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**REVIEW OF CHAPTER 7: POLITICAL PARTIES IN NIGERIA**

The number of political parties in Nigeria is quite numerous, but only few of them are popularly known. The definition of political party is not directly proportional to the nature of the political agency in Nigeria. However, a political party is a group of officials or would-be officials who are linked with a sizable group of citizens into an organization. A political party joins people together in a formally organized structure.

Some of the characteristics of political parties in Nigeria include;

1. It is the responsibility of the political party to retain governmental power through constitutional means
2. Every political party must have thee interest of the nation at heart meaning it must be nation-minded and concerned about the welfare of the nation as a whole
3. Political party should be an organized body working together because only through this, effective governance is ensued
4. Political parties usually have party manifestoes which guide their conducts during and even after winning an election

It is important to note that there are different types of political parties and they are: mass parties, cadre parties, ideologist parties e.t.c

Political parties in Nigeria developed following the growth of nationalists consciousness and sentiments in which constitutional developments elevated the emergence of parties’ formation in Nigeria. The first political party formed in Nigeria was Nigerian National Developmental Party (NNDP) and it was introduced by Clifford constitution in 1923. It was led by Herbert Macaulay (father of nationalism). The nest party formed was Nigerian Youth Movement (NYM) in 1934 by a group of young Nigerians led by Ernest Okoli, Samuel Akinsanya and Dr. J. C. Vaughan. However, problems occurred which confronted the pre-independence political parties and they are:

1. The political parties were without national outlook; they had regional support and ethnic loyalty
2. The political parties placed more emphasis on personalities rather than issues.
3. Political party defection led to the collapse of the parties during this era.