

# **CIVIC EDUCATION**

FOR

**Junior Secondary School**

# 1



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**JSS1**  
**CIVIC EDUCATION**  
**FIRST TERM**

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## **Week 1 & 2**

# **Topic: Importance of Values and Factors that Promotes Values**

### **CONTENT:**

- **Importance of values and factors that promote a value system**

### **Importance of Values**

Every decision we make is a reflection of our values and beliefs, and they are always directed towards a specific purpose. That purpose is the satisfaction of our individual or collective (societal) needs. When we use our values to make decisions, we make a deliberate choice to focus on what is important to us.

For humans, some things have always been more important than others. That is why we value people, ideas, activities, and objects according to their significance in our life. However, the criteria used to give value to those elements have varied throughout history, and depend on the values each person assumes.

### **The importance of values are listed below:**

- They influence people's behaviour and serve as criteria for evaluating the actions of others.
- They have a great role to play in the conduct of social life.
- They allow the members of a society to interact harmoniously.
- They help to regulate day-to-day behaviour.
- Values deal not so much with what is, but with what ought to be; in other words, they express moral imperatives.
- Values affect the formation and development of individuals and make it easier for society to reach goals that would be impossible to achieve individually.
- For the well-being of a community, it is necessary to have shared rules that guide the behavior of its members, otherwise, the community will not function satisfactorily for the majority.
- When families, schools, companies, and society in general function poorly, many times it is due to a lack of shared values, which is reflected in a lack of consistency between

what is said and what is done. For example, it is difficult to teach children “tolerance” if leaders and rulers constantly insult those with whom they disagree.

- Values allow individuals to feel at ease and function properly in a community and makes them feel little satisfaction in being a part of it.
- Values define the behavior of individuals.
- Values are the expression of the ultimate ends, goals or purposes of social action.
- Our values are the basis of our judgments about what is desirable, beautiful, proper, correct, important, worthwhile and good as well as what is undesirable, ugly, incorrect, improper and bad.
- Values play an important role in the integration and fulfillment of man’s basic impulses and desires in a stable and consistent manner appropriate for his living.

### **Factors that promote good values**

- **Consistency:** For particular value to be upheld there is a need for quality behaviour in the same way or having the same opinion or standard. You cannot allow one thing today when you are feeling fine and tomorrow forbid it because you are tired.
- **Trust:** This has to do with having belief or confidence in the honesty, goodness, skill or safety of a person, organization or thing. In the same vein, if a group of people believe in a particular thing and has confidence in each other, there is every tendency for them to achieve a desirable goal as a result of the element of trust among them.
- **Tolerance:** This arises when an individual or group of individuals develop the ability to bear something unpleasant or annoying or continue existing despite the disadvantageous condition. There is, therefore, the need for willingness to accept the behaviour belief which is different from one’s own e.g. religious tolerance.
- **Fairness:** To promote good value system of any society, there is a need for treating people in that society equally in a way that is right or reasonable e.g. fairness of the judicial system.
- **Integrity:** For particular value system to be upheld, members of the society must exhibit the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles that they will refuse to change. The standard and their determination must be lowered.
- **Commitment:** This has to do with being loyal and promises to support or behave in particular way. For a particular value system to be upheld, one must be ready and willing to give his time and energy to the cause he believes in or make a promise or firm decision to have a strong belief in such cause.

## ASSESSMENT TEST

1. Every decision we make is a reflection of \_\_\_\_\_
2. The act of treating people in a society equally is \_\_\_\_\_
3. Values define \_\_\_\_\_
4. List 4 importance of values
5. Write short notes of the following factors that promote good values
  - i. consistency
  - ii. trust

## Answer

1. our values and beliefs
2. Fairness
3. the behavior of individuals.
4. four importance of values are;
  - Values deal not so much with what is, but with what ought to be; in other words, they express moral imperatives.
  - Values affect the formation and development of individuals and make it easier for society to reach goals that would be impossible to achieve individually.
  - For the well-being of a community, it is necessary to have shared rules that guide the behavior of its members, otherwise, the community will not function satisfactorily for the majority.
  - When families, schools, companies, and society in general function poorly, many times it is due to a lack of shared values, which is reflected in a lack of consistency between what is said and what is done.
5. (i) Consistency is having quality behaviour in the same way or having the same opinion or standard.  
  
(ii) Trust has to do with having belief or confidence in the honesty, goodness, skill or safety of a person, organization or thing.

## Week 3

### Topic: Dishonesty

**Dishonesty** is to act without honesty. It is used to describe a lack of probity, cheating, lying, or being deliberately deceptive or a lack in integrity, knavishness, perfidiousity, corruption or treacherousness. Dishonesty is the fundamental component of a majority of offences relating to the acquisition, conversion and disposal of property (tangible or intangible) defined in criminal law such as fraud.

#### **Consequences of Dishonesty**

In Nigeria today, some people do not see anything wrong in engaging in criminal or unethical things in order to achieve success. Dishonesty always comes with serious repercussions, some of which are;

- **Examination Malpractices:** This manifest in all manner of unethical practices aimed at enhancing the student's academic performances. Students caught in this act always blame themselves for engaging in such an evil act. The outcome of this is that the student may be stopped from writing the exam, suspended from school, or he may be jailed and imprisoned for a period of time.
  - **Cheating and Trickery:** People who cheat and deceive others often end up being cast out in the society. No one wants to associate with a dishonest person. In severe cases, such a person can be arrested and prosecuted.
  - **Fraudulent Practices:** Fraudsters are people who like to obtain money and other valuables from people through criminal and illegal means. The law of this country frowns at this attitude. The ICPC and EFCC are government agencies set up to check fraud especially public office holders who use their position to amass wealth.
  - **Bad Friends:** A popular adage says "show me your friend, and I will show you who you are." A dishonest individual will equally have dishonest friend and both will influence one another negatively. They can both get into trouble for engaging in such acts as drugs trafficking, stealing, cultism, and so on.
- 
- It leads to unjust society where there are cheating, lying and trickery
  - Fraudulent practices like bribery, forgery etc are rampant in a place where there is dishonesty.
  - It brings bad image to a person and the nation at large.
  - It leads to production of inferior goods.

#### **ASSESSMENT**

1. To act without honesty is to be
  - (a) becalmed
  - (b) unhappy
  - (c) dishonest
  - (d) poor
2. \_\_\_\_\_ manifests in all manner of unethical practices aimed at enhancing the student's academic performances
  - (a) bad friends
  - (b) cheating and trickery
  - (c) fraudulent practices
  - (d) examination malpractices



3. Complete this adage, "show me your friend..."
  - (a) and I will show you your friends
  - (b) and I will show you who you are
  - (c) and I will show you your mistakes
  - (d) and I will show you plenty lies
  
4. People who like to obtain money and other valuables from people through criminal and illegal means are known as
  - (a) area boys
  - (b) fraudsters
  - (c) gangs
  - (d) peers
  
5. Which of these statements is NOT true
  - (a) People who cheat and deceive others often end up being cast out in the society
  - (b) No one wants to associate with a dishonest person
  - (c) A dishonest person can be arrested and prosecuted
  - (d) Dishonest people are worthy of emulation

## ANSWERS

1. a
2. d
3. b
4. b
5. d

## **Week 4**

### **Topic: Benefits of Cooperation**

#### **Factors that Promotes cooperation**

- Goal: For cooperation to take place, there must be a goal, aim or purpose that bind two or more people together that they intend to achieve.
- Need: For effective cooperation to be in place there must be a condition in which something necessary or desirable is required or wanted e.g. member of social clubs, member of political party etc.
- Understanding: In order to promote cooperation, there is the need for proper understanding between two people or groups for peace to exist. This will pave way for trust, humility, patience, tolerance, open-mindedness etc.

#### **Benefit of Cooperation**

- Cooperation enables one to live in harmony with other people through sharing, caring and supporting one another.
- Cooperation paves way for progress. People live in groups in order to achieve more for themselves than an individual can.
- Cooperation brings orderliness to society which makes it survive.
- Cooperation brings about goal achievement
- Cooperation makes a group or organization to achieve their set goals.
- It creates room for progress and development
- Cooperation encourages team work i.e. ability to work with others.
- Cooperation encourages self-development.
- It creates stability
- It creates room for peace and harmony in the society.

### **Assessment**

1. In cooperation there must be
  - a. hatred
  - b. jealousy
  - c. common goal
  - d. all of the above
  
2. The means where people work together for the purpose of achieving a common interest is
  - a. Integrity
  - b. Contentment

- c. Selflessness
- d. Cooperation

- 3. All of these are attributes of cooperation except
  - a. sharing
  - b. dedication
  - c. greed
  - d. common goals
- 4. One importance of cooperation is that
  - a. It helps people to work as a team
  - b. It encourages a group to embezzle public funds
  - c. It brings about development in the country
  - d. There is room for peace and harmony
- 5. Cooperation is needed in Nigeria – true/false

### **Answers**

- 1. C
- 2. D
- 3. C
- 4. B
- 5. True

## Week 5

### Topic: National Values – Self Reliance

#### **Self-Reliance**

This means being independent, which is being able to depend on oneself without assistance from others.

According to Emerson (1841), Self Reliance is an essential part of which is to rest one's present thoughts and impressions rather than those people or of one's past self. Emerson stresses the need to believe one's own thoughts, while actively searching one's internal mind in order to capture the flash thought that one may or may not come across. "*Self-reliance* is the ability, commitment, and effort to provide the spiritual and temporal necessities of life for self and family". *Self reliance* is the ability to depend on yourself to get things done and to meet your own needs, confidence in your own abilities rather than depending on others.

#### **Attributes and Basis of Self Reliance**

- **Independence:** This implies that a self-reliant individual or group does things freely without the assistance of others.
- **Confidence:** This implies the ability to be bold. It could also be the ability to face challenges.
- **Persistence:** This involves the determination to do something despite difficulties and challenges.

#### **Benefits of Self Reliance**

1. **To oneself**
  - a. Ability to satisfy one's needs
  - b. It makes one to be self-productive
  - c. It makes one to be fulfilled
  - d. One is able to discover his/her own talents and challenges
2. **To Family**
  - a. It helps the family to satisfy their needs
  - b. For family fulfillment
  - c. Members of the family are able to discover their endowed talents
3. **To the Society**
  - a. The society is self-regulated and peace is maintained
  - b. The society is portrayed as important to other society's
  - c. It leads to societal development

- d. It helps to ameliorate the problems of the society
- e. It helps to reduce the crime rate in the society

### **Assessment**

1. What is self-reliance?
2. Identify 3 attributes of self-reliance
3. State 2 benefits of self-reliance on oneself
4. Name 2 benefits of self-reliance on family
5. Identify 3 benefits of self-reliance on society

### **Answer**

1. Self-reliance is the ability to depend on yourself to get things done and to meet your own needs, confidence in your own abilities rather than depending on others.
2. Three attributes of self-reliance are;
  - Independence
  - Confidence
  - Persistence
3. (i) It makes one fulfilled  
(ii) One is able to discover his/her own talents and challenges
4. (i) It helps the family to satisfy their needs  
(ii) For family fulfillment
5. (i) The society is self-regulated and peace is maintained  
(ii) The society is portrayed as important to other societies  
(iii) It leads to societal development

## Week 6

### Topic: National Values – Honesty

#### CONTENT:

- **Meaning**
- **Attributes**
- **Benefits**

#### **Honesty**

Honesty is one of the most important qualities in life. Honesty means uprightly and truthfulness. An honest person always tries to obey the laws and regulations. He would not take what does not belong to him. An honest child will not tell lies against another child. Even when he grows up he will not cheat those whom he does business. He would not steal from his neighbours. He would always be obedient to the rules, laws and regulation of the society in which he lives.

