

# **CIVIC EDUCATION**

*FOR*

**Senior Secondary School**



# 1

**EDUBASE**

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**S.S.S 1**

**CIVIC EDUCATION**

**FIRST TERM**

# TABLE OF CONTENT

WEEK 1 TOPIC:	INTRODUCTION TO CIVIC EDUCATION
WEEK 2 TOPIC:	VALUES
WEEK 3 TOPIC:	VALUES (CONT'D)
WEEK 4 TOPIC:	COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ITS VALUES
WEEK 5 TOPIC:	COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ITS VALUES
WEEK 6 TOPIC:	HIV/AIDS
WEEK 7 TOPIC:	HIV/AIDS (CONT'D)
WEEK 8 TOPIC:	YOUTH EMPOWERMENT
WEEK 9 TOPIC:	YOUTH EMPOWERMENT II
WEEK 10 TOPIC:	GOALS OF CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION
WEEK 11 TOPIC:	GOALS OF CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (CONT'D)
WEEK 12 TOPIC:	NATIONALISM

# Week 1

## Topic: Introduction to Civic Education

### Content:

- Meaning and Needs for Civic Education
- Objectives/Reasons for Civic Education in Schools
- Importance of Civic Education/Agents of Civic Education

### Meaning and Needs for Civic Education

Civic education was coined from citizenship education, which simply means an educational and learning activities specifically meant to create awareness, teach right values, right attitudes and behaviour that are acceptable to the society where individual lives.

It is therefore a types of educational and learning activities to create awareness in students at all levels of education (both informal and formal)

### Objectives/Reasons for Civic Education in Schools

1. **To teach right attitudes:** students must understand what right attitudes and wrong attitudes are. For example laziness, truancy, bad gang, smoking etc. are bad attitudes
2. **Encouragement of good citizenship:** a good citizen is someone who contribute positively towards his/her community growth and national growth.
3. **Disagreement of bad and unholy behaviour:** bad behaviour such as indecent dressing, sagging, cheating in examination, stealing, bad group and other should be discouraged and do away with.
4. **To teach good leadership and followership:** leaders are mirror of the society, a good leader therefore should be someone who seeks at all times and work hard towards solving his/her followers' problems. A good follower is someone who is hardworking and performs his/her expected duties and obligations to the state and community where he/she resides.
5. **To encourage the spirit of friendship and cooperation:** 'United we stand, divided we fall'. The spirit of friendship, cooperation, harmonious relationship, religious tolerance among others are keys towards individual, community and national development.

### VALUES AND IMPORTANCE OF CIVIC EDUCATION

1. Civic education is necessary towards proper upbringing of an individual.
2. Civic education is essential for self-reliant, self-growth and indigenous individual.

3. It enhances individual growth, thereby encouraging nations development and rapid progress
4. It encourages peaceful co-existence among people of diverse nationality like indigent.
5. It encourages good leadership and followership.

## **AGENTS OF CIVIC EDUCATION**

1. **Family:** it is often said that 'charity begins at home'. Family is the first agent of socialization and the first agent to educate the child on 'do and don't in the society. The family is expected to teach the child right values, positive attitudes, hard work, sincerity, faithfulness, thankfulness among others.

2. **The community members:** community members consist of the male and female adults members of the community. They are the best position to further direct the child towards a right direction in the community for stronger development of the community in particular and the nation at large. A well-disciplined and cultured individual is said to be the 'child of the community' whereas a failure, uncultured and undisciplined individual belongs to his or her family.

3. **The religious bodies:** the African traditional religion, Islam and Christianity have a major role of morality teaching and training in the society. It is expected that the religious organizations should make man a complete human being. It is a moral obligation of the religious organization initiate children and adults into a religious belief. Therefore, the balance combination of good academic works in schools and sound morals with the fear of God would make a complete man because it is said that 'the fear of God is beginning of wisdom'.

4. **The school:** schools at all level are designed to teach, train, educate, socialize among other individual to become a complete human being. Schools help to transfer susceptible societal values to learners (both young and adults) through teaching and learning process. The school is the agent of socialization through which the child first acquires organized learning experience.

5. **The mass media:** both print and electronic media are agents of civic education because through various media channels a learner and citizens interacts with the happenings not only in the immediate environment but the global world. In fact the media has made the world a global village. For example on both radio and television stations, scheduled hours for awareness creation are on air.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **The following are the reasons for teaching civic education in Nigeria except**
  - (a) to create awareness
  - (b) to teach right values

- (c) to teach right attitudes and behaviour  
(d) to create dissent
2. **One of these is not one of the bad attitudes civic education aims to curb**  
(a) laziness  
(b) overeating  
(c) truancy  
(d) bad gang
3. **One of these is not an attribute of a good leader**  
(a) problem solver  
(b) hardworker  
(c) performs his duties to the state  
(d) leaves his people to starve
4. **A good citizen contributes \_\_\_\_\_ towards his/her community growth and national growth**  
(a) profusely  
(b) positively  
(c) negatively  
(d) plausibly
5. **All these are agents of civic education except**  
(a) mass media  
(b) family  
(c) religious bodies  
(d) gang members

## **ANSWERS**

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

## Week 2

### Topic: Values

#### **Content-**

- Definition of Value and its Sources
- Types of Basic Human Values
- Kinds of Values

#### **Meaning of value**

Value can simply be defined as the worth of a thing; it is the act of considering (someone or something) to be important or beneficial.

Value is seen as the normal principles and standard which guide our interaction with people in the society. It has a way of influencing people's behavior and attitude. Value in civic education enables us to know things that are good and beneficial to individuals and the society at large.

#### **Types of Basic Human Values**

There are many types of value which are:

1. Justice: Justice as a type of value is the quality of being just, righteous, equitable and upright. It is based on moral rightness based on ethics, nationality, law, religion and upright.

#### **Types of justice**

- Procedural justice: This is the justice that deals with the using of fair play to decide what is to be distributed. Procedural is the idea of fairness in the processes that resolve disputes and allocate resources. One aspect of procedural justice is related to discussions of the administration of justice and legal proceedings.
- Restorative justice: Restoration simply means putting things back as they should be. It is the process of appeasing an individual that has being betrayed or cheated through some form of restitution.
- Retributive justice: This goes beyond restorative justice, it is a mean where by the person who is cheated seeks revenge of some sort , whereby, he can feel the satisfaction of seeing the other person suffer in the way that he had suffered.

- **Distributive justice:** This deal with fairness in what people receive as income or compensation

2. **Contentment:** Contentment can be defined as the state of being happy and satisfied with whatever one has. It is a value every individual in a society should possess.

#### **Attributes of contentment**

1. A contented person must be satisfied with whatever he has
2. Must be humble
3. Must not be greedy
4. Have the ability to shun envy

#### **Importance of contentment**

1. Contentment leads to blessing, peaceful and developed society.
2. It reduces the feeling of inferiority complex in people
3. It reduces or eliminates conflicts between individuals and groups in the society.
4. Lack of contentment therefore can lead to corruption, envy, theft, cheating, prostitution, greed etc

3. **Courage:** Courage is the ability to do something that one know is right or good even though it can be dangerous, frightening or difficult to do. It is the quality of mind that make a person to face difficulty, danger etc without fear.

