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1. Do a Two Page Review of Chapter 8, Citizens Role in a Democracy, In Salient Issues in Government and Nigeria’s Politics.

This chapter tilted CITIZEN ROLES IN DEMOCRACY talks about sovereignty of the state from the government of the PEOPLE. The people here are the citizens of the state. This participation of the citizens in political activities is a provision of the UDHR globally. There is no democracy without citizen participation in politics. The level of participation in democracy actually determines what kind of government it’ll produce. For instance, in a country where political apathy is not discouraged, with the ‘politics is a dirty game’ line, the government will decide how to run the state and treat the citizens in their own ways that it will suit them.

Citizenship duties and benefits is being legitimately free to express views, ideas, opinions and all. The enlightenment of citizenship education and also freedom to criticise the government is allowed.

In the real sense, a citizen is a person who is legally recognised as a member of state with civil benefits and responsibilities as provided by the constitution. Many people are denied of their citizenship due to their age, race, sex, migration to a new residence and a lot more. In every country there as provisions to be met by a person to become a legal citizen of country by the constitution. Citizenship can be acquired through birth, naturalization, honorary status and some others.

Chapter 111, section 25: 1 of the constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria gave directives concerning being a citizen of Nigeria. Section 26(1) to Section 32 also stipulates the conditions which any person that is trying to naturalize must fulfil before he or she can be registered as a citizen of Nigeria.

Citizenship can be perceived to be made up of, or be divided into civil citizenship, political citizenship, and social citizenship. Civil citizenship refers to the rights necessary to protect individual liberty (e.g., freedom of speech, justice, the freedom to conclude valid contracts); political citizenship is associated with participation in the democratic exercise of political power, either as a member of a political community (e.g., a voter) or as an individual elected by the members of such a community (e.g., a politician); and social citizenship embodies the claim that citizens ought to have access to those resources that allow them to live a civilized existence in accordance with the standards prevailing in society" (Marshall, 1992, cited by Glover, 2004:65).

However, as with so many other concepts, citizenship does not have just one definition, it means different things to different people. For example, Brannan et. al. (2006:55) argue that the concept of citizenship holds that citizenship is not solely comprised of passive membership of a political entity, but that being active is an essential of being a citizen. Citizenship is about being willing to contribute to social action as well as to political debate, to be willing to get involved. While involvement in local clubs and societies is seen as valuable, they argue that the involvement must speak of public-mindedness and have a purpose beyond that of a small group of people. For them With active citizenship if someone volunteers in public service provision or by acting as a governor deciding on a public policy or service either as users of such a programme or service, or as general members of Society (Brannan et al., 2006: 993-1008). However, there are broader definitions and perceptions.

There are three dimensions of active citizenship according to Glover: ethical citizenship integrative citizenship, and educative citizenship. Ethical citizenship understands active participation in a collective strive towards the public good as an essential feature of citizenship. The personal sacrifice that are made aid some public benefit and are hence ultimately also enjoyed by the person who sacrifices. Integrative citizenship need engagement in a wide sphere of participation that can go beyond formal political practices and institutions. The concept involves the belief that every individual plays an assortment of roles, and that this form of citizenship enables the individual to integrate their various roles and to immerse themselves into the community, hence causing them to have a greater appreciation of the collective. In addition, this stance holds that one needs an understanding of the personal interests of members of the wider community as well if they are to truly act as members of the public, and hence, the democratic activity that is associated with citizenship aids such an understanding as well. Educative citizenship, refers to the process that develops a moral, practical, and intellectual sense of self in individuals when they practice their citizenship. Active participation aims to expose individuals diverse "views and beliefs and deepen their sense of interconnectedness with their fellow community members, including people unknown to them. By foster a sense of being part of the community, citizen participation works overcome individualism and self-interest. Moreover, it develop important capacities by exposing citizens to the connection bet their private interests and the public interest" (Glover, 2004: 63).

Democracy and citizenship work hand in hand, in a democratic society, the fundamental rights of citizens is guaranteed, there is freedom to legal franchise, independence of the press and equity and fairness in judicial actions. These features aid citizens of a state to exercise their civil duties as well as enjoying their benefits. On the hand, citizens must pay taxes to the government to generate revenue, they must desist from hate speech and destructive criticism rather a comprehensive analysis of the government, and they must encourage public education and enlightenment on affairs of the state. Citizens should desist from breaking the law and obeying its laws and mostly exercise their franchise when it’s time for elections.

With these, the text have linked a mutual relationship between citizens of the state and democracy.