Honesty can be defined as the act of being truthful to yourself, others and being straightforward in whatever we do. Honesty refers to a facet of moral character and connotes positive and virtuous attributes such as integrity, truthfulness, and straightforwardness, including straightforwardness of conduct, along with the absence of lying, cheating, theft, etc. Honesty implies a refusal to lie, steal, or deceive in any way. honour suggests an active or anxious regard for the standards of one's profession, calling, or position. Furthermore, honesty means being **trustworthy**, **loyal**, fair, and sincere.

#### **Attributes of Honesty**

There is close relationship between honesty, truthfulness and fairplay. An individual who is honest would not tell lies to obtain anything. He would always tell the truth. At the same time, an individual who believes in treating others fairly will always tell the truth. Honesty is required at home and at school. Honesty is required in business and in family life.

1. **Courage:** This is the ability to do what is right or good even when it seems its dangerous.
2. **Truthfulness:** This is simply the act of saying the truth at all times
3. **Loyalty:** It is the act of being loyal i.e ability to show firm and constant support to a person or organization.
4. **Reliability:** This is the act of showing that people can always rely or depend on you.
5. **Godliness:** This is the ability to fear God in your heart at all times.

## Importance of Honesty

1. Being honest makes someone to be trusted by people
2. It brings about good report about an individual
3. It helps to bring about peace and development in the society
4. Honesty makes a man to be respected
5. It makes a man honourable
6. It brings favour from people and mostly from God
7. It aids transparency in the society
8. An honest person becomes a role model and seen as small god.
9. Honesty exalts a nation.
10. It creates peace of mind and promotes relationships of trust

## Benefits of Honesty

1. Relationships are closer and improve over time.
2. **Honesty can keep you out of trouble** – We all know how you can dig yourself deeper into a hole with lies and deceit.
3. You'll enjoy better physical health and mental health.
4. It demonstrates confidence – If you are dedicated to being honest, you better be comfortable with yourself
5. **Honesty fosters courage** – Courage is not the absence of fear. Courage is doing what you know you want or need to do, despite your fear.
6. Its good for your reputation – Being honest wins you trust out in the world and People will trust you because they know you don't sugarcoat stuff.
7. Develop better judgment – When you are honest and deal honestly with others, your bullshit detector gets stronger.
8. It makes you happier – When you are confident, less stressed, self-aware, connected to others and healthier, you're happier.
9. **Honesty promotes authenticity** – Honesty is a reflection of your own thoughts and feelings.
10. It keeps you from lying to yourself – You trust yourself.

11. You attract better friends – When you exude honesty and integrity, others with the same qualities are drawn to you.
12. **Honesty shows maturity and self-acceptance** – There can often be hurt and pain associated with honesty. A mature person conveys honest expression in a style that minimizes painful impact

Other benefits of honesty are

- Honesty assists in producing a strong and happier society.
- Honesty assists people in doing the right thing and oppose wrong things.
- Honesty makes society more productive
- Honesty produces peace and honesty in the society
- Honesty is the best policy
- Honesty makes one to have good name and peace of mind.

### Assessment

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the act of being truthful to oneself and others is known as
  - (a) integrity
  - (b) diligence
  - (c) honesty
  - (d) discipline
2. The following are the attribute of honesty except
  - (a) loyalty
  - (b) Godliness
  - (c) courage
  - (d) hospitable
3. An honest person becomes\_\_\_\_\_
  - (a) honourable
  - (b) hated
  - (c) disgraced
  - (d) irritating
4. \_\_\_\_\_exalts a nation
  - (a) corruption
  - (b) honesty
  - (c) ignorance
  - (d) carelessness
5. Honesty fosters all except .....
  - (a) courage



- (b) authenticity
- (c) peace
- (d) lack of respect

**Answers**

1. C
2. D
3. A
4. B
5. D

## **Week 7**

### **Topic: National Values – Cooperation**

#### **Meaning of Cooperation**

No human being can live by itself alone. This is because cannot provide everything that he needs himself. People must work together for their own good. This idea of working together for our own good is enhanced through cooperation. In other words, it is the act of working or acting together to achieve a common goal.

Cooperation is the process of a group of individuals working together for the purpose of achieving a common goal. It means two or more people working together to achieve a common goal. Cooperation is the means whereby people combine resources together for the purpose of achieving a common interest. It is the process of working or acting together with the willingness to help out to achieve a common goal.

Cooperation simply means two or more people working together for some purposes. People work together by choice. They also work together because they belong to a particular group whose rules they must obey. If we live in a society, we must cooperate with other members of the society. It does not make sense to belong to a group and refuse to cooperate with members of that group.

#### **Types of Cooperation**

1. Free cooperation – This exists naturally and it is not forced.
2. Cooperation in Association and Clubs – This is a voluntary type of cooperation where nobody is forced to join the group e.g. Boy scout, Girls Guide, Red cross et. Once you join, you must be ready to obey all rules and regulations.
3. Cooperation by Law – This means people are forced by law to cooperate with other e.g. paying tax, obeying traffic rules.
4. Traditional Cooperation – This is common between people that live in the same traditional society e.g. working in each other's farm, concern for each other's welfare.
5. Modern Cooperation – This is very common. It helps a nation to relate with other nations. e.g ECOWS, UNESCO, Commonwealth

#### **Attributes of Cooperation**

- **Sharing:** Since cooperation involves two or more persons, people are able to divide things among themselves and this enhances participation and involvement.

- **Common goal:** In cooperation there must be a common goal to achieve, if there is no common goal then there won't be any reason for cooperation. Common goal in the sense of having a common interest.
- **Caring:** Through cooperation, members of a unit care for one another and they are ready to assist each other when such is required.
- **Support:** through cooperation, weak and feeble nations get support and encouragement from strong nations of the world.
- **Team Work:** Teamwork is very important in everyday life. People have different skills, knowledge and abilities that could be exchanged among others.
- **Mutual Help:** Cooperation brings about mutual help by receiving assistance from others when the needs arise.
- **Tolerance:** Tolerance is most simply explained by the idea of live and let live. For effective cooperation to take place, every member must be ready to tolerate one another.
- **Forgiveness:** Another attribute of cooperation is forgiveness; this will make a group of people work together smoothly.
- **Determination:** Another characteristic of cooperation is determination, this means that all member of the group must be focused and determined to achieve the set goal if not, any little challenge can make the goal unachievable.
- **Dedication:** Every member of the group has to dedicate their time and energy to ensure that the set goals is achieved.

### Assessment

1. What is cooperation?
2. List three types of cooperation
3. State four attributes of cooperation
4. What is meant by traditional cooperation
5. Define the term Determination

### Answer

1. Cooperation is the process of a group of individuals working together for the purpose of achieving a common goal
2. Three types of cooperation;
  - Free cooperation

- Cooperation in Association and Clubs
- Cooperation by Law

3. State four attributes of cooperation;

- Sharing: Since cooperation involves two or more persons, people are able to divide things among themselves and this enhances participation and involvement.
- Common goal: In cooperation there must be a common goal to achieve, if there is no common goal then there won't be any reason for cooperation. Common goal in the sense of having a common interest.
- Caring: Through cooperation, members of a unit care for one another and they are ready to assist each other when such is required.
- Support: through cooperation, weak and feeble nations get support and encouragement from strong nations of the world.

4. Traditional Cooperation – This is common between people that live in the same traditional society e.g. working in each other's farm, concern for each other's welfare.

5. Determination: Another characteristic of cooperation is determination, this means that all member of the group must be focused and determined to achieve the set goal if not, any little challenge can make the goal unachievable.

## **Week 8**

### **Topic: National Values – Self Reliance**

#### **Process of Identifying, Nurturing and Perfect Talent and Skills**

- Through day to day exploration
- Through self – conviction
- Through what people say about someone
- Through those things one finds joy doing.
- Through constant practice (Rehearsal)
- Through the purpose of teaching and learning.
- Through one's perception.

#### **How to Nurture the Identified Talent**

- **Motivation:** Always find opportunity and reason for doing regularly.
- **Reinforcement:** Make effort to get everything you need to develop your talent.
- **Rehearsal:** Put the activities into constant practice to ensure perfection.
- **Inquiry:** Seek information about your chosen field of skill and learn.

#### **Consequences of Wasted Talents and Underdeveloped Skills**

- It brings about drawback in one's social development. When a person is not self-reliant he /she will not be able to meet up with social responsibilities and as such will not be able to show interest in the affairs of one's society.
- It leads to poor actualization of one's intended need or desire in life. Human needs are too numerous, and the satisfaction of such need become a problem. This problem more intense when the individual is not independent, that is, he/she cannot do things on his/her own.
- It brings about pre-delinquency among individuals and groups.
- It leads to idleness.
- It tends to increase the dependency rate in the society.

### **Possible Areas of Specialisation for Talent Discoveries**

1. Tent Making
2. Bead Making
3. Carving
4. Farming
5. Drumming
6. Pottery
7. Hair Making
8. Fashion Design
9. Shoe Making
10. Cake and Confectioneries

### **ASSESSMENT**

1. The following are the process of identifying and nurturing perfect talent and skills except
  - (a) through one's perception.
  - (b) through self – conviction
  - (C) Through constant practice (Rehearsal)
  - (D) Through patience
2. Which of these are not a possible area of specialization for talent discoveries
  - (a) Carving
  - (b) Pottery
  - (c) Relaxing
  - (d) Farming
3. Talents can be nurtured through
  - (a) Mockery
  - (b) Reinforcement

(c)complaint

(d)expectation

4. Wasted talents increase the dependency rate in the society

(a>true

(b>false

5. Shoe Making is a possible area of specialization for talent discovery

(a>true

(b>false

### **ANSWERS**

1. d

2. c

3. b

4. a

5. a

## Week 9

### Topic: Importance of Self Reliance

The Importance of Self-reliance are:

- It helps citizens govern their own lives and economy
- It takes one to take control of their own resources
- It helps develop strength
- Helps cultivate a strong character
- Become truly fulfilled and content
- Become empowered
- Helps one reach his/her full potential
- It helps build resilience.

Life is full of ups and downs. A cliché statement, yes, but true nonetheless. If you are able to face the “downs” of life head-on and independently, you are more likely to build the resilience necessary to overcome anything that life throws at you. I’m not saying it’s bad to rely on others, but in reality, there will come a time that you must be able to take on life yourself and take care of your own needs and responsibilities.

By being self-reliant in hard times, I feel confident that there is nothing I cannot bounce back from. This is really important, especially when it comes to being denied by the employer you so desperately wanted to work for, getting a C on the paper you thought you aced, and even something as simple as taking responsibility for a wrongdoing and apologizing in a mature manner.

- **It bolsters confidence.**

Like I said above, being able to rely on yourself in various situations helps immensely with your sense of self-worth. Confidence is arguably one of the most important characteristics to possess, as it helps you in both personal and professional aspects of your life. The more you succeed and thrive independently, the more you realize you are capable of achieving. Exuding confidence (not to be confused with cockiness) draws the attention of others, helps you to make new friends and connections, and is an important trait of the best leaders in history.

- **It helps you to be more self-aware.**



Part of self-reliance is being comfortable with being alone. Spending time completely alone is not an easy task to achieve in this day and age, when we are all connected 24/7, if not by face-to-face interaction, through our many forms of technology. However, doing things on your own, even just eating lunch or going for a 30-minute run alone, helps immensely in your self-awareness. When you are away from others for a period of time, you are able to reflect and think, and just get to know yourself. It helps you become aware of your strengths and weaknesses, focus on what you need to improve and evaluate your decisions. One of my goals in life is to constantly improve and to never settle for less than what I am capable of, and having self-awareness is a huge step toward achieving that goal.

- **It makes you appreciate others more.**

When you rely on your own judgment and strengths to navigate life, you come to realize when too much is too much. Let me explain. Being the stubborn, independent person I am, I definitely overextend myself sometimes. Taking on one too many responsibilities or trying to overcome a difficulty completely alone can be overwhelming. This has helped me to recognize when I am putting too much pressure on myself and has led me to seek the assistance and advice of others when I truly need it. Doing things on my own and spending time alone has taught me to appreciate those that I'm close to and their support more so than ever before.