#### **Types of courage**

1. **Physical courage:** This involves developing physical strength, resilience and awareness; it is willingness to get things done with physical energy.
2. **Moral courage:** This is the ability to do what is right, irrespective of the pressure to do otherwise; it is doing the right thing especially when risks involve shame.
3. **Spiritual courage:** Courage to exercise one spiritual faith and live according to the tenets

#### **Types of Value**

1. **Positive value:** positive value applies to things or qualities which are good, desirable or worthwhile, for example, a student who respects self, the constituted authority, seniors and even the classmate is said to have positive value. Other positive value include; gratitude, truth telling, hard work, obedience etc.

2. **Negative value:** this is a direct opposite of positive value, this is a bad value, undesirable, unacceptable or worthless value that the society frown at. For example, a disobedient student is said to have negative value. Other negative values are; ingratitude, lying, theft, armed robbery, improper dressing like sagging, fraudulent acts, etc.

3. **Intrinsic value:** something has intrinsic value when it is good or desirable for its own sake and in itself. For example, good music, beautiful flowers, particular dress, type of handset, type of house and other value giving satisfaction to the beholder.

4. **Instrumental or extrinsic value:** this is the value that we attach to an object or something that can be used for achieving another thing. For example, a good knife, a good music, a good handset. Also, drugs can be an instrumental value because prescribed drug cures illness etc.

5. **Absolute value:** they are values that are not conditioned or stick to time, place or circumstance. They are always positive, good and worthwhile. They are always refer to as eternal and universal values, they hold positive and good at all places, circumstances and at all times. Examples of such values are: trust, honesty, hard work, discipline, tolerance, obedience etc.

6. **Relative value:** this type of value depends on time, place or circumstance. This means that situation and current happening will determine the direction of the affairs. For example, killing is bad and it is an act that people frown at, but what of Euthensia (mercy killing) or killing a person to save one's life. The case of another good example of relative value.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **The normal principles and standard which guide our interaction with people in the society is called**
  - (a) norms
  - (b) law
  - (c) values
  - (d) constitution
  
2. **Justice, contentment and courage are all examples of**
  - (a) basic human connection
  - (b) basic human instinct
  - (c) basic human values
  - (d) basic human objectives
  
3. **Pick out the odd item out of the options below**
  - (a) retributive justice
  - (b) procedural justice
  - (c) arrested justice
  - (d) restorative justice

4. **The kind of value that applies to things or qualities which are good, desirable or worthwhile is known as**
- (a) positive value
  - (b) negative value
  - (c) intrinsic value
  - (d) Extrinsic value
5. **A contented person displays the following attributes except**
- (a) satisfied with whatever he has
  - (b) humility
  - (c) not greedy
  - (d) envy

## **ANSWERS**

- 1. c
- 2. c
- 3. c
- 4. a
- 5. d

## Week 3

### Topic: Values (Cont'd)

#### **Contents:**

- Acceptable Societal Values
- Different Individual Values and the Importance of Values
- Opportunities to defend Oneself and Factors that Promote good Value System

#### **Acceptable Societal Value**

Ordinarily value means belief about what is right and wrong and what is important in life. Social value means the norms or forms of behavior which are widely acceptable and admirable in society. Social are the root of all virtues that pave the way for the harmony of a society. It is the social values that are the key to the development of a society. With social values, a person shapes up as a good human being and plays an important role in society's development. That can be beneficial for the society as well as that particular individual. Thus if every individual develops good social values and play crucial role in the society's development with those values, that will be of maximum benefit to that particular society.

#### **Different Individual Values**

As human beings, we all have our own values, beliefs and attitudes that we have developed throughout the course of our lives. Our family, friends, community and the experiences we have had all contribute to our sense of who we are and how we view the world. As community services workers, we are often working with people who are vulnerable and/or who may live a lifestyle that mainstream society views as being different or unacceptable.

#### **Importance of Values**

The importance of values cannot be overemphasized; some of the importance are highlighted below

1. Values enable us to know what our society cherishes and what it does not cherish, which will enable us to know the expectations of our society.
2. Values are used to determine or control the behavior of people in the society; it helps to guide our behaviours towards other people.
3. Good values enable us to set goals for ourselves; it acts as a standard of conduct which will guide us to achieve our objective in life.

4. It also help us to have a good and positive influence on others
5. Value helps us in making a right decision.
6. It makes us happy and fulfilled because it brings a sense of fulfillment and happiness.

### **Opportunities to defend Oneself and Factors that Promote good Value System**

It is important for an individual to be given an opportunity to defend himself or herself in any situation. It is wrong to judge someone without listening to his or her part of the story.

### **Importance of Opportunity to defend oneself**

1. It helps in settlement of conflicts and disputes. It is important to hear from everyone involved in a conflict before conclusion is made.
2. It protects individual right for fair hearing.
3. Opportunity to defend oneself prevents injustice in the society.

### **Assessment**

1. **All the following options is true of social values except**
  - (a) it is the root of all virtues that pave the way for the harmony of a society
  - (b) They are the key to the development of a society
  - (c) Help to shape citizens into good human beings
  - (d) promote criminal activities in the society
2. **One of these options does not contribute to building up individual's social values**
  - (a) family
  - (b) community
  - (c) criminals
  - (d) friends
3. **One of the importance of values is that**
  - (a) help us to have a good and positive influence on others
  - (b) help us to control other people
  - (c) help us to mock our friends
  - (d) help us to cheat others
4. **Everyone deserves a right to \_\_\_\_\_ themselves**
  - (a) defend
  - (b) respect
  - (c) fight
  - (d) destroy

5. **Opportunity to defend oneself prevents \_\_\_\_\_ in the society**
- (a) justice
  - (b) injustice
  - (c) unity
  - (d) happiness

## **ANSWERS**

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

## Week 4

### Topic: Community Services and its Values

#### **Content:**

- **Community Services and its Values**
- **Practical Involvement in the community Services**
- **Project Work**

#### **Community Services and its Values**

Community service is the activity performed by someone or a group of people for the benefit of a community, so as to see to the development and progress of the society for the purpose of bringing development in the environment. It is a way by which people complement the government for the work done by them; it's a way of contributing their own quota to the development of the state.

Example of community services are as follows

- Building of community hall
- Cleaning street drainage to prevent flooding
- Tutoring children with learning disability
- Construction of sign posts to indicate streets name
- Building of community libraries
- Construction of wooden bridges to link streets together from one area to another.

#### **Importance of community service**

Community service is important because of the following reasons

- It is the best way to instill sense of responsibility on people
- It promotes national integration
- It is the best way to instill sense of responsibility on people
- It is an avenue for getting members of a community to come together.

- It's an avenue for citizens to participate in government.
- It promotes national integration
- It creates a sense of unity and oneness and promotes growth.

