government and its offices.
Also Edmund Burke defines political party as “a body of men united for promoting by their joint endeavour’s the national interests upon some particular principle in which they are all agreed (Burke1975)”.

Types of Political Parties
Ideological Party: This is a political party formed with political ideology or benefits which form the bases of the party.

Charismatic or Personality Party: This is political party formed or led by individuals with charisma.

Functions of Political Party
• Political mobilization and recruitment
• Political education
• Interest aggregation
• Political stability
• Goal formation
Political Parties in Nigeria
Political parties in Nigeria developed following the growth of the nationalist consciousness and sentiments, and nationalist movements.

Political parties in the second republic in Nigeria
The NPN was officially launched in September, 1978 in Lagos after lifting of ban on party politics by the military government, NPN was comprised and held by a host of social clubs, tribal unions, and associations, committees of friends, former NPC leaders and ex-public officials.
The party’s main goal was national unity, with the slogan “one nation, one destiny.
The party won the presidential election and ruled the country for 4 years and 3 months.

Political parties in the fourth Republic
Alliance for Democracy sponsored and contested election throughout Nigeria during 1998 and 1999 general elections.
It gained political power in six states of the south-west of the federation between 1999 and 2003 by winning the governorship elections.
The All Peoples Party (APP) won nine (9) governmental elections in the north-west and the middle-belt zones during the 1999 elect**