## Assessment

1. Self-reliance helps citizens govern their own lives and economy (a) True (b) False
2. Which of the following is an importance of self-reliance (a) Makes one dependent (b) Brings poverty (c) Builds reliance
3. Being self-reliant is (a) Hard (b) Not important (c) Stupid (d) Bad
4. Self-reliance makes you appreciate others more (a) True (b) False
5. Self-reliance is not a good value to have (a) True (b) False

## Answer

1. A
2. C
3. A
4. A
5. B



**JSS1**

**CIVIC EDUCATION**

**SECOND TERM**

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# **Week 1**

## **Topic: Revision**

Teachers and Students are expected to do a revision of last term's work.

### **Possible Areas of Specialisation for Talent Discoveries**

1. Tent Making
2. Bead Making
3. Carving
4. Farming
5. Drumming
6. Pottery
7. Hair Making
8. Fashion Design
9. Shoe Making
10. Cake and Confectioneries

### **ASSESSMENT**

1. List 5 possible areas of specialization for talent discoveries?

## Week 2

### Topic: Citizenship

#### **Citizenship**

Citizenship can be defined as the relationship between an individual and its state or nation involving the individual's full political membership in the state as well as permanent allegiance to it.

Citizenship involves member of a nation based on laid down condition.

**Citizenship** is the status of a person recognized under the custom or law as being a legal member of a sovereign state or part of a nation.

A person may have multiple citizenships and a person who does not have citizenship of any state is said to be stateless. Nationality is often used as a synonym for citizenship in English – notably in international law – although the term is sometimes understood as denoting a person's membership of a nation (a large ethnic group). In some countries, e.g. the United States, the United Kingdom, nationality and citizenship can have different meanings (for more information, see Nationality versus citizenship).

Citizenship can be defined as the process by which a person becomes a legitimate member of a given state. The person possesses every right in the state and also performs his/her duties as a legitimate member of the state. Citizenship is a relationship between an individual and its state or nation involving the individual's full political membership in the state as well as permanent allegiance to it.

A citizen is a legal member of a particular country, who possesses full right to claim a state as his own. A citizen is a native or naturalized member of a state or nation who owes allegiance to its government and is entitled to its protection.

#### **Types of Citizenship**

- **Citizenship by birth:** this occurs when an individual is born into a particular domain.
- **Citizenship by registration:** This is the type of citizenship given to an individual who marries someone in a particular country.
- **Citizenship by Naturalization:** This occurs when an individual resides in a particular geographical area for a long period of time.

Each country has its own policies, regulations and criteria as to who is entitled to its citizenship. A person can be recognized or granted citizenship on a number of bases. Usually citizenship based on the place of birth is automatic, but in other cases an application may be required.

- Citizenship by birth (*jus sanguinis*). If one or both of a person's parents are citizens of a given state, then the person may have the right to be a citizen of that state as well. Formerly this might only have applied through the paternal line, but sex equality became common since the late twentieth century. Citizenship is granted based on ancestry or ethnicity and is related to the concept of a nation state common in China. Where *jus sanguinis* holds, a person born outside a country, one or both of whose parents are citizens of the country, is also a citizen. States normally limit the right to citizenship by descent to a certain number of generations born outside the state. This form of citizenship is not common in civil law.
- Born within a country (*jus soli*). Some people are automatically citizens of the state in which they are born. This form of citizenship originated in England where those who were born within the realm were subjects of the monarch (a concept pre-dating citizenship) and is common in common law. In many cases, both *jus soli* and *jus sanguinis* hold citizenship either by place or parentage (or both).
- Citizenship by marriage (*jus matrimonii*). Many countries fast-track naturalization based on the marriage of a person to a citizen. Countries which are destinations for such immigration often have regulations to try to detect sham marriages, where a citizen marries a non-citizen typically for payment, without them having the intention of living together.
- Naturalization. States normally grant citizenship to people who have entered the country legally and been granted permit to stay, or been granted political asylum, and also lived there for a specified period. In some countries, naturalization is subject to conditions which may include passing a test demonstrating reasonable knowledge of the language or way of life of the host country, good conduct (no serious criminal record) and moral character (such as drunkenness, or gambling), vowing allegiance to their new state or its ruler and renouncing their prior citizenship. Some states allow dual citizenship and do not require naturalized citizens to formally renounce any other citizenship.

Excluded categories. In the past there have been exclusions on entitlement to citizenship on grounds such as skin color, ethnicity, sex, and free status (not being a slave). Most of these exclusions no longer apply in most places. Modern examples include some Arab countries which rarely grant citizenship to non-Muslims, e.g. Qatar is known for granting citizenship to foreign athletes, but they all have to profess the Islamic faith in order to receive citizenship. The United States grants citizenship to those born as a result of reproductive technologies, and internationally adopted children born after February 27, 1983. Some exclusions still persist for internationally adopted children born before February 27, 1983 even though their parents meet citizenship criteria.

## Assessment

1. The process by which a person becomes a legitimate member of a state is
  - a. citizen
  - b. association

- c. citizenship
  - d. human right.
2. The type of citizen that occurs when a person is born in a particular place is called
- a. citizenship by registration
  - b. citizenship by birth
  - c. citizenship by naturalization
  - d. citizenship by friendship
3. All of these are types of citizenship except
- a. by birth
  - b. by registration
  - c. by naturalization
  - d. by cooperation
4. A person can become a citizen by
- a. good character
  - b. readiness to stay in the country
  - c. residency
  - d. disobedience
5. A citizen must work towards the development of his/her state. true/false

**Answer**

- 1. C
- 2. B
- 3. D
- 4. D
- 5. True



## **Week 3**

### **Topic: Citizenship**

#### **Process of Becoming a Citizen in Country**

- Good Character: The person must have appreciable disposition
- Residency: He must have stayed in that country for a specified period of time.
- Statutory age: An individual must attain a certain age designated by the country
- By marriage: If an individual gets married outside his/or her domain, such an individual can get the citizenship of that place.
- One's contribution to the country: The extent to which one contributes to the development of a nation facilitates his/her status as a citizen.
- Acceptance by local community: The community itself must be able to accept such a person. If otherwise citizenship cannot be acquired.
- One's readiness to stay in a country: The desire of an individual to stay in country plays an important role in the acquisition of citizenship of the country.

#### **Differences between Place of Birth and Origin of Birth**

The **place of birth (POB)** is the place where a person was born. This place is often used in legal documents, together with name and date of birth, to uniquely identify a person. As a general rule with respect to passports, the place of birth is determined to be country that currently has sovereignty over the actual place of birth regardless of when the birth actually occurred. The place of birth is not necessarily the place where the parents of the new baby live. If the baby is born in a hospital in another place, that place is the place of birth. In many countries, this also means that the government requires that the birth of the new baby is registered in the place of birth.

In other countries, such as Sweden since 1947, there is a concept of födelsehemort ("domicile of birth"), which means that the domicile of the baby's mother is the registered place of birth. The location of the maternity ward or other physical birthplace is considered unimportant.

Sometimes the place of birth automatically determines the nationality of the baby, a practice often referred to with the Latin phrase *jus soli* (it depends on the law of the country to give the nationality). More often, this may also depend on the nationality or nationalities of the parents (referred to as *jus sanguinis*).

There can be some confusion on the place of birth if the birth takes place in an unusual way: when babies are born in an airplane or at sea, difficulties can arise. The place of birth of such a person depends on the law of the countries involved, which include the nationality of the plane

or ship, the nationality/nationalities of the parents and/or the position of the plane or ship (if the birth occurs in the territorial waters or airspace of a country).

Some applications may request the “Country of Birth” of the applicant. It is important to determine from the requester whether the information requested refers to the “Place of Birth” or “Nationality at Birth” of the applicant. For US citizens born abroad that under the US Constitution acquire US citizenship at the time of birth, the Nationality at Birth will be USA (American), while Place of Birth would be the country in which the actual birth takes place.

Place of birth is, as you can assume, place where you were born. But, in Swiss passports, there is your place of origin. Now, what could that be? Everyone knows their place of origin since it must be mentioned again and again on all the official forms. However, no one really knows its purpose.

Place of origin or Heimatort is the place where your family originates from. There are several ways how you can get your place of origin. Naturally, a child born to Swiss parents will inherit their parents’ place of origin. Usually, children receive their father’s place of origin. But, they can also add their mother’s, or choose just the mother’s. A child born to a Swiss father and a non-Swiss mother will have the place of the origin of the Swiss parent.

The citizenships by marriages include the place of origin from the Swiss spouse. In the past, even Swiss women who married Swiss men needed to change their place of origin to their husbands’.

People who lived in Switzerland for at least one or two years are eligible for a municipal citizenship. In this case, the place of origin will be the village, town or city where the citizen has received their citizenship.

You can also get a new municipal citizenship if you move to another Swiss village, town or city. The only rule is that you have to live there for a year or two.

The place of origin doesn’t have any significance today, but Swiss citizens feel proud to have one. Some families can trace their roots back to 16th and 15th centuries. There were several attempts in parliament, in order to scrap the place of origin, however, they were all rejected. So the tradition lives on to cause confusion, however, the Swiss seem to like it.

## **ASSESSMENT**

1. List 5 process of becoming a citizen
2. Differentiate between place of birth and origin of birth

## Week 4

### Topic: Rights and Duties of Citizens

#### **Rights and Duties of Citizens**

Right refers to the responsibility of a nation to an individual, for example rights to education, right to life, rights to opinion, freedom of expression, right to private and family life, rights to freedom of thought.

Duties on the other hand refer to the responsibility of a citizen to his or her country, for example obedience to lay down rules and regulations, payment of taxes etc.

**Rights** are legal, social, or ethical principles of freedom or entitlement; that is, rights are the fundamental normative rules about what is allowed of people or owed to people, according to some legal system, social convention, or ethical theory. Rights are of essential importance in such disciplines as law and ethics, especially theories of justice and deontology.

Rights are often considered fundamental to civilization, for they are regarded as established pillars of society and culture, and the history of social conflicts can be found in the history of each right and its development. According to the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, "rights structure the form of governments, the content of laws, and the shape of morality as it is currently perceived".

- **Natural rights** are rights which are "natural" in the sense of "not artificial, not man-made", as in rights deriving from human nature or from the edicts of a god. They are universal; that is, they apply to all people, and do not derive from the laws of any specific society. They exist necessarily, inhere in every individual, and can't be taken away. For example, it has been argued that humans have a natural right to life. These are sometimes called moral rights or inalienable rights.
- **Legal rights**, in contrast, are based on a society's customs, laws, statutes or actions by legislatures. An example of a legal right is the right to vote of citizens. Citizenship, itself, is often considered as the basis for having legal rights, and has been defined as the "right to have rights". Legal rights are sometimes called civil rights or statutory rights and are culturally and politically relative since they depend on a specific societal context to have meaning.

Some thinkers see rights in only one sense while others accept that both senses have a measure of validity. There has been considerable philosophical debate about these senses throughout history. For example, Jeremy Bentham believed that legal rights were the essence of rights, and he denied the existence of natural rights; whereas Thomas Aquinas held that rights purported by positive law but not grounded in natural law were not properly rights at all, but only a facade or pretense of rights.

## **ASSESSMENT**

Define Rights?

## Week 5

### Topic: Differences between Rights and Duties

#### Differences between rights and duties

	<b>Rights</b>	<b>Duties</b>
Citizen.	Rights are the privileges an individual has as a	Duties are the responsibilities of the individual.
	Rights serve as benefit to the citizen.	Duties serve as benefit to the nation

#### Rights

Rights are legal, social or ethical principles of freedom that people are entitled for by a governing body, whereas duties are responsibilities or obligations of an individual, by the governing body, that are required to done by the said individual.