## **Practical Involvement in the community Services**

### **Project Work**

## **Test and Exercises**

- 1. Community service is the activity performed by someone or a group of people for the**
  - (a) benefit of a few people
  - (b) benefit of individuals
  - (c) benefit of one's family
  - (d) benefit of a community
- 2. Citizens perform community service as a way of \_\_\_\_\_ their own quota to the society**
  - (a) abandoning
  - (b) contributing
  - (c) fighting
  - (d) deducting
- 3. The following are examples of community service except**
  - (a) tutoring children with learning disability
  - (b) construction of sign posts to indicate streets name
  - (c) beating up the community bully
  - (d) building of community libraries
- 4. Community service instills \_\_\_\_\_ in the people**
  - (a) violence
  - (b) criminality
  - (c) sense of worship
  - (d) sense of responsibility
- 5. One of these is not an importance of community service**
  - (a) it is an avenue for getting members of a community to come together.
  - (b) it's an avenue for citizens to participate in government.
  - (c) It promotes national integration
  - (d) it promotes hate speech

## **ANSWERS**

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

## Week 5

### Topic: Community Services and its Values

#### **Content:**

- **Community Services and its Values**
- **Practical Involvement in the community Services**
- **Project Work**

#### **Community Services and its Values**

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### Practical Involvement in the community Services

## Project Work

### Test and Exercises

- Community service is the activity performed by someone or a group of people for the**
  - benefit of a few people
  - benefit of individuals
  - benefit of one's family
  - benefit of a community
- Citizens perform community service as a way of \_\_\_\_\_ their own quota to the society**
  - abandoning
  - contributing
  - fighting
  - deducting
- The following are examples of community service except**
  - tutoring children with learning disability
  - construction of sign posts to indicate streets name
  - beating up the community bully
  - building of community libraries
- Community service instills \_\_\_\_\_ in the people**
  - violence
  - criminality
  - sense of worship
  - sense of responsibility
- One of these is not an importance of community service**
  - it is an avenue for getting members of a community to come together.
  - it's an avenue for citizens to participate in government.
  - It promotes national integration
  - it promotes hate speech

## **ANSWERS**

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

# Week 6

## Topic: HIV/AIDS

### Content:

- **Meaning of HIV/AIDS and its Differences**
- **Cause drivers and mode of transmission of HIV/AIDS**
- **Signs, Symptoms and Effects of HIV/AIDS**

### Meaning of HIV/AIDS

The first recognized cases of AIDS occurred in the USA in the early 1980s. HIV is a lentivirus, and like all viruses of this type, it attacks the immune system. Lentiviruses are in turn part of a larger group of viruses known as retroviruses. The name 'lentivirus' literally means 'slow virus' because they take such a long time to produce any adverse effects in the body. They have been found in a number of different animals, including cats, sheep, horses and cattle.

HIV means Human Immune-deficiency Virus and AIDS means Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

AIDS is a disease of the human system caused by HIV by damaging one's immune system

HIV interferes with the body's ability to fight the organisms that cause disease. HIV is a sexually-transmitted infection. It can be spread by contact with infected blood or from mother to child during pregnancy.

### Causes of HIV/AIDS

A person can be infected with HIV/AIDS through the following ways

- **From mother to child:** A mother who is infected with HIV can infect their babies during pregnancy, child birth or through breast feeding. Treatment of HIV infection during pregnancy, the risk of transferring it to their babies is reduced.
- **Sharing contaminated sharp objects:** Another means by which HIV can be transmitted is through sharp objects like clippers, needles, razor etc that are contaminated with infected people.
- **During sexual act:** unprotected sex with someone already infected with HIV has accounted for greater number of cases of HIV infection worldwide.
- **Blood Transfusion:** HIV can spread through blood transfusion i.e the transfer of blood from one person to another.

## **Symptoms of HIV/AIDS**

Victims of HIV/ AIDS suffer from diseases which their body system would have fought normally, some of the diseases and signs or symptoms are listed below:

- Memory loss
- Anaemia
- Fever
- Tuberculosis
- Nausea
- Chronic cough
- Chronic diarrhoea

## **Effects of HIV/AIDS**

HIV/AIDS has the following effect on the infected people

- HIV/AIDS make victims very uncomfortable and ill because they are always prone to various diseases
- HIV/AIDS victims suffer psychologically because they are always pessimistic and live in fear.
- HIV/AIDS increased dependency ratio
- People die of the disease
- HIV/AIDS lead to increase level of poverty as victims of the disease spend much money on hospital bills to keep themselves alive
- It leads to broken homes, spouses may decide to divorce each other after realizing one of the partner has been infected with HIV/AIDS
- It leads to reduction of population in the country since many of the victims die
- Reduction in manpower

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **The first recognized cases of HIV/AIDS was first discovered in**
  - (a) early 1980s
  - (b) lately 1980s

- (c) early1990s
- (d) lately 1990s

2. **Symptoms of HIV/AIDS are the following except**

- (a) chronic cough
- (b) memory loss
- (c) nausea
- (d) eye problem

3. **HIV means**

- (a) Human Innovative Virus
- (b) Human Immune Virus
- (c) Human immune-deficiency Syndrome
- (d) Human Individual Visual

4. **An individual can be infected with HIV/AIDS with the following ways except**

- (a) blood transfusion
- (b) during sexual act
- (c) keeping to one spouse
- (d) from mother to child

5. **AIDS means**

- (a) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
- (b) Acquired Innovation for Deficiency Syndrome
- (c) Acquired Immune Diseases Syndrome
- (d) Applied Immune Deficiency Syndrome'

## **ANSWERS**

- 1. a
- 2. d
- 3. c
- 4. c
- 5. a

# Week 7

## Topic: HIV/AIDS (Cont'd)

### CONTENT:

- Preventive Measures of HIV/AIDS
- How to care for people with HIV/AIDS
- Stigmatisation of PLWHA (People Living With HIV/AIDS)
- Meaning of HIV/AIDS Stigmatisation

### Preventive Measures of HIV/AIDS

The following are some main ways of preventing the spread of HIV in our community and country. These way often called 'ABC' which is summarized thus;

- It stands for complete ABSTINENCE meaning do not engage in sexual act till one is married.
- It stands for be faithful to one partner especially those that are married and in relationship.
- It stands for using condoms. This does not mean that sex is recommended for an unmarried person, it is meant for married people to safeguard unwanted pregnancy and for those who cannot abstain from having sex.

### How to care for people with HIV/AIDS

- Showing love, respect and support
- Knowing the facts about HIV/AIDS and talking openly about the disease
- Helping to reduce stress and stressful situations
- Helping to provide balanced and nutritious meals
- Encouraging them to get treatment if they are sick. Most infections are easily treated and cured, even if a person is HIV positive
- They should not be rejected in the society

### Stigmatization of People living with HIV/AIDS

HIV stigmatization is the discrimination and negative attitudes of people in the society towards people living with HIV/AIDS

Victims of HIV/AIDS are stigmatized in various ways, which are:

- People living with victims of HIV/AIDS are rejected by family members and friends
- Most of them are sacked from their employment
- They are avoided and rejected by members of the society
- They are discriminated in the society
- People living with victims of HIV/AIDS mocked them because of the diseases

### **Meaning of HIV/AIDS Stigmatisation**

HIV-related stigma and discrimination refers to prejudice, negative attitudes and abuse directed at people living with HIV and AIDS. In 35% of countries with available data, over 50% of men and women report having discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV.

The consequences of stigma and discrimination are wide-ranging. Some people are shunned by family, peers and the wider community, while others face poor treatment in healthcare and educational settings, erosion of their rights, and psychological damage. These all limit access to HIV testing, treatment and other HIV services.

The People Living with HIV Stigma Index indicates that roughly one in every eight people living with HIV is being denied health services because of stigma and discrimination.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **The 'ABC' of HIV/AIDS prevention is**
  - (a) abstinence, faithfulness to one partner, use of condoms
  - (b) abstinence, unfaithfulness, use of condoms
  - (c) not abstaining from sex, faithfulness, use of condoms,
  - (d) abstinence, faithfulness, having unsafe sex
2. **One of these is not a way of taking care of people with HIV/AIDS**
  - (a) knowing the facts about HIV/AIDS and talking openly about the disease
  - (b) helping to reduce stress and stressful situations
  - (c) helping to provide balanced and nutritious meals
  - (d) running away from people with the disease
3. **HIV/AIDS stigmatization means**
  - (a) having friendly attitude towards people leaving with HIV
  - (b) encouraging people with the disease

- (c) providing care for people with HIV
- (d) having discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV

4. **The following are examples of stigmatization faced by people living with HIV/AIDS except**

- (a) prejudice
- (b) negative attitudes
- (c) love
- (d) abuse

5. **Abstinence means**

- (a) engaging with multiple sexual partners
- (b) engaging in sexual acts on a regular basis
- (c) not engage in sexual act till one is married
- (d) unfaithfulness after one is married

## **ANSWERS**

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

# Week 8

## Topic: Youth Empowerment

Content:

- **Definition of the concept of Youth Empowerment**
- **Various Youth Empowerment skills**
- **Communication Skills**
- **Artistic Skills**

### **Definition of Youth Empowerment**

Youth empowerment is the processes of making young people gain the ability, authority and the energy to make decision and implement changes in their own lives and the lives of other people.

**Youth empowerment** is an attitudinal, structural, and cultural process whereby young people gain the ability, authority, and agency to make decisions and implement change in their own lives and the lives of other people, including **youth** and adults.

Youth empowerment deals with provision of enabling environment which will help young people to make important and vital decision of life by themselves, it is a means of encouraging youths to do great things for themselves and also to make great impart in their society

### **Youth Empowerment involves the following:**

- Helping youth maximize and utilize their potential.
- Helping the youth to develop their confidence and self identity
- Encouraging them to grow together in accountability
- Imbibing in them the eagerness to create a change

### **Youth Empowerment skills**

1. **Manipulative skills:** It is the ability to manipulate things or object with the help of the body or a body part. E.g. kicking, throwing, bouncing etc.
2. **Communicative skill:** Communication is the process by which information is exchange between individuals or a group. It is one's ability to transfer ideas and information to others through with the possible appropriate meaning.

3. Life coping skill: Life coping skills are those skills that we use to offset disadvantages in day to day life. It can be positive and negative. Positive life coping enables us to get through difficult situations while the negative life coping skills may bring about immediate satisfaction but automatically bring will worsen the situation of things later on.

### **Types of Communication skill**

The types of communication skill are the following

1. Listening skill: Listening skill is the active process of receiving and responding to spoken and sometimes unspoken messages, this is a skill that enables one allow others to express their view about matters one has raised. This is possible by giving the other person attention, listen for understanding and letting the other person know what is said.
2. Expressive skill: These are skills used to convey to another person the information to which one have access, it is a skill used to give others information about their behavior. Expressive skills are done through the following ways: get the persons attention, convey the information to the person and finally check the persons understanding.
3. Managing the overall process: This is a third person skills that help you determine what to work on and what sort of information to exchange.
4. Intellectual skills: These are skills that that are critical, analytical, synthesizing problem-solving capacity. This can be acquired by learning, doing critical thinking and application of basic principles and having structured argument.

### **Artistic Skills**

These include skills and talent to create fine works of art: painting, drawing, sculpting, musical composition, etc. These are close to communicative skills and are more complex. Includes the art of good writing, fine and applied arts, music and drama. These skills make effective use of all the other four kinds of communication skills where necessary.

## **Test and Exercises**

### **1. Youth empowerment gives young people the following except**

- (a) ability to make good decisions
- (b) authority and energy to implement changes in their own lives
- (c) ability to improve the lives of others
- (d) ability to deceive people

### **2. The ability to manipulate things or object with the help of the body or a body part is known as**

- (a) manipulative skill

- (b) communication skill
- (c) artistic skill
- (d) life coping skill

**3. Intellectual skill can be acquired through all these activities except**

- (a) learning
- (b) critical thinking
- (c) application of basic principles
- (d) preaching

**4. The skills used to offset disadvantages in day to day life is known as**

- (a) manipulative skill
- (b) intellectual skill
- (c) life coping skill
- (d) expressive skill

**5. These are communicative skills except**

- (a) public speaking
- (b) writing
- (c) singing
- (d) shooting

## **ANSWERS**

- 1. d
- 2. a
- 3. d
- 4. c
- 5. d

## Week 9

### Topic: Youth Empowerment II

#### Contents:

- Importance and Benefit of Youth Empowerment/Agencies of Empowerment
- Guiding Students in acquiring a specific skills
- Roles of Government in providing employment opportunities for youths

#### Importance and Benefits of Youth Empowerment

The following are benefits of Youth Empowerment

1. It reduces the level of ignorance and crime among young people
2. It serves as an opportunity for the youth to develop their skills and talents; thereby making them a better person
3. It develops the potential of the youth
4. It helps young people to be responsible
5. It helps youth to be self reliant
6. It helps the youth to invest into their future

#### Agencies of Youth Empowerment

The following enhances youth empowerment in Nigeria:

##### 1. The schools

Particularly the technical colleges, polytechnics, universities etc. through skill acquisition trainings.

2. **The national directorate of employment (NDE).** This is a government agency responsible for the training of all categories of youth for empowerment and capacity buildings.

3. **The national agency for poverty eradication programme (NAPEP).** This has the major objective of poverty eradication through offering the youths loans for establishment, keke NAPEP for transport, motorbike also for transportation etc.

4. The role of **non-governmental organization** as agent of youth empowerment cannot be overruled. Many local, community and international organizations were found to be helpful towards youth empowerment in Nigeria e.g. Red Cross, Lions' Club, UNICEF, UNAD among others.

### **Guiding Students in acquiring a specific skills**

#### **Roles of Government in providing employment opportunities for youths**

Government and its agencies established skills acquisition centres as part of their efforts to provide employment opportunities for citizens. Some of these include:

1) **National Directorate of Employment (NDE):** The NDE was established by the National Directorate of Employment Act 1989 and charged with responsibility of tackling all problems of unemployment in the country.

2) **National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP):** NAPEP was established in 2001 by the federal government of Nigeria. It is responsible for coordinating and monitoring all poverty eradication activities in Nigeria.

3) Skill acquisition and vocational training centres at various states and local government across the nation.

4) Individual trainers such as mechanics, carpenters, hairdressers, caterers, tailor, shoemakers, barbers etc.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **Youth empowerment promotes**

- (a) self-reliance
- (b) youthful exuberance
- (c) pursuit of higher education
- (d) foreign scholarship

2. **Youth empowerment agencies do the following except**

- (a) reduce level of ignorance and crime among young people
- (b) help youths develop their skills and talents
- (c) help young people be self-reliant
- (d) promote cultism

3. **The following options are agencies of youth empowerment except**

- (a) schools
- (b) secret cults
- (c) national directorate of employment (NDE)
- (d) national agency for poverty eradication programme (NAPEP)

4. **National Directorate of Employment was established in**
  - (a) 1982
  - (b) 1989
  - (c) 1986
  - (d) 1990
  
5. **The responsibility of empowering the youths rests mostly with**
  - (a) the political class
  - (b) religious organizations
  - (c) university administrators
  - (d) national governments

## **ANSWERS**

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

# Week 10

## Topic: Goals of Citizenship Education

### CONTENT

- Meaning of Citizenship, acquisition of citizenship
- Definition of the goals of citizenship Education
- Goal of Citizenship Education – Acquisition Knowledge, right attitude, value, etc.
- Various Laws and Rights of individuals in the Society

### Meaning of Citizenship

Citizenship can simply be defined as the legal right that a person has, to belong to a particular country. It is a situation whereby an individual becomes a legitimate member of a country, accepting responsibility and enjoying privileges attached to it. A citizen therefore is a legal member of a given state who possess the legal and natural rights in the state where he or she resides.