Rights and duties are two sides of the same coin. One does not exist without the other. The test of someone has the 'right' to something is by whether if someone else has the duty to provide it. The two terms 'right and its correlative duty' are inseparable from each other. So, to understand the difference between them, we differentiate the two terms.

Rights 'Rights' are defined as the normative rules that are set by a legal jurisdiction, and are owned by the people. Rights are something that every human being deserves, no matter where they come from, or are born in, or where they live in. Rights are generally written into laws. Based on this, people can very easily challenge or defend their rights in the court of law.

It is important to remember that rights are based on a set of agreed behavior and responsibilities that are expected to result in mutual respect and cooperation. A right is not just a law that allows individuals or governing bodies to do or say anything they wish. It is the foundation or framework on which society as a whole structure and defines itself. It is considered to be one of the pillars that let to the establishment of our society and culture.

## Duties

Other such pillar is 'duty', because every rights existence is based on the existence of its duty. The term 'duty' is derived from the word 'due' which means 'to owe someone', is a term that conveys moral commitment to someone or something. 'Duties' are defined as things that are to be completed or be followed by an individual. It is extremely important for an individual to perform their duties, so as to protect their rights for the benefit of the society.

The primary difference between rights and duties is that right is based on privilege granted to an individual, whereas duty is based on accountability of performing that duty by an individual. It is extremely important for people to full fill their duties of obeying laws, paying taxes, serving in court, attending school, participating in government, respecting others, respecting diversity, etc. Similarly, the rights of a citizen are freedom of speech, press, petition and assembly, quartering warrants or arrests, etc.

In conclusion, the difference between rights and responsibilities is that rights are given to people to protect their basic freedoms, whereas responsibility is given to those in charge to uphold those rights. People take on responsibilities in exchange for the rights they get. Though, any abuse of the duties can lead to unwanted problems.

### Importance of Rights and Duties of Citizens

- **Social Control:** This is a measure put in place to guide against unruly behaviour in the society, for example, the constitution of Nigeria serves as a means of enhancing social control.
- **Peace:** Through the rights and duties of the citizen, peace is promoted in the country.
- **Due process:** Through this, activities are carried out in a well organized manner in order to promote orderliness.
- **Discipline:** Through right and duties

### Obligation

Obligation refers to expectations from citizens in given society. In other words obligations simply mean the legal or moral responsibility of a citizen. Obligations refer to the expectations from citizens in a given society. It also means the legal or moral responsibility of a citizen.

### Types of Obligation

1. **Economic and financial obligations:** This is the obligation that a citizen must perform in the area of payment of tax, the citizens taxes are used to provide social amenities and constructions of road. The tax is the means by which the government generates funds.
2. **Civic and political obligations:** This is the obligation that states that citizens must obey the law of the land. It is the duty of every citizen to obey the law and its constituted authority, also to vote during election.

3. Social obligation: It is the duty of the citizen to respect the national symbol and to be loyal to the country. Social obligation also entails the participation of citizens in environmental cleanliness of the society.

### **Consequences of Failure of Performance of Obligations**

1. It leads to the breakdown of rules and regulation
2. It causes disunity in the society
3. It can lead to political instability
4. There will be no development in the country
5. It indicates the lack of cooperation in the state
6. There will be insecurity in the state.

### **Assessment**

1. ——— refers to the expectation of citizens in a given society
  - a. obligations
  - b. non obligation
  - c. irresponsibility's
  - d. embezzlement
2. The type of obligation that has to do with citizens participating in environmental activities is
  - a. political obligation
  - b. financial obligation
  - c. civic obligation
  - d. social obligation.
3. Types of obligation are all of these except
  - a. political
  - b. social
  - c. cultural
  - d. financial
4. Failure of a citizen to perform his / her obligation can lead to
  - a. promotion of such citizen
  - b. disunity in the country
  - c. development in the national economy
  - d. cooperation in the country
5. One of the obligation of citizen that indicate payment of tax is
  - a. financial
  - b. political

- c. social
- d. none of the above

**Answers**

1. A
2. D
3. C
4. B
5. A



## Week 6 & 7

### Topic – Types of Rights of a Citizen

#### **Introduction**

Every Nigerian has rights, duties, liabilities and privileges, which are provided for in the hundreds of laws that exist in Nigeria. However, there are certain rights that basically trump all other ones. They are rights that are referred to as **inalienable** rights, rights for which the law has made specific and special provision.

These rights are contained in Chapter IV of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and are officially known as **Fundamental Rights**.

This article will explain what these key rights are, because every Nigerian really should know about these rights.

#### **1. RIGHT TO LIFE**

This is the most important right of every Nigerian (and in fact every human being). The right that everyone has to 'exist', and no one can intentionally deprive a person of this right, either an individual or the Government, unless in the execution of a sentence of the court in respect of a criminal offence.

In a nutshell, what this right says is that no one can take your life unless you have carried out a capital crime; you have been tried by a competent court, and found guilty.

#### **Exceptions**

However, with every right (as you will see below), there are exceptions. In regard to the right to life, the exceptions are:

- If s/he dies as a result of the use of reasonable force for the defense of any person from unlawful violence or for the defense of property
- If s/he dies as a result of the use of reasonable force in order to effect a lawful arrest or to prevent the escape of a person lawfully detained; or
- If s/he dies as a result of the use of reasonable force for the purpose of suppressing a riot, insurrection or mutiny.

#### **2. RIGHT TO DIGNITY**

This right basically means that every Nigerian has a right to not be subjected to torture or inhuman/degrading treatment, and no Nigerian should be held in circumstances which amount

to slavery or servitude. It also provides that no one should be required to perform forced or compulsory labour.

### **Exceptions**

'Forced labour' doesn't include:

- any labour required in consequence of the sentence or order of a court;
- any labour required of members of the Armed Forces, Police Force, compulsory national service
- in the case of persons who have conscientious objections to service in the armed forces of the Federation, any labour required instead of such service;
- any labour required which is reasonably necessary in the event of any emergency or calamity threatening the life or well-being of the community; or
- any labour or service that forms part of normal communal or other civic obligations of the well-being of the community.

### **3. RIGHT TO PERSONAL LIBERTY**

This right guarantees that individuals have a right to their liberty. This means that no individual must be deprived of his or her right to liberty or freedom unless it's in accordance with the law.

Where a person is detained in lawful custody he/she has the following rights:

1. Right to remain silent and not answer any questions unless/until speaking to a Lawyer
2. Right to be informed in writing, within 24 hours, of the facts and grounds for his arrest or detention.
3. To be brought before a court within a reasonable time, and if not tried within 2 months (for individuals in custody/not entitled to bail) and 3 months (for individuals released on bail), they shall be released either unconditionally or upon such conditions as are reasonably necessary to ensure that he appears for trial at a later date (without prejudice to any further proceedings that may be brought against the individual)
4. Not to be kept awaiting trial in detention for a period longer than the maximum period of imprisonment for the offence he/she is accused of

### **Exceptions**

- Execution of a court order or sentence
- Lawful arrest for commission of an offence or to prevent commission of an offence
- Restrictions placed on an individual who is under 18 years old for the purpose of his/her education or welfare

- Restrictions placed on people suffering from infectious diseases, persons of unsound mind, and drug/alcohol addicts, which are imposed for their care and treatment and/or the protection of the community.
- Immigration/Border protection and lawful expulsion or extradition

#### 4. RIGHT TO FAIR HEARING

This right guarantees that in the determination of an individual's civil rights and obligations a person shall be entitled to **“a fair hearing within a reasonable time by a court or other tribunal established by law and constituted in such manner as to secure its independence and impartiality.”**

This right guarantees the following:

- Presumption of innocence
- Public trial for criminal offence (except in certain circumstances – public safety/order, welfare of child offenders etc.)
- Written charge informing the individual of the detail and nature of the offence
- Adequate time and facilities for preparation of his/her defense
- Right to a legal practitioner of his/her choice
- Right to examine witnesses and call witnesses of his/her own
- Right to interpreter if he/she cannot understand the language used at the trial
- Access to the records of the trial proceedings
- A person can't be found guilty of a criminal offence on account of any act or omission that did not, at the time it took place, constitute such an offence, and no penalty shall be imposed for any criminal offence heavier than the penalty in force at the time the offence was committed
- No person can be tried for a criminal offence if he/she has been previously either convicted or acquitted for that offence or for a criminal offence having the same ingredients as that offence unless upon the order of a superior court.
- No person who shows that he has been pardoned for a criminal offence shall again be tried for that offence.
- No person who is tried for a criminal offence shall be compelled to give evidence at the trial.

- No person shall be convicted of a criminal offence unless that offence is defined and the penalty is prescribed in a written law

## 5. RIGHT TO PRIVACY

The 1999 Constitution guarantees and protects “***the privacy of citizens, their homes, correspondence, telephone conversations and telegraphic communications...***”

The constitution does not go into detail to explain exactly how this is protected and if there are any exceptions, and unfortunately there has not been much judicial review of this right.

However, from reading the provision it is obvious that there are 3 elements there:

- **Privacy of the individual:** this would protect an individual against unlawful invasive procedures such as drug testing, blood testing.
- **Privacy of the Home:** which would include protection from unlawful entry or harassment of an individual's home
- **Privacy of Correspondence, Conversations and Communications:** this protects the privacy of an individual's mail, telephones conversations, email and other forms of communication

## 6. RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION

This right guarantees that an individual may manifest and propagate his religion or belief in worship, teaching, practice and observance. It also guarantees the right of an individual to change his religion or belief.

The constitutional right prevents forced indoctrination in any place of education; however no religious community or denomination is prevented from providing religious instruction for pupils of that community or denomination in any place of education maintained wholly by that community or denomination.

### Exception

The right does not entitle any person to form, take part in the activity or be a member of a secret society.

## 7. RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Every Nigerian is entitled to freedom of expression, including freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart ideas and information without interference, and is entitled to own, establish and operate any medium for the dissemination of information, ideas and opinions:

### Exceptions

- Only persons authorized by the Government upon fulfilling conditions laid down by an Act of the National Assembly may own, establish or operate a television or wireless broadcasting station.
- Laws validly created for the purpose of preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, maintaining the authority and independence of courts or regulating telephony, wireless broadcasting, television or the exhibition of cinematograph films
- Laws validly created for the purpose of imposing restrictions on Government official or members of the Armed Forces/Police or other government security agencies.

## **8. RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION**

Every individual has a right to assembly freely and associate with other person, and he/she may form or belong to any political party, trade union or other association.

### **Exception**

The right to form or belong to a political party is subject to the powers of the Independent National Electoral Commission to recognize political parties as validly formed and meeting all the relevant criteria.

## **9. RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT**

Every citizen of Nigeria is entitled to move freely throughout Nigeria and to reside in any part of it, and no citizen of Nigeria shall be expelled from Nigeria or refused entry or exit from it.

### **Exceptions**

- Restrictions on the residence or movement of persons who have committed or reasonably suspected to have committed a criminal offence in order to prevent the person from leaving Nigeria.
- Lawful extradition

## **10. RIGHT TO FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION**

No citizen of Nigeria is to be subjected to any disabilities or restrictions based solely on the fact that he/she is a member of a particular community, ethnic group, place of origin, sex, religion or political opinion, or circumstances of his/her birth.

No citizen of Nigeria is to be accorded any privilege or advantage that is not accorded to citizens of Nigeria of other communities, ethnic groups, places of origin, sex, religions or political opinions, or circumstances of his/her birth.

### **Exception**

Restrictions with respect to the appointment of any person to any office under the State or as a member of the Armed Forces/ Police Force or to an office in the service of a body, corporate established directly by any law in force in Nigeria.

## **11. RIGHT TO OWN PROPERTY**

Every citizen of Nigeria has the right to acquire and own immovable property anywhere in Nigeria.

### **Exception**

- Compulsory acquisition by the Government in certain stated circumstances (and upon prompt payment of compensation)
- Valid laws dealing with tax, penalties for forfeiture, enemy property, temporary possession for environmental reasons etc.