### Acquisition of citizen

In the modern society, there are five main ways of acquiring citizenship, these are;

1. Citizenship by birth: this is the situation whereby the parents of the person are natives in the country or a person born by citizens of a country. For example; a child born by Nigerian parents automatically becomes a Nigerian by birth.
  2. Citizenship by registration or marriage: this occurs when Nigerian male marries for example a Briton (a British) woman. The woman automatically becomes a citizen of Nigerian through registration of marriage.
  3. Citizenship by nationalization: this happens when an alien or a foreigner becomes a citizen of another country having fulfilled and satisfied the countries conditions to acquire the citizen of that country as laid down by the constitution of that country. It is a process by which an individual voluntary changes his/her citizenship of a state to that of another in which he or she resides. Some of the conditions that an alien of another country must fulfil are: as follow;
  4. Applicant must be an adult acceptable in the community.
  5. Applicant must be of good character
- Applicant must swear an oath of allegiance

1. Applicant must be able and have been contributing to community and national development and growth.
2. Applicant must have been residing in a particular community in that country for specific period of time.
4. Honorary citizenship: from time to time the government of a country have been honouring distinguished or important person or eminent person with citizenship of that country. For example such icon figures in Nigeria like: Sir Ahmadu Bello, Nnamdi Azikwe, Chief Obafemi Awolowo have been honoured with citizenship of other countries of the world.
5. Citizenship by blood ties or decent: citizenship of a country is also acquired through blood ties. This means that the fact that a child was born in a particular community in the country does not necessarily confer the status of the citizenship on that person.

### **Meaning of Citizenship Education**

This is the process of imparting the citizens with the knowledge of their rights, values and developing their skills and attitude towards the development and the affairs of their states.

### **Goals of Citizenship education**

Citizenship education aims at achieving the goals below:

1. To prepare the students and the youth for leadership role
2. To develop the interest of the students towards the growth of their country.
3. To enable citizens acquire relevant knowledge about the affairs of a politically organized society at all levels.
4. To educate citizens on their right and inform them about their obligations in the country.
5. To enable citizens see the need for national unity.
6. To promote knowledge and understanding of the system of government in their country.

### **Various Laws and Rights of individuals in the Society**

Law can be defined as a body of rules and regulation through which a society is governed to maintain peace and orderliness

Laws are made by the legislative part of government.

### **Types of law**

1. **Civic law:** civic law helps people to enforce their rights. It is the branch of law that helps people to settle disputes between individuals and organization in which compensation may be awarded to the victim. It is the law of the state that deals with the right of the citizens.
2. **Criminal law:** It is the body of law that relates to crime. It is the law that sets out the punishment to be imposed on people who do not obey the laws, it is also known as penal law.
3. **Public law:** This is the law that controls the relationship between the arms of government. It also controls the relationship between the state and individual member of the state.

### **Rights of Citizens**

According to section iv of the 1999 Nigeria constitution, Nigerian citizens are entitled to the following rights.

1. Right to life
2. Right to dignity of human person
3. Right to fair hearing
4. Right to private and family life
5. Right to freedom of conscience and religion
6. Right to freedom of expression
7. Right to personal liberty
8. Right to freedom of movement
9. Right to own property anywhere in Nigeria
10. Right to peaceful assembly and association.

### **Test and Exercises**

1. **The legal right that a person has to belong to a particular country is called**
  - (a) staying power
  - (b) indigenization
  - (c) citizenship
  - (d) foreigner
2. **Citizenship status is acquired through**
  - (a) birth, indigenization, colonization, referendum

- (b) association, convention, naturalization and incorporation
  - (c) birth, naturalization, honorary and registration
  - (d) registration, inter-relationship, integration and declaration
3. **One of the aims of citizen education is to produce students with**
- (a) creative skill
  - (b) high sense of entrepreneurial skill
  - (c) high sense of patriotism
  - (d) manipulative skill
4. **One of these is not one of the rights citizens enjoy**
- (a) right to kill
  - (b) right to life
  - (c) right to freedom of expression
  - (d) right to fair hearing
5. **The laws through which a society is governed to maintain peace and orderliness include the following except**
- (a) criminal law
  - (b) church law
  - (c) public law
  - (d) civic law

## **ANSWERS**

- 1. c
- 2. c
- 3. c
- 4. a
- 5. b

## Week 11

### Topic: Goals of Citizenship Education (Cont'd)

#### Content:

- Meaning of Government
- Structures of Government
- Functions of Government

#### Meaning Of Government

##### As An Institution

Government is an agency or machinery through which the will of the state is formulated, expressed and attained. It is the institution which makes and enforces law within the territorial boundaries of the state in order to regulate activities within the state in the interest of the citizens.

##### As a Process or Art of Governing

Government is seen as a body vested with the power and authority for maintaining security, peace and stability by making and enforcing conventional and fundamental laws in a given state or society.

##### Structures of Government (Nigeria)

Nigeria is a federal republic of 36 states with Abuja as Federal Capital Territory. The total number of local government as contained in section 3 and first schedule of 1999 constitution is 774 local governments which includes 6 councils in Abuja. The constitution however, recognized three (3) tiers of government in Nigeria – Federal, State and Local government.

##### Features of (Nigerian) Government

- 1) There is supremacy of the constitution.
- 2) There is bicameral legislature at the federal level – National Assembly consisting of:
  - (a) **The Senate:** Composed of 109 senators with the senate president as the chairman. Each state of the federation has 3 senators each and the Federal capital has 1 senator.
  - (b) **House of representatives** consists of 360 members with the honourable speaker as the Chairman. Seats at the House of Representatives are not shared equally.
- 3) At the state level, there are unicameral legislature i.e. state houses of assembly.

- 4) Abuja is the Federal Capital Territory and it is administered by the federal government.
- 5) The powers and functions of Nigeria are shared between the Federal and State governments. Shared under – Exclusive list (Federal), Concurrent list (Federal and states) and Residual list (states).
- 6) The federal and state government have its own judicial system.
- 7) The Supreme Court is the highest court of the federation.
- 8) Nigeria operates the presidential system of government in which the president is vested with all executive powers of government. The president is the head of state, the head of government and the commander-in-chief of the armed forces.
- 9) There is separation of powers and there are checks and balances.
- 10) The constitution is written and rigid.
- 11) Regulated multi-party system is operated.

### **Function Of Government**

- 1) **Law Making:** The main function of government includes law making, law execution and law adjudication.
- 2) **Maintenance of law and order:** The government is saddled with the responsibility of maintaining law and order. The police and the courts are established to carry out this function.
- 3) **Defence of the country:** To enable government function appropriately in this regard, the armed forces are set up and equipped to defend the country against any external attack.
- 4) **Protection of lives and properties:** The government owes it as its duty to protect lives and properties of the citizens.
- 5) **Administration of justice:** The law court settles disputes and administer justice. The prisons are established to punish offenders.
- 6) **Provision of amenities:** It is the duty of government to provide basic amenities for the well being of the citizens. For instance; Health care, public utilities, subsidized housing, public education etc.
- 7) **Provision of employment opportunities:** It is the duty of the government to provide employment and an enabling environment for the citizen to do business.
- 8) **Political functions:** These include conducting free and fair election, regulating political activities.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **Government as an institution makes and enforces law in the interest of**
  - (a) aliens
  - (b) indigents
  - (c) citizens
  - (d) political parties
  
2. **The total number of local governments in Nigeria is**
  - (a) 774
  - (b) 775
  - (c) 776
  - (d) 777
  
3. **Nigeria operates a \_\_\_\_\_ federal legislature**
  - (a) unicameral
  - (b) bicameral
  - (c) tricameral
  - (d) quadcameral
  
4. **The Nigerian government is structured into**
  - (a) state, counties, federal
  - (b) local, federal, confederation
  - (c) federal, state, local
  - (d) counties, federation, state
  
5. **At the state level, Nigeria operates a \_\_\_\_\_ legislature**
  - (a) unicameral
  - (b) bicameral
  - (c) tricameral
  - (d) quadcameral

## **ANSWERS**

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

# Week 12

## Topic: Nationalism

### **CONTENT:**

- Definition of Nationalism
- Types of Nationalism
- Effects of Nationalism in Nigeria

### **Definition of Nationalism**

Nationalism can be defined as a certain form of unity which grows out of historical experience. It is the sense of oneness that emerges from social groups, trying to control their destiny, environment and defend their interest against competing groups.

National identity is based on history, culture and often language. Nationalism can be seen as the defence of this identity, the defence of the rights of a nation to remain or become a recognized entity. It can be classed as standing against the forces of oppression and tyranny.

### **Types of Nationalism**

The different types of nationalism include the following:

- 1 Ethnic nationalism.
- 2 Civic nationalism.
- 3 Expansionist nationalism.
- 4 Romantic nationalism.
- 5 Cultural nationalism.
- 6 Post colonial nationalism.
- 7 Liberation nationalism.
- 8 Left-wing nationalism.
- 9 Religious nationalism.
- 10 Pan-nationalism.
- 11 Diaspora nationalism

## **Effects of Nationalism in Nigeria**

1. Enjoying fundamental human rights and being recognized as a citizen were effects of nationalism in Nigeria.
2. It led to the end of colonialism in Africa.
3. It provided opportunities for the training of of the new African elites in politics
4. It enlightened the masses and increased their awareness about politics in new Africa
5. It led to the independence and development of the new African Sates.

## **Test and Exercises**

**1. The form of unity which grows out of historical experience is called**

- (a) history
- (b) nationalisation
- (c) citizenship
- (d) nationalism

**2. People identify with their nationality through which of these?**

- (a) Dancing, history, folktales
- (b) citizenship, race, culture
- (c) tribe, history, culture
- (d) history, culture, language

**3. One of these is not a type of nationalism**

- (a) romantic nationalism
- (b) ethnic naionalism
- (c) racial nationalism
- (d) cultural nationalism

**4. Nationalism can be classed as standing against the forces of**

- (a) oppression
- (b) tyranny
- (c) none of the above
- (d) all of the above

**5. One of these is not an effect of nationalism in Nigeria**

- (a) it led to the end of colonialism
- (b) it improved awareness about politics in new Africa
- (c) It led to slavery
- (d) it led to the recognition of human rights.

## **ANSWERS**

1. d

2. d

3. c

4. d

5. c

**S.S.S 1**

**CIVIC EDUCATION**

**SECOND TERM**

# **TABLE OF CONTENT**

<b>WEEK 1 TOPIC:</b>	<b>NATIONALISM (CONT'D)</b>
<b>WEEK 2 TOPIC:</b>	<b>CHARACTERISTICS OF DEMOCRACY</b>
<b>WEEK 3 TOPIC:</b>	<b>RULE OF LAW AND PRINCIPLES OF RULE OF LAW</b>
<b>WEEK 4 TOPIC:</b>	<b>LIBERTY</b>
<b>WEEK 5 TOPIC:</b>	<b>MINORITY AND MAJORITY INTEREST</b>
<b>WEEK 6 TOPIC:</b>	<b>MAJOR PILLARS OF DEMOCRACY</b>
<b>WEEK 7 TOPIC:</b>	<b>ARMS OF GOVERNMENT</b>
<b>WEEK 8 TOPIC:</b>	<b>OTHER STRONG INSTITUTIONS OF A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT</b>
<b>WEEK 9 TOPIC:</b>	<b>FREEDOM AS A PILLAR OF DEMOCRACY</b>
<b>WEEK 10 TOPIC:</b>	<b>MEANING OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>
<b>WEEK 11 TOPIC:</b>	<b>DEFINITION OF CITIZEN AND ALIEN</b>

# Week 1

## Topic: Nationalism (Cont'd)

### **Content:**

- Nationalistic Roles of Individuals
- Nationalistic Roles of Groups

## **NATIONALISTIC ROLES OF INDIVIDUALS**

### **PAST NATIONALIST LEADERS**

#### **HERBERT MACAULAY (1864 – 1946)**

- i) He was regarded as the father of Nigerian Nationalism.
- ii) He formed the first political party Nigerian National Democratic Party (NNDP) in 1923.
- iii) His party contested and won the three seats allocated to Lagos in 1923, 1928 and 1933 into the legislative council.
- iv) He became the first president of NCNC National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroon in 1944.
- v) He established the Lagos Daily News.
- vi) Himself with other members of the party embarked on a tour to mobilize support to sponsor people to protect the non-nationalistic nature of the Richard Constitution of 1946.
- vii) He won an appeal in the Lagos High Court before the Privy Council that ordered that compensation of the sum of £45,000.00 be paid to Esugbayi, the Eleko of Eko.
- viii) He died during the tour to the Northern part of the country in 1946.

#### **BENJAMIN NNAMDI AZIKIWE (NOV 16, 1904 – MAY 11, 1996)**

- i) He founded the African Pilot newspaper in 1937.
- ii) He co-founded the National Council of Nigerian and Cameroon (NCNC). He became the Secretary General of NCNC in 1946 and was elected to Legislative Council the following year.
- iii) He became the Premier of Nigeria's Eastern region.

- iv) He became the Governor-General of Nigeria on November 16, 1960.
- v) He became the first president of Nigeria with the proclamation of a Republic in 1963.
- vi) He served as the presidential candidate of the Nigerian People's Party between 1978 – 1983.
- vii) He died on May 11, 1996.
- viii) He could be regarded as the founder of modern Nigerian nationalism because of his numerous contributions to Nigeria's independence.

**JEREMIAH OBAFEMI AWOLowo (March 6, 1909 – May 9, 1987)**

- i) He founded the Nigerian Tribune newspaper.
- ii) He was a co-founder of Egbe Omo Oduduwa, a Yoruba socio-cultural organization.
- iii) He organized and formed the Action Group in 1951, an off-shoot of Egbe Omo Oduduwa. He became the National leader of the group.
- iv) He became the opposition leader in the Federal House of Representatives.
- v) He was the Premier of Western Nigeria from 1954 – 1959.
- vi) Action Group sponsored the motion for Nigeria Independence in 1953.
- vii) He played significant role in the constitutional conferences before independence. He gained self-government status for Western region in 1957.
- viii) He was the presidential candidate for the Unity Party of Nigeria between 1979 – 1983.
- ix) He died in 1987.

**NATIONALIST ROLES OF GROUPS**

Groups are made up of individuals that come together, their activities can make or mar the smooth operation of any government. They are therefore expected to play nationalist roles in the governance of the nation.

- 1) Formation of political parties.
- 2) Formation of unions and associations that can protect the interest of members of the public.
- 3) Support for the government through constructive criticism.
- 4) Establishment of human right protection groups.
- 5) Provision of valuable ideas and information for the government.