## **Assessment**

Mention 3 rights of a citizen and their exceptions

## **Week 8**

### **Topic – Human Rights**

#### **Contents:**

1. **Meaning of Human Rights**
2. **Examples of fundamental Human Rights**

#### **Meaning of Human Rights**

Human rights are the privileges and opportunities individuals have in a given society. They are commonly understood as inalienable fundamental rights “to which a person is inherently entitled simply because she or he is a human being,” and which are “inherent in all human beings” regardless of their nation, location, language, religion, ethnic origin or any other status.

These rights are usually entrenched in the constitution, for instance, chapter IV of the 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria deals with the subject of fundamental human rights. The following are some of the fundamental human rights of the citizen:

1. **Right to Life:** Every individual has the responsibility to life. No person should, therefore be intentionally deprived or hindered of his or her life.
2. **Right to Personal Liberty:** Every person must be entitled to his personal liberty.
3. **Right to Freedom of Religion:** Every individual in a given society is free to practice any religion of interest to him or her.
4. **Right to Fair Hearing:** Every individual has the right to fair hearing in a court of law. He has the right to engage the service of any solicitor or lawyer if he or she is involved in any case.
5. **Right to Freedom of Association:** Every individual has the right to belong to or form any association to protect his or her interest.
6. **Right to Freedom of Speech:** Every individual is given the right to talk and say anything he/she wants to say so far it is not to humiliate another person
7. **Right to movement:** There is freedom of movement to every individual

#### **Main features of Rights:**

1. Rights exist only in society. These are the products of social living.
2. Rights are claims of the individuals for their development in society.
3. Rights are recognized by the society as common claims of all the people.

4. Rights are rational and moral claims that the people make on their society.
5. Since rights are here only in society, these cannot be exercised against the society.
6. Rights are to be exercised by the people for their development which really means their development in society by the promotion of social good. Rights can never be exercised against social good.
7. Rights are equally available to all the people.
8. The contents of rights keep on changing with the passage of time.
9. Rights are not absolute. These always bear limitations deemed essential for maintaining public health, security, order and morality.
10. Rights are inseparably related with duties. There is a close relationship between them "No Duties No Rights. No Rights No Duties." "If I have rights it is my duty to respect the rights of others in society".
11. Rights need enforcement and only then these can be really used by the people. These are protected and enforced by the laws of the state. It is the duty of a state to protect the rights of the people.

## **Types of Rights:**

### **1. Natural Rights:**

Many researchers have faith in natural rights. They stated that people inherit several rights from nature. Before they came to live in society and state, they used to live in a state of nature. In it, they appreciated certain natural rights, like the right to life, right to liberty and right to property. Natural rights are parts of human nature and reason. Political theory maintains that an individual enters into society with certain basic rights and that no government can deny these rights.

In classical political philosophy "natural right" denotes to the objective rightness of the right things, whether the virtue of a soul, the correctness of an action, or the excellence of a regime. Aristotle stated in Politics (1323a29-33) that no one would call a man happy who was completely lacking in courage, temperance, justice, or wisdom. A man who was easily terrified, unable to restrain any impulse toward food or drink, willing to ruin his friends for a trifle, and generally senseless could not possibly lead a good life. Even though chance may occasionally prevent good actions from having their normal consequences, so that sometimes cowards fare better than brave men, courage is still objectively better than cowardice. The virtues and actions that contribute to the good life, and the activities intrinsic to the good life, are naturally right.

The modern idea of natural rights grew out of the ancient and medieval doctrines of natural law, but for other scholars, the concept of natural rights is unreal. Rights are the products of social living. These can be used only in a society. Rights have behind them the recognition of society



as common claims for development, and that is why the state protects these rights. John Locke (1632–1704), the most influential political philosophers of the modern period, argued that people have rights, such as the right to life, liberty, and property that have a foundation independent of the laws of any particular society. Locke claimed that men are naturally free and equal as part of the justification for understanding legitimate political government as the result of a social contract where people in the state of nature conditionally transfer some of their rights to the government in order to better ensure the stable, comfortable enjoyment of their lives, liberty, and property. Since governments exist by the consent of the people in order to protect the rights of the people and promote the public good, governments that fail to do so can be resisted and replaced with new governments.

## **2. Moral Rights:**

Moral Rights are based on human consciousness. They are supported by moral force of human mind. These are based on human sense of goodness and justice. These are not assisted by the force of law. Sense of goodness and public opinion are the sanctions behind moral rights.

If any person disrupts any moral right, no legal action can be taken against him. The state does not enforce these rights. Its courts do not recognize these rights. Moral Rights include rules of good conduct, courtesy and of moral behaviour. These stand for moral perfection of the people.

Moral rights were first acknowledged in France and Germany, before they were included in the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works in 1928. Canada recognized moral rights in its Copyright Act. The United States became a signatory to the convention in 1989, and incorporated a version of moral rights under its copyright law under Title 17 of the U.S. Code. There are two major moral rights under the U.S. Copyright Act. These are the right of attribution, also called the right of paternity and the right of integrity.

## **Legal Rights:**

Legal rights are those rights which are accepted and enforced by the state. Any defilement of any legal right is punished by law. Law courts of the state enforce legal rights. These rights can be enforced against individuals and also against the government. In this way, legal rights are different from moral rights. Legal rights are equally available to all the citizens. All citizens follow legal rights without any discrimination. They can go to the courts for getting their legal rights enforced.

Legal Rights are of three types:

1. **Civil Rights:** Civil rights are those rights which provide opportunity to each person to lead a civilized social life. These fulfill basic needs of human life in society. Civil rights are protected by the state. Civic rights: Civic rights include the following
  - Right to life
  - Right to personal liberty
  - Right to Dignity of Human Person

- Right to fair hearing
2. **Political Rights:** Political rights are those rights by virtue of which inhabitants get a share in the political process. These allow them to take an active part in the political process. These rights include right to vote, right to get elected, right to hold public office and right to criticise and oppose the government. Political rights are really available to the people in a democratic state. Political rights: these are
- Right to vote and be voted for
  - Right to freedom of expression and association
  - Right to Peaceful Assembly and Association
  - Right to freedom from discrimination
3. **Economic Rights:** Economic rights are those rights which provide economic security to the people. These empower all citizens to make proper use of their civil and political rights. The basic needs of every person are related to his food, clothing, shelter, and medical treatment. Without the fulfillment of these no person can really enjoy his civil and political rights. It is therefore essential, that every person must get the right to work, right to adequate wages, right to leisure and rest, and right to social security in case of illness, physical disability and old age. Economic right: These are
- freedom from inhuman treatment
  - Right to trade
  - Right to Earn Income
  - Right to own property
  - Right to free choice of employment.

### 3. Human and Legal Rights:

There is some difference between moral or human rights and legal rights. Legal rights require for their justification an existing system of law. Legal rights are, roughly, what the law says they are, at least insofar as the law is enforced. Legal rights gain their force first of all through legislation or decree by a legally authorized authority. Those who support adoption of laws establishing legal rights often appeal to a notion of human rights. Laws against theft might appeal to notions of a moral right to own property. But human or moral rights must gain their validity through some other source other than legal rights, since people can appeal to human or moral rights to criticize the law or advocate changes in the law (or legal rights), and people could not do this if moral rights were based upon the law.

4. **Contractual Rights:** Contractual rights originated from the practice of promise-keeping. They apply to particular individuals to whom contractual promises have been made. Contractual rights ascend from specific acts of contract making. They normally come into being when the contract

is made, and they reflect the contractual duty that another party has acquired at the same time. As a result of a contract, party A has a contractual duty, say, to deliver some good or service to party B, who has a contractual right to the good or service. Contractual rights may be upheld by the law, and in that sense can rest upon legal rights, but it is possible to conceive of contracts made outside of a legal framework and to rest purely upon moral principles. However, such contracts are less secure than contracts made within a legal framework, for obvious reasons. There are numerous examples of contractual rights such as:

5. -Rights to purchase a particular product or service
6. -Rights to be sell a product or service
7. -Rights to be the only seller or buyer
8. -Rights to delivery and timely payment
9. -Rights to refunds or repairs
10. -Various rights according to the specific intentions of each party

## Assessment

- \_\_\_\_\_ is defined as certain privileges enjoyed by every citizens in a country
  - (a) human right
  - (b) inhuman right
  - (c) human opportunity
  - (d) inhuman opportunity.
- Human right can be categorized into all of these except
  - (a) Economic
  - (b) political
  - (c) cultural
  - (d) civic.
- Right to free choice of employment is classified under
  - (a) political
  - (b) civic
  - (c) economic
  - (d)cultural.
- The right to vote and be voted for is classified under
  - (a) civic right
  - (b) political right
  - (c) economic right
  - (d) none of the above.

- When human right is denied, it can be repossess under law. True/ false.
- One of the ways by which Human Rights can be prevented is
  - (a) by the constitution
  - (b) by keeping silence
  - (c) by ignoring
  - (d) all of the above
- Individuals can abuse Human rights in the following ways except
  - (a) prostitution
  - (b) drug abuse
  - (c) loyalty to the country
  - (d) character assassination
- ———— is the privileges and opportunities individual has in a given society
  - (a) human abuse
  - (b) human right
  - (c) human unbelief
  - (d) all of the above
- The effects of human rights abuse are these except
  - (a) It can lead to loss of lives
  - (b) It retards the growth of the nation
  - (c) misappropriation of funds
  - (d) growth of the nation
- The Government can abuse human right by
  - (a) paying the labor force
  - (b) providing good employment
  - (c) imposition of religion
  - (d) supporting the needy

## Answers

1. A
2. C
3. C
4. B
5. True
6. D
7. C

8. B

9. D

10. C

## **Week 9**

### **Topic: Human Rights Abuse**

#### **Contents**

- Human Rights Abuse
- Means and methods of Human Rights Abuse
- Effects of Human Rights Abuse
- Ways of Preventing Human Rights Abuse

#### **Human Rights Abuse**

Human rights abuse refers to the infringement on the rights of an individual resulting in the individual not being able to enjoy his or her fundamental rights. These abuses may result from the following:

1. A citizen is not likely to enjoy his rights when such rights are detrimental to other people's rights.
2. A citizen may be denied of his right in order to protect the security of the state.
3. During the period of emergency, a citizen may be denied his/her rights. For instance if a country is in a state of war, there may be restrictions which may invariably jeopardize the right of a citizen.
4. A citizen may be denied his right if it is in the interest of defence for his nation.
5. A citizen may be denied his right if it is in the interest of public order.
6. A citizen may be denied his right to prevent trespasses.

#### **Means and Methods of Human Rights Abuse**

##### **Individual Aspects**

1. Character Assassination: This is an attempt to tarnish a person's reputation. It may involve exaggeration, misleading half-truths, or manipulation of facts to present an untrue picture of the targeted person. It is a form of defamation and can be a form of ad hominem argument.
2. Committed Suicide: Everybody has the right to life, so if anyone decides to kill himself, such a person is abusing human rights.

3. Prostitution: If any lady gets involved in prostitution, whether willfully or forced, such a person's right is being accused.
4. Involvement in secret cults.
5. Drug abuse.
6. Gender inequality.

### **Government Aspects**

1. Government may disband any association at any point in time.
2. Press may be proscribed.
3. Assassination of innocent citizens.
4. Imposition of religion.
5. Misappropriation of funds by authority.

### **Effects of Human Rights Abuse**

1. It retards the progress of the nation.
2. It leads to loss of lives.
3. People tend to demonstrate apathy towards governmental policies.
4. It can lead to national debt.

### **Ways of Preventing, or Checking the Human Rights Abuse**

1. By the Constitution: An individual can seek redress in court if he is deprived of any of rights.
2. By the Judiciary: An independent judiciary can protect the citizen from any unjust denial of his rights.
3. Public Complaints Commission: This body helps to protect the fundamental human rights.
4. Petition: A petition could be written to appropriate authorities.
5. There is need for checks and balances to prevent the misuse of powers.

### **ASSESSMENT**

1. Define Human Right abuse
2. List 5 ways of preventing or checking the Human Right Abuse

# Week 10

## Topic – Traffic Regulations

### Contents:

1. Meaning of Traffic Regulations
2. Traffic rules
3. Causes of road accident
4. Consequences of disobeying traffic rules
5. Agencies to consult when accident occurs

### Meaning of Traffic Regulation

Traffic regulations are rules that are made to control the movement of vehicles and human beings on the roads in order to avoid accident.

These are mostly displayed on the roads as signs which give appropriate directives to road users and serve as safety measures.

### Traffic Rules

1. Obedience to traffic light.
  - **RED** means stop
  - **YELLOW** means Ready to go/stop
  - **GREEN** means go
2. Cars/vehicles are not expected to pass through the pedestrian road.
3. Cars/vehicles are expected to stop for pedestrians to pass when on zebra crossing.
4. Do not drink while driving.
5. Do not make or receive calls while driving.
6. Use seat belt while driving.
7. Do not overtake vehicles on the right side of the road.



## **Causes of Road Accidents**

1. Reckless driving.
2. Traffic hold-up.
3. Poor state of the road.
4. Head-on collision.
5. Disobedience to traffic rules and regulations.
6. Lack of good motor spare parts.

## **Consequences of Disobeying Traffic Rules**

1. Loss of life.
2. Injury to the people involved.
3. Loss of some parts of the body.
4. Traffic hold-up.
5. Damage to the vehicle.

## **Agencies to Consult when Accident Occurs**

1. **Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC):** This body has assisted in encouraging good driving habits and helped to rescue and limit the impact of road traffic accidents. The body has equally assisted in publishing important government community initiatives to help reduce traffic accidents and make our roads safer.
2. **Red Cross Society:** This is a non-governmental organization established with the prime purpose of providing first aid treatment to accident victims and emergency situations. Some of the materials used are cotton wool, iodine, paracetamol, scissors, etc.
3. **Fire Brigade:** This is a government agency devoted to helping people during fire accidents either at home, road or workplace.
4. **The Police:** This is part of the judicial arm of government with the sole responsibility of disciplining the people who do not conform to the stipulated rules and regulations of the society.
5. **Ambulance/Hospital Accident and Emergency Unit:** This is a unit of hospitals where victims of road accidents are taken care of with urgency.

## **Test and Exercise**

1. The rules that are made to control the movement of vehicles and human beings on the roads in order to avoid accident is (a) car instructions (b) traffic differences (c) traffic regulations (d) traffic advices
2. One of the consequences of disobedient to traffic rules and regulation is (a) increment in numbers of cars (b) good road network (c) safes lives and properties (d) traffic hold-up
3. The following agencies to consult when accident happens are the following except (a) red cross society (b) teachers (c) the police (d) the FRSC
4. The following can cause road accident except (a) poor state of the road (b) reckless driving (c) obeying traffic rules and regulation (d) disobeying traffic rules and regulation
5. The red sign of the traffic light means (a) Go (b) STOP (c) READY (d) All of the above

**JSS1**  
**CIVIC EDUCATION**  
**THIRD TERM**

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## **Week 1**

### **Topic: Revision of Last term's Work**

Teachers and Students are expected to do a revision of last term's work.

#### **ASSESSMENT**

Summary of last term's work

## Week 2

### Topic: National Consciousness and Identity

#### **Meaning of National Consciousness and Identity**

National Identity refers to the level of awareness of individuals towards the issues relating to the overall growth of the nation.

**National Consciousness** is a shared sense of national identity; that is, a shared understanding that a group of people share a common ethnic/linguistic/cultural background. National consciousness refers to an active and emotional awareness of what is happening to one's nation and how this affects one and the people around. National consciousness can also be defined as a set of opinions, feelings and beliefs shared by citizens of the same nation. Historically, a rise in national consciousness has been the first step towards the creation of a nation. National consciousness, at a glance, is one's level of awareness, of the collective, and one understands that without "them" there is no "us". It is the mere awareness of the many shared attitudes and beliefs towards things like family, customs, societal and gender roles, etc. This awareness allows one to have a "collective identity" which allows them to be knowledgeable of not only where they are, but how those places and people around them are so significant in that they ultimately make the collective, a nation. In short, national consciousness can be defined as a specific core of attitudes that provide habitual modes for regarding life's phenomena.

#### **National Identity**

This is one's identity or sense of belonging to a state or nation. It is the sense of a nation as a cohesive whole, as represented by distinctive traditions, culture, language and politics. National identity may refer to the subjective feeling one shares with a group of people about a nation, regardless of one's legal citizenship status. National identity is viewed in psychological terms as "an awareness of difference", a "feeling and recognition of 'we' and 'they'".

The expression of one's national identity seen in a positive light is patriotism which is characterized by national pride and positive emotion of love for one's country. The extreme expression of national identity is chauvinism, which refers to the firm belief in the country's superiority and extreme loyalty toward one's country.

#### **National Identity and Its features**

There are three factors which helped in the creation of a national identity:

- i. progress in the field of printing and innovation of vernacular languages
- ii. Bond between national identity and culture
- iii. Analogous symbols and ritual.

National consciousness is derived from shared values, traditions and memories within a particular culture which is thought of and spoken in a particular language. Despite vernacular not being the inevitable foundation for the birth of national consciousness, yet it does preconditions that creation. Spread of mass education and literacy not only empowered the opportunity of communication among the people where nation and state were coextensive, but also fortified a strong sense of community. The development of English, French and German languages and education based upon school system led to the creation of a powerful national consciousness. The culture and language imposed by the state symbolizes 'nationalism which engenders nations.' If succeeded in imposing, the state further manages to develop apart from political a combination of several relationships including economic, territorial, religious, linguistic and cultural. It is this state which creates a nation.

In the second place, the next point with regard to national identity is the precise meaning of national identity. Identity is a matter of self study, it is a psychic and social attempt at recognizing one's entity in societies which describe and unite them. National identity is the product of national communities. The defining criteria of identity are: continuity over time and differentiation. Continuity lies in the historical roots, differentiation originates from forming a community with a shared culture, adhere to concrete territory distinguishing between original inhabitants and outsiders – members and 'strangers'.

This identity fulfills three functions:

1. It enables to select such as right to take decision about their common political identity
2. It materializes the cultural relationship, with others because nation is a common field of their cultural and social activities.
3. It strengthens individuals to identify with an entity which transcends them.

Thirdly, in the creation of national identity, a powerful role is also played by symbols and rituals. Nation is a community which has common features within itself and differences from other. The usage of symbols and regular observance of rituals produce the consciousness of integrating a community. By favoring occasions in when they feel united and by displaying symbols that represents its unity, a nation establishes the distinction from others. To cite an example a soldier sacrifices his life at the altar of death for the prestige of his flag because he inherently identifies flag with his country. Symbols hide the differences and upholds common belonging and through rituals individual feel an unfathomed intensity of oneness that evoke sentiment of inborn and instinctive like-mindedness and common experiences of historical past and future resolutions.

### **Differences Between National Consciousness and National Identity**

National Identity and National Consciousness are closely related and can often be mistaken for each other. There is, in fact, a thin line between the definitions of the two, however, national identity can be defined as the feelings someone shares with a group of people about a nation. National consciousness is a specific core of attitudes that provide the minutia of the day-to-day phenomena of life in one's country. National identity, like national consciousness, is a feeling of

recognition of “we” and “they”. One important distinction between the pair is that the national identity spectrum embodies Patriotism and Chauvinism.

National identity is more tangible than mental in comparison to national consciousness. The elements of national identity include the nation’s symbols, traditions, and memories. National consciousness is more sensual and personal; it’s different for each single person. It can’t necessarily be seen since it is more mental than national identity.

### **Features of National Consciousness**

1. Progress in the field of printing and innovation of vernacular languages
2. Bond between national identity and culture
3. Analogous symbols and ritual.

### **Assessment**

1. What are the functions of National Identity?
2. What is the distinguishing factor between National consciousness and National identity

### **Answers**

- 1 . It enables to select such as right to take decision about their common political identity  
It materializes the cultural relationship, with others because nation is a common field of their cultural and social activities.  
It strengthens individuals to identify with an entity which transcends them
2. One important distinction between the pair is that the national identity spectrum embodies Patriotism and **Chauvinism**



## Week 3

# Topic: National Symbols and Their Meanings

### Introduction

National Identity on the other hand refers to the act of belonging and identifying with a nation. National identity refers to national symbols. These include:

- **National Flag:** The Nigerian Flag was designed by Mr. Taiwo Akinkunmi in 1958. It has two colours: White and Green. White colour stands for peace and unity while the green stands for Agriculture. It is placed in important public places like schools as sign of patriotism.



- **Nigerian Coat of Arm:** This is an emblem which shows the unity of the country. The black shield represents the good soil of the country, the eagle represents strength, the two white horses represent the dignity and pride of the country. The mark by the shield represented by 'Y' represents River Niger and River Benue which flow through parts of Nigeria. The Flower represents beauty of the nation. Unity and faith is written in the Coat of arms which stands as the motto of the country.



**The National Anthem:** This is song that Nigerians have accepted to sing as a symbol of unity and readiness to serve the country. It is a promise of loyalty to the country.

The Wordings of the National Anthem Includes:

Arise o compatriots

Nigeria call obey,  
To serve Our Father Land,  
With love and strength and faith,  
The labour of our heroes past,  
Shall never be in vain,  
To serve with heart and might,  
One nation bound in freedom, peace and unity.

**Second Stanza –**

O God of creation,  
Direct our noble cause,  
Guide thou our leaders right,  
Help our youth the truth to know,  
In love and honesty to grow,  
And live in just and true,  
Great lofty heights attain,  
To build a nation where peace  
And justice shall reign.

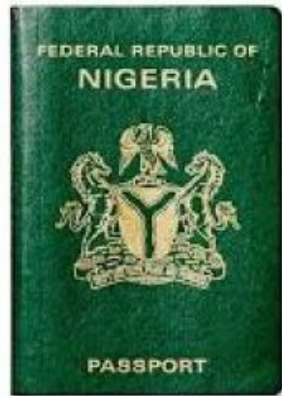
**National Pledge:** This is solemn promise by Nigerians that they would be loyal and obedient to the country and they would promote its good image.

The Wordings of the National Pledge

I pledge to Nigeria my country  
To be faithful, loyal and honest,  
To serve Nigeria with all my strength,  
To defend her unity,  
And uphold her honour and glory,

So help me God.

- **The Nigerian Passport:** This is document issued by the federal government to the citizens who wish to travel out of the country as a means of identity for such individuals.



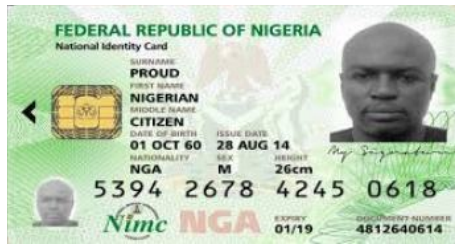
- **The Federal Capital:** This is meeting point of all the ethnic groups in the country. It is situated in Abuja.



- **The Currency:** This has to do with the transaction means peculiar to the country. These currencies are universally accepted as a means of exchange.



- **The Constitution:** This is an established body of laws and principles under which the country is governed.
- **The National Identity card:** This is a card issued to Nigerians as symbol of identity.



- **Unity Lamp:** This serves as national light and binds Nigerians together.

### Assessment

Students are expected to know the National anthem and pledge. Also know what the coat of arm and National flag stands for.

## **Week 4**

### **Topic: National Symbols and Their Meanings (II)**

#### **Introduction**

Nigeria national symbols are symbols of entity that project the Nation to the world as a United National community. National symbols intend to unite people by creating visual, verbal, or iconic representations of the national people, values, goals, or history.