- 6) Provision of legal aids for poor citizens who cannot afford the services of lawyers.
- 7) Mass enlightenment campaign on sensitive national issues.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **Which past national leader was regarded as the father of Nigerian Nationalism?**
  - (a) Nnamdi Azikwe
  - (b) Obafemi Awolowo
  - (c) Tafawa Balewa
  - (d) Herbert Macaulay
2. **The African Pilot newspaper was founded by Nnamdi Azikwe in**
  - (a) 1937
  - (b) 1938
  - (c) 1939
  - (d) 1940
3. ***Egbe Omo Oduduwa* founded by Obafemi Awolowo was**
  - (a) Yoruba dance group
  - (b) Yoruba political party
  - (c) Yoruba socio-cultural organization
  - (d) Yoruba commercial humanitarian organisation
4. **These were nationalistic roles played by groups in the development of Nigeria except**
  - (a) formation of political parties
  - (b) formation of unions and associations that can protect the interest of members of the public
  - (c) support for the government through constructive criticism
  - (d) support for colonial administration.
5. **\_\_\_\_\_ was the first president of Nigeria after independence was declared**
  - (a) Olusegun Obasanjo
  - (b) Tafawa Balewa
  - (c) Obafemi Awolowo
  - (c) Nnamdi Azikiwe

## **ANSWERS**

1. d

2. a

3. c

4. d

5. c

## Week 2

### Topic: Characteristics of Democracy

#### **Content:**

1. Meaning and Types of Democracy
2. Representative Democracy
3. Features of Representative Democracy
4. Merits and Demerits of Representative Democracy

#### **Meaning of Democracy**

According to Abraham Lincoln, democracy is the government of the people, by the people and for the people.

It is the system of government in which people exercise their political power through periodic election of leaders by themselves or their representative.

The word democracy was traceable to ancient Greek . The word DEMO and KRATIA which form democracy means people and government.

#### **Types of democracy**

There are two types of Democracy, which are

1. **Direct Democracy:** This is the system of government where everybody is involved in governing the country. It is a system whereby all citizens meet together periodically for the purpose of governing the country.
2. **Indirect Democracy:** This is a system of government where citizens choose their representatives to rule on their behalf. This is also called representative democracy. This system of government is practiced in Nigeria, Ghana, U.S.A etc.

#### **Representative Democracy**

Representative democracy also known as indirect democracy, representative republic, or psephocracy, is a type of democracy founded on the principle of elected officials representing a group of people, as opposed to direct democracy. Nearly all modern Western-style democracies are types of representative democracies; for example, the United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy, Ireland is a parliamentary republic, and the United States and Nigeria are federal republics.

## **Features of Representative Democracy**

- 1) **Political Liberty:** All normal adults have equal rights to vote and to stand as candidates for elections.
- 2) **Freedom of Association and Group:** People should be able to choose their own candidates or support political parties without being intimidated.
- 3) **Political Parties:** Where democracy is operational, there should be more than one political party and different individuals competing for power.
- 4) **Secret Ballot:** In popular democracy, elections are usually done by secret ballot.
- 5) **Decision Making:** The conception of majority rule and the rights of the minority must be recognized in the area of decision making.
- 6) **Freedom of the Press:** The radio, newspapers, television, social media should be free to write and express issues without hindrance.
- 7) **Separation of Power:** The powers (as given by the constitution) of the organs of government must be separated both in functions and personnel.
- 8) **Supremacy of the Constitution:** The constitution should be supreme and be above every other consideration in any political system.

## **Merits of Representative Democracy**

### **1. Citizen Representation**

With this form of government, the people have the say in who is elected into any form of government office. These elected officials then make decisions based on what the people want, and in the best interest of majority of people. They represent the citizens in ways that they could not do for themselves.

### **2. A Place To Turn To**

By having elected officials in all areas of the country, if someone has an issue that they think should be addressed or something that they feel should change, they can easily access their local official. These officials can then help them with their problems and guide them through the steps they need to take to get it to the next level of government.

### **3. High Participation**

Knowing that they have a voice in the government urges people to be more educated and up to date on issues that are happening in the country as well as the world. Each year we see an increase in the amount of people showing up to vote for their officials.

## **Demerits of Representative Democracy**

## **1. Misplaced Trust**

Once the election process is over, the people's voice in government is virtually done. They have to put their faith and trust in the person that they elect to communicate and do things that they've promised to do. This is rarely the case. Many times these elected officials have ulterior agendas that are not in the best interest of the citizens.

## **2. The Majority Rules**

The election process of representative government focuses solely on the majority. The minority groups, no matter how significant their issues may be, are rarely represented simply because they do not have the majority of the votes to get an official into office. This causes a feeling of separation with these groups as well as feeling like their issues are not as important.

## **3. No Accountability**

Once elected, officials can do whatever they please, and this often includes breaking campaign promises that they made to be elected in the first place. When things go wrong, or not in favor of the people, there are no repercussions for these officials. The only possible consequence that could come is that they would not be reelected.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **Democracy can be defined as**
  - (a) government by the few over the many
  - (b) government of the people, by the people and without the people
  - (c) government of the people, by the people and for the people
  - (d) government by rich individuals
2. **The system of government where everybody is involved in governing the country is known as**
  - (a) direct democracy
  - (b) indirect democracy
  - (c) complex democracy
  - (d) simple democracy
3. **All these countries practice federal republics type of democracy except**
  - (a) Nigeria
  - (b) United States
  - (c) United Kingdom
4. **One of these is not a feature of representative democracy**
  - (a) freedom of the press
  - (b) political liberty

- (c) separation of power
- (d) military rule

5. **One of the failures of representative democracy is that**

- (a) people have a say in the government
- (b) there is easy access to local officials
- (c) minority people are rarely represented
- (d) increase in the number of people showing up to vote

## **ANSWERS**

- 1. c
- 2. a
- 3. c
- 4. d
- 5. c

## Week 3

# Topic: Rule of Law and Principles of Rule of Law

### Content

1. **Rule of Law and Principles of Rule of Law**
2. **Limitations of Rule of Law**
3. **Needs/Importance of Rule of Law in a State**

### **RULE OF LAW**

The rule of law simply means that every citizen must act in accordance with the law. It is the supremacy of the law over every citizen in the political system. It is the legal principle that law should govern a nation. It basically means that the law should apply to everyone in other words; no one is above the law.

The concept of the rule of law was made popular by professor A.V Dicey in his book “enspirit de law” in the year 1885.

### **Principles of the rule of law**

1. **Principle of impartiality:** This principle states that the law should not be partial to anybody .This means that no one should be punished of any offense except he/she has been found guilty by the court.
2. **Principle of equality before the law:** This principle states that all men must be equal before the law of the land.
3. **Principle of fair hearing :** This principle states that anyone arrested for an offence should be listen to through normal court process before judgment is passed.
4. **Principle of supremacy of the law :**this principle states that the law of the land is always the final authority.
5. **Right to appeal :**this states that when a person is bot satisfied with the judgement of a lower court , he has the right to appeal.

### **Limitations of Rule of Law**

1) **Immunity:** Immunity is the special right granted to certain individuals in position of authority which shield them from prosecution while in office regardless of the offence

committed. Such people are diplomats, presidents and governors. This is a limitation against the rule of law.

2) **Administrative Tribunal:** They are set up in some countries to try erring public officers. While ordinary citizens are tried in the ordinary courts.

3) **Delegated Legislation:** Delegated legislation refers to laws and orders promulgated by bodies other than parliaments. This is against the rule of law.