These set of symbols are often rallied around as part of celebrations of patriotism or aspiring nationalism (such as independence, autonomy or separation movements) and are designed to be inclusive and representative of all the people of the national community. The following are the list of the national symbols and their meanings:

#### **1. Nigerian Flag**

The Nigerian flag was designed by Mr. Michael Taiwo Akinkunmi during a National Flag Design competition in 1959 and was officially hoisted on October 1, 1960 being Nigeria's Independence Day. He was rewarded with a sum of 100 pounds the official currency in the country at that time

The flag is a horizontal bi-colour of green and white. The two green stripes on the Nigerian flag represent Nigeria's agricultural wealth, while the white strip on the Flag represents peace and the collective national wealth and prosperity of the country.

However, there are rules governing the hoisting of the Nigeria flag and its maintenance. First, on no account should any other flag be raised higher than the Nigerian flag. The Nigerian flag must be hung on important days or any important event. For instance, in cases of death across the country, the Nigerian flag is hoisted at half-length to respect the fallen heroes. The flag must be hoisted at sunrise and lowered at sunset. Finally, if for any reason, the Nigerian flag get torn, it must be replaced.

#### **2. Nigerian Coat of Arm**

The Nigerian coat of arms was officially adopted in May 1960. Every item found on the coat of arms has a special meaning in Nigeria's history. On close observation one would find a shield, horses, navy bands, an eagle and some colourful plants at the lower part of the shield.

All these represent the rich diversity and historical splendour of our country. For instance, the black shield denotes Nigeria's fertile soil, supported by two horses or chargers on each side. The horses symbolises dignity. The eagle represents strength, while the green and white bands on the top of the shield represent Nigeria's rich soil and beauty of the land. The coat of Arms carries the Nigerian motto "Unity and Faith, Peace and Progress"

### **3. National Anthem**

The Nigerian national anthem takes into cognisance the account of our historical past as well as the aims and aspirations for the coming generation. The beautiful thing about the Nigerian national anthem is the bond it has on all Nigerians both home and abroad.

It is a clarion call to serve our fatherland with love and strength and faith. One can safely say that the National anthem is one of the most important symbols of the country.

The current Nigerian National anthem "Arise O' Compatriot" was adopted in 1978. It replaced the former National Anthem (Nigeria, We Hail Thee). The lyrics was coined from the five best entries ( Eme Etim Akpan, , John A Ilechukwu Sota Omoigui, P. O. Aderibigbe and B A Ogunnaike) in a national contest while the words were put to music by Benedict E. Odiase , the then director of Nigerian Police Band

### **4. National Pledge**

The Nigerian National pledge is an oath of allegiance of support of the country. Often times, it is recited after the National anthem. The National pledge was drafted by a Nigerian Professor, Prof (Mrs.) Felicia Adebola in 1976 and in September 1976, General Olusegun Obasanjo decreed that all schools children should recite the national pledge on daily basis. The national pledge goes thus:

I pledge to Nigeria my country

To be faithful loyal an honest

To serve Nigeria with all my strength

To defend her unity

And uphold her honour and glory

So help me God

### **5. Nigerian Naira**

The legal tender of every country is also a national symbol. Just like Morocco boast of Riyadh, Benin republic boast of its Franc, Ghana its cedis, so also Nigeria has its own Naira. The naira is Nigeria's official legal tender since 1973. It is used in day to day transaction within the country.

The central Bank of Nigeria is the only authorized issuer of the Naira. On different denominations of the Nigerian Naira (#5, #10, #20, #50, #100, #200, #500 and #1000) , the pictures of heroes of the Nigerian country is inscribed. The #50 notes most especially denote unity in diversity. The presence of various tribes and culture was fully depicted in the #50 note.

## 6. Nigeria Armed forces

The Nigerian Armed Forces (Army, Navy, and Air force) are the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in charge of defending the territorial integrity of the country the armed forces are a unique symbol of our national unity on several occasions, they have fought for the course of the Nigerian state, Africa and the world at large in various peacekeeping missions which has earned them international recognition.

On the foreign soil, the Nigerian armed forces represent Nigeria the same is said of other countries. Their distinct service uniform differentiates them from other armed forces in other countries of the world.

## 7. National flower

Majority of Nigerians do not know that the country has a national flower as part of her national symbol. The national flower is a wonderful flower called **Costus spectabilis**.

This flower grows in the wild and it is found all over Africa.

## ASSESSMENT

1. Which year did the Naira become Nigeria's legal tender?
2. Which year was the Nigerian flag drafted?
3. Who designed the Nigerian Flag?
4. Write out Nigeria's national pledge.

## Week 5

### Topic: National Symbols and Their Meanings

#### **The National Anthem and the National Pledge**

**The National Anthem:** A national anthem (also state anthem, national hymn, national song, etc.) is generally a patriotic musical composition that evokes and eulogizes the history, traditions, and struggles of its people, recognized either by a nation's government as the official national song, or by convention through use by the people. The majority of national anthems are marches or hymns in style. The countries of Latin America, Central Asia and Europe tend towards more operatic pieces, while those in the Middle East, Oceania, Africa and the Caribbean use a simple fanfare.

A national anthem is usually in the national or most common language of the country, whether de facto or official, there are notable exceptions. Most commonly, states with more than one national language may offer several versions of their anthem. This is song that Nigerians have accepted to sing as a symbol of unity and readiness to serve the country. It is a promise of loyalty to the country.

#### **The Wording of the National Anthem Includes:**

Arise o compatriots  
Nigeria call obey,  
To serve Our Father Land,  
With love and strength and faith,  
The labour of our heroes past,  
Shall never be in vain,  
To serve with heart and might,  
One nation bound in freedom, peace and unity.

O God of creation,  
Direct our noble cause,  
Guide thou our leaders right,  
Help our youth the truth to know,  
In love and honesty to grow,  
And live in just and true,  
Great lofty heights attain,  
To build a nation where peace  
And justice shall reign.

#### **The Old National Anthem**

Nigeria we hail thee  
Our own dear native land  
Though tribe and tongue may differ



In brotherhood we stand  
Nigerians all and proud to serve Our sovereign motherland

Our flag shall be a symbol  
That truth and justice reign  
In peace or battle honour  
And this we count as gain  
To pass unto our children  
A banner without stain

O God of all creation  
Grant this our one request  
Help us to build a nation  
Where no man is oppressed  
And so with peace and plenty  
Nigeria may be blessed

- **National Pledge:** This is solemn promise by Nigerians that they would be loyal and obedient to the country and they would promote its good image.

I pledge to Nigeria my country  
To be faithful, loyal and honest  
To serve Nigeria with all my strength  
To defend her unity, and uphold her honour and glory  
So, help me God.

The National pledge is an oath of allegiance or a solemn promise to support the country. It is recited immediately after the National Anthem.

### **Assessment**

1. What do you understand by the national anthem and pledge?
2. Compare and contrast between the old and new national anthems of Nigeria; which is better?

## **Week 6**

### **Topic: Measures Adopted by Nigerian Government to Promote Unity among Nigerians**

National integration is a process of creating a sense of national consciousness, uniqueness of identity and loyalty among people with different socio-cultural identities (racial, ethnic language, religion etc.) into a single territorial political society.

The following are the ways in which the government of Nigeria can promote national unity and integrity in the country.

1. Encouraging Nigerians to be patriotic- The people must all feel like Nigerians with one destiny and one goal. They must consider one another.
2. Organizing National cultural festival – National cultural festivals that bring people of different culture, religion, class and so on together should be organized. This will help people to understand and appreciate other people's culture.
3. Promotion of cultural re- orientation/awareness – This can be done by strengthening the national orientation agency (NOA) to encourage Nigerians to learn the languages, eat the food and wear the traditional dresses of one another.
4. Encouraging Inter-ethnic and inter- tribal marriage – Inter-ethnic and Inter-tribal marriage help in promoting national integration. Through this national ties are strengthened among Nigerians
5. Promoting equal economic opportunity – There must be a conscious effort to promote equal economic opportunities for all socio-cultural groups in Nigeria.
6. Providing equal access to education – Equal educational opportunity should be given to all Nigerians from primary to tertiary levels. Promoting public education for national integration
7. Providing equal access for representation in government
8. Strengthening of National Youth Service Corps
9. Strengthening unity schools to promote cultural ties among future leaders
10. Promoting religious tolerance
11. Good and responsive government to promote sense of belonging among Nigerians
12. Adoption of an indigenous language as an official national language (lingua franca)

## **Assessment**

Mention 5 ways in which Government can promote unity among Nigerians and explain

## Week 7

# Topic: Measures adopted by Nigerian Government to Promote Unity among Nigerians

### Introduction

National integration is a process of creating a sense of national consciousness, uniqueness of identity and loyalty among people with different socio-cultural identities (racial, ethnic language, religion etc.) into a single territorial political society.

Having identified Nigeria national symbols and their meaning in the previous topic it becomes necessary to promoting national unity emanating from the identified Nigeria's national symbols.

- **Establishment of Institutions (such as Unity Schools):** Various schools are established both at the state and federal levels to accommodate children from any part of the country, to offer them the opportunity and access to education.
- **Employment and Labour Mobility:** The federal government employs and transfer workers from different cultural groups to work elsewhere in the country.
- **Trading activity:** Trading activities among and within cities and citizens in the country have attempted to open or establish local markets where goods and services could be exchanged.
- **National Language:** There is no specific national language spoken by Nigerians. Apart from the three major languages i.e. Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba, there are about 350 ethnic groups with different distinct dialect. But efforts are being made to promote a national or an official language.
- **Transport and Communication:** Road network, rail way lines, telecommunications, bridges and airways are built and constructed by government at various levels to link up rural areas with urban areas and ease the movement if people, goods and services; thereby promoting national integration.
- **N.Y.S.C. programme:** This is a programme established by the federal government of Nigeria in 1973. The aim was to allow fresh graduates from higher institutions of learning to engage in National Youth Service Corps, such that they could work in any part of the country for a period of one year under the control of the federal government.

### Assessment

Mention 3 ways in which Government can promote unity among Nigerians.

## **Week 8**

### **Topic: How Individuals and Groups Promote National Unity**

National unity or integration is a process of creating a sense of national consciousness, uniqueness of identity and loyalty among people with different socio-cultural identities (racial, ethnic language, religion etc.) into a single territorial political society.

National Unity – This is a type of government formed by a group of parties, generally during times of emergency. These governments are said to be unified by a love of country rather than by political affiliation.

National Integration – It is a positive aspect that reduces socio-cultural and economic differences or inequalities and strengthens national unity and solidarity, which is not imposed by any authority.

National unity and integration encourages People to share ideas, values and emotional bonds. It is feeling of unity within diversity. National identity is supreme. Cultural unity, constitution, territorial continuity, common economic problems, art, literature, national festivals, national flag, national anthem and national emblem etc promote National Integration.

#### **How Groups can Promote National Unity**

There are different groups that promote national unity and integration in Nigeria. These groups most of them are institutions that has been established by the government to promote oneness and unity mong citizens of the country without any form of discrimination or racial prejudice among members of the country. Some of these institutions set to foster national unity area;

- **The Establishment of Unity Schools**

The establishment of unity schools seems to have the potential for fostering the bond of unity among Nigerians. This motivates successive governments to establish unity schools as a veritable means of strengthening national cohesion and integration in the country. In light of this, the government established the first unity school —King's College — in 1909 as an all-boys secondary school in Lagos. Also, in 1927, another Federal Government's owned unity school — Queen's College — was established in Lagos as an all-girls school. Available records revealed that the Yaba Trade Centre, which was later renamed Federal Technical College, Yaba, Lagos, was established in 1948 with the same objective. To further strengthen national integration after the country's independence in 1960, the Federal Government established three additional unity secondary schools across the country.

- **The Federal Character Commission**

The Federal Character Commission (FCC) is a Federal Executive body established by Act No 34 of 1996 to implement and enforce the Federal Character Principle of fairness and equity in the distribution of public posts and socio-economic infrastructures among the various federating units of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The provisions of the 1999 Constitution in Sections 14 and 153 consolidated the establishment of the FCC for operation in a democratic system of Government.

- **The Nigerian Sport Character**

The **Nigerian National Sports Festival** is a biennial multi-sport event organized by the Federal Government of Nigeria through the National Sports Commission for athletes from the 36 States of Nigeria.

- **The National Orientation Agency**

The National Orientation Agency of Nigeria is the body tasked with communicating government policy, staying abreast of public opinion, and promoting patriotism, national unity, and development of Nigerian society. The motto on its website states: "Do the right thing: transform Nigeria." Its specific objectives were set out in Decree 100 of 1993.

- **The National Youth Service Corps**

The NYSC scheme was created in a bid to reconstruct, reconcile and rebuild the country after the Nigerian Civil war. The unfortunate antecedents in our national history gave impetus to the establishment of the National Youth Service Corps by decree No.24 of 22nd May 1973 which stated that the NYSC is being established "with a view to the proper encouragement and development of common ties among the youths of Nigeria and the promotion of national unity".

### **How Individuals can Promote National Unity**

- **Tolerance:** the ability to bear things, accept the shortcomings and limitations of others if necessary if there would be national unity.
- **Hospitality:** This arises when one shows warmth and affection to others.
- **Non-Discrimination:** Viewing others the way you view yourself
- **Inter-Ethnic Marriage:** This involves marriage across board, for example a Yoruba man, marrying an Igbo woman.

### **Assessment**

In your own words, explain how Individuals can promote National Unity

## **Week 9 & 10**

### **Topic: The Nigerian Constitution**

#### **What is a Constitution?**

Constitution can be defined as a body of rules and principles according to which a country is governed. It is the basic law by which a political system operates. A Constitution is a fundamental and entrenched rules governing the conduct of an organization or nation state, and establishing its concept, character, and structure. It is usually a short document, general in nature and embodying the aspirations and values of its writers and subjects. The constitution can also be defined as the organic and fundamental law of a nation or state, which may be written or unwritten, establishing the character and conception of its government, laying the basic principles to which its internal life is to be conformed, organizing the government, and regulating, distributing, and limiting the functions of its different departments, and prescribing the extent and manner of the exercise of sovereign powers. The constitution expresses the powers exercised by the various levels of government. It limits the power of the government. Constitution can be defined as a body of agreed rules and principles according to which a country is governed. It is the basic law to which a political system operates.

#### **Importance of Having a Constitution**

- The primary function of a constitution is to lay out the basic structure of the government according to which the people are to be governed. It is the constitution of a country, which establishes the three main organs of the government, namely, the legislature, executive and judiciary.
- The constitution of a country not only defines the powers allotted to each of the three main organs, but it also significantly makes a clear demarcation of the responsibilities assigned to each of them. It effectively regulates the relationship between these organs as well as the relationship between the government and its people.
- Since the country's constitution stands superior to all the laws framed within the territorial precincts of the country, any law enacted by the ruling government has to be in conformity with the concerned constitution. As such, the citizens would, in turn, be

abiding by not just the law, but also working in sync with the demarcations of the constitution laid by the country.

- The constitution does not simply provide a recipe for an efficient government, but also deals with limitations on power. Since power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely, a constitution is established to restrict the abuse of power by those who conduct governmental functions.
- The constitution of a particular country lays down the national goals which form the basic edifice on which the nation rests upon. For instance, the constitution of India has inscribed in it the primary facets of the nation which are democracy, socialism, secularism and national integration.
- A constitution, besides thrusting on the rights of the citizens of the concerned nation, also has embedded in it the duties that the citizens require to adhere to as well.

### **Sources of a Constitution**

1. **Convention:** This refers to the customs and traditions of a people which over time becomes generally acceptable norm in the society. In general, the constitution of a state is a summation of the totality of the custom and tradition of people in that state.
2. **Act of Parliament:** This is a very important source of constitution of a state. Parliament in any state is the legal body can make and alter the laws of the state.
3. **The People:** The singular fact that laws are made to suit people within a particular state presupposes that inputs of the people, via their representatives in parliament to the amendment of a constitution or in drafting new ones, need to be taken seriously.
4. **Precedence:** This implies the ways and manners a particular thing is done over time within a period and which becomes widely accepted with time. This ultimately becomes part of the constitution.
5. **Constitutional Conferences/Constituent Assemblies:** This is an assembly convened for the purpose of drafting new constitution or altering the existing one.

### **Importance of the Nigerian Constitution**

- It is the legal document from which every institution in the country gets its validity.
- It contains all the fundamental rights of every Nigerian citizen (more of this below).
- The Constitution is supreme— this means that any law or any action which is inconsistent or incompatible with any of the provisions contained in the Constitution is null, void and of no effect.
- The Constitution sets out the powers of the 3 arms of Government – the Executive, the Legislature, and the Judiciary.



- The Constitution states the procedure that must be followed for the creation of a new State or for the boundary adjustment of an existing State (and Local Governments as well)
- The Constitution provides that before any international Treaty can be effective in Nigeria, it must be enacted into law by the National Assembly
- It provides that composition of the Government or any of its agencies must reflect the federal character of Nigeria and there should be no predominance of persons from a few State or from a few ethnic or other sectional groups in that Government.
- The Constitution states that the procedure through which an individual can become a Nigerian citizen.
- It also states the procedure through which a Nigerian Citizen can renounce his/her citizenship. (Yes, you can decide that you do not want to be a Nigerian citizen anymore- but the Government has to confirm this)
- It provides for the fundamental rights of all Nigerian citizens.

### **Aspects of the Nigerian Constitution that Promotes National Consciousness**

The aspect of the Nigerian constitution that promotes national consciousness and national unity is seen in the chapter II of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Below are the selected aspect of the second chapter of the Nigerian constitution that promotes national consciousness and unity:

3) The composition of the Government of the Federation or any of its agencies and the conduct of its affairs shall be carried out in such a manner as to reflect the federal character of Nigeria and the need to promote national unity, and also to command national loyalty, thereby ensuring that there shall be no predominance of persons from a few State or from a few ethnic or other sectional groups in that Government or in any of its agencies.

(4) The composition of the Government of a State, a local government council, or any of the agencies of such Government or council, and the conduct of the affairs of the Government or council or such agencies shall be carried out in such manner as to recognise the diversity of the people within its area of authority and the need to promote a sense of belonging and loyalty among all the people of the Federation.

15. (1) The motto of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be Unity and Faith, Peace and Progress.

(2) Accordingly, national integration shall be actively encouraged, whilst discrimination on the grounds of place of origin, sex, religion, status, ethnic or linguistic association or ties shall be prohibited.

(3) For the purpose of promoting national integration, it shall be the duty of the State to:

(a) Provide adequate facilities for and encourage free mobility of people, goods and services throughout the Federation.

(b) Secure full residence rights for every citizen in all parts of the Federation.

(c) Encourage inter-marriage among persons from different places of origin, or of different religious, ethnic or linguistic association or ties; and

(d) Promote or encourage the formation of associations that cut across ethnic, linguistic, religious and or other sectional barriers.

(4) The State shall foster a feeling of belonging and of involvement among the various people of the Federation, to the end that loyalty to the nation shall override sectional loyalties.

(5) The State shall abolish all corrupt practices and abuse of power.

16. (1) The State shall, within the context of the ideals and objectives for which provisions are made in this Constitution.

(a) Harness the resources of the nation and promote national prosperity and an efficient, a dynamic and self-reliant economy;

(b) Control the national economy in such manner as to secure the maximum welfare, freedom and happiness of every citizen on the basis of social justice and equality of status and opportunity;

(c) without prejudice to its right to operate or participate in areas of the economy, other than the major sectors of the economy, manage and operate the major sectors of the economy;

(d) Without prejudice to the right of any person to participate in areas of the economy within the major sector of the economy, protect the right of every citizen to engage in any economic activities outside the major sectors of the economy.

(2) The State shall direct its policy towards ensuring:

(a) The promotion of a planned and balanced economic development;

(b) That the material resources of the nation are harnessed and distributed as best as possible to serve the common good;

(c) that the economic system is not operated in such a manner as to permit the concentration of wealth or the means of production and exchange in the hands of few individuals or of a group; and

(d) That suitable and adequate shelter, suitable and adequate food, reasonable national minimum living wage, old age care and pensions, and unemployment, sick benefits and welfare of the disabled are provided for all citizens.

(3) A body shall be set up by an Act of the National Assembly which shall have power;

(a) to review, from time to time, the ownership and control of business enterprises operating in Nigeria and make recommendations to the President on same; and

(b) To administer any law for the regulation of the ownership and control of such enterprises.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section –

(a) the reference to the “major sectors of the economy” shall be construed as a reference to such economic activities as may, from time to time, be declared by a resolution of each House of the National Assembly to be managed and operated exclusively by the Government of the Federation, and until a resolution to the contrary is made by the National Assembly, economic activities being operated exclusively by the Government of the Federation on the date immediately preceding the day when this section comes into force, whether directly or through the agencies of a statutory or other corporation or company, shall be deemed to be major sectors of the economy;

(b) “Economic activities” includes activities directly concerned with the production, distribution and exchange of goods or of goods and services; and

(c) “Participate” includes the rendering of services and supplying of goods.

17. (1) The State social order is founded on ideals of Freedom, Equality and Justice.

(2) In furtherance of the social order-

(a) Every citizen shall have equality of rights, obligations and opportunities before the law;

(b) The sanctity of the human person shall be recognised and human dignity shall be maintained and enhanced;

(c) Governmental actions shall be humane;

(d) exploitation of human or natural resources in any form whatsoever for reasons, other than the good of the community, shall be prevented; and

(e) The independence, impartiality and integrity of courts of law, and easy accessibility thereto shall be secured and maintained.

(3) The State shall direct its policy towards ensuring that-

(a) All citizens, without discrimination on any group whatsoever, have the opportunity for securing adequate means of livelihood as well as adequate opportunity to secure suitable employment;

(b) Conditions of work are just and humane, and that there are adequate facilities for leisure and for social, religious and cultural life;

(c) The health, safety and welfare of all persons in employment are safeguarded and not endangered or abused;

- (d) There are adequate medical and health facilities for all persons:
- (e) There is equal pay for equal work without discrimination on account of sex, or on any other ground whatsoever;
- (f) Children, young persons and the age are protected against any exploitation whatsoever, and against moral and material neglect;
- (g) Provision is made for public assistance in deserving cases or other conditions of need; and
- (h) The evolution and promotion of family life is encouraged.

18. (1) Government shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are equal and adequate educational opportunities at all levels.

- (2) Government shall promote science and technology
- (3) Government shall strive to eradicate illiteracy; and to this end Government shall as and when practicable provide
  - (a) Free, compulsory and universal primary education;
  - (b) Free secondary education;
  - (c) Free university education; and
  - (d) Free adult literacy programme.

## Assessment

1. Mention 3 sources of Constitution
2. What are the importance of Constitution
3. ————— can be defined as a body of rules and principles according to which a country is governed.
  - (a) law
  - (b) constitution
  - (c) decrees
  - (d) authority

## Answers

1. Convention  
Act of Parliament  
The People  
Precedent

2. It is the legal document from which every institution in the country gets its validity.  
It contains all the fundamental rights of every Nigerian citizen (more of this below).  
The Constitution is supreme— this means that any law or any action which is inconsistent or incompatible with any of the provisions contained in the Constitution is null, void and of no effect.  
The Constitution sets out the powers of the 3 arms of Government – the Executive, the Legislature, and the Judiciary.  
The Constitution states the procedure that must be followed for the creation of a new State or for the boundary adjustment of an existing State (and Local Governments as well)  
The Constitution provides that before any international Treaty can be effective in Nigeria, it must be enacted into law by the National Assembly

3. Constitution