4) **Special Courts:** In Nigeria, tribunals are set up to try certain corruption cases of public officials. Those tried in this special court seldom felt they do not get fair hearing (Such as the Oputa panel).

5) **Over Crowding of the Court:** Cases are delayed sometimes as a result of insufficient judges to handle cases and this result into keeping accused person for too long.

6) **Ignorance and Poverty:** Many die in silence as a result of ignorance as they fail to pursue their case in the court of law.

7) **Emergency Period:** Citizens of a country may be denied some of their human rights during state of emergency. Rights such as freedom of movement when curfew is declared during emergency.

### **Needs/Importance of the Rule of Law**

1. The supremacy of rule of law ensures no person can claim to be above law.

2. It ensures adherence of principles of natural justice like: giving reasonable opportunity, impartiality of decision, etc.

3. It leads to fairness, both substantive and procedural.

4. It leads to respect of how the system works, including those who are leaders.

5. It ensures that leaders follow the proper procedure for creating new laws, and they respect it when the courts tell them those laws are not enforceable.

6. It is this system which prevents dictatorships.

7. Rule of law regulate society, protects people and helps to enforce rights.

8. It helps to solve conflicts.

9. Rule of law prevent or deter people from behaving in a manner that negatively affects the quality of life of other people, therefore the consequences of breaking the law often fit the crime.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **The principle that states that every citizen must act in accordance with the law is known as**
  - (a) rule of thumb
  - (b) rule of constitution
  - (c) rule of law
  - (d) rule of court
  
2. **Rule of law was made popular by professor A.V Dicey in**
  - (a) 1881
  - (b) 1882
  - (c) 1885
  - (d) 1884
  
3. **Pick the option that is not a principle of rule of law**
  - (a) principle of impartiality
  - (b) principle of equality before the law
  - (c) principle of unity of the law
  - (d) principle of supremacy of the law
  
4. **One of these is not a limitation of the rule of law**
  - (a) delegated legislation
  - (b) immunity
  - (c) ignorance and poverty
  - (d) being above the law
  
5. **The rule of law helps to prevent the following except**
  - (a) equal society
  - (b) dictatorships
  - (c) conflicts
  - (d) impartiality

## **ANSWERS**

1. c
2. c
3. c
4. d
5. d

# Week 4

## Topic: Liberty

### **Content**

- Definition of Liberty
- Types of Liberty
- Factors that safeguard the liberty of citizen

### **Definition of Liberty**

The word “Liberty” stands derived from the Latin word ‘Liber’ which means ‘free’. In this sense liberty means freedom from restraints and the freedom to act as one likes. However, in a civil society such a meaning of Liberty is taken to be negative and harmful.

It is only in a jungle that freedom from restraints is available to animals. In a civil society no person can be really permitted to act without restraints. Hence, Liberty is taken to mean the absence of not all restraints but only those restraints which are held to be irrational.

Liberty is usually defined in two ways: Negative Liberty & Positive Liberty:

#### **(A) Negative Liberty:**

In its negative sense, Liberty is taken to mean an absence of restraints. It means the freedom to act in any way. In this form liberty becomes a license. Such a meaning of liberty can never be accepted in a civil society. In contemporary times, Negative conception of liberty stands rejected.

#### **(B) Positive Liberty:**

In its positive sense, Liberty is taken to mean freedom under rational and logical i.e. restraints which are rational and have stood the test of time. It means liberty under the rational and necessary restraints imposed by law. These restraints are considered essential for ensuring the enjoyment of liberty by all the people. In a civil society only positive liberty can be available to the people.

### **Types of Liberty**

#### **(1) Natural Liberty:**

Traditionally the concept of natural liberty has been very popular. Natural liberty is taken to mean the enjoyment of unrestrained natural freedom. It is justified on the ground that since man is born free, he is to enjoy freedom as he wills. All restraints negate his freedom.

The social contractualists (Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau) championed the cause of natural liberty. Rousseau became famous for his words: "Man is born free, but is in chains everywhere." It is popularly believed that man has inherited the right to liberty from nature. Natural reason is the basis of liberty.

However, the concept of natural liberty is now considered to be an imaginary one. There can be no real freedom in a state of nature or a 'jungle society'. Unrestrained freedom can create anarchy. It is only in an orderly society characterised by essential restraints based on laws and rules that real liberty can be possible. Natural liberty can lead to a living based on the evil principle of 'might is right' or the 'rule of muscle power.'

## **(2) Civil Liberty:**

The liberty which each individual enjoys as a member of the society is called civil liberty. It is equally available to all the individuals. All enjoy equal freedom and rights in society. Civil liberty is not unrestrained liberty. It is enjoyed only under some restrictions (Laws and Rules) imposed by the state and society. Civil Liberty is the very opposite of Natural liberty. Whereas Natural Liberty denounces the presence of restraints of any kind, Civil Liberty accepts the presence of some rational restraints imposed by the State and Society.

## **(3) Political Liberty:**

Good and adequate opportunities for using political rights by the people are defined as political liberty. When the people have the freedom of participation in the political process, it is held that they enjoy political liberty.

Political liberty involves the freedom to exercise the right to vote, right to contest elections, right to hold public office, right to criticise and oppose the policies of the government, right to form political parties, interest groups and pressure groups, and the right to change the government through constitutional means.

Laski observes "Political liberty means the power to be active in the affairs of the state." Such a liberty is possible only in a democracy. The real exercise of political rights by the people is a sure sign of the presence of political liberty and democracy.

## **(4) Individual Liberty/ Personal Liberty:**

Individual liberty means the freedom to pursue one's desires and interests as a person, but which do not clash with the interests or desires of others. The freedom of speech and expression, freedom of residence, freedom of movement, freedom of conscience, freedom of tastes and pursuits, freedom to choose any profession or trade or occupation, the freedom to enjoy the fruits of one's labour, the right to personal property, the freedom to profess or not to profess any religion, and freedom to accept or not to accept any ideology, all fall under the category of individual freedom. However, all these freedoms are to be exercised in a way as does not hinder the equal freedom of others as well as does not violate public order, health and morality.

### **(5) Economic Liberty:**

Laski defines economic liberty as freedom from the wants of tomorrow and availability of adequate opportunities for earning the livelihood. It stands for freedom from poverty, unemployment and the ability to enjoy at least three basic minimum needs – food, clothing and shelter. Laski writes, “Economic Liberty means security and opportunity to find reasonable significance in the earning of one’s daily bread”.

Economic Liberty can be enjoyed only when there is freedom from hunger, starvation, destitution and unemployment. Positively, it means the availability of the right to work and adequate opportunities for earning ones livelihood. Without fair economic liberty, political liberty becomes meaningless. When the people are not free from the fear of hunger, starvation and destitution they can never think of enjoying their rights and freedoms.

The grant of economic liberty to the people demands the grant of right to work, right to reasonable wages, adequate opportunities for livelihood, right to rest and leisure, and right to economic security in the old age.

### **(6) National Liberty:**

National liberty is another name for independence of the nation.

It means complete freedom of the people of each state:

- (i) To have a constitution of their own,
- (ii) To freely organise their own government,
- (iii) To freely adopt their policies and programmes,
- (iv) To pursue independence in relations with all countries of the world, and
- (v) Freedom from external control.

### **(7) Religious Liberty:**

It means the freedom to profess or not to profess any religion. It means the freedom of faith and worship and non-intervention of State in religious affairs of the people. It also means equal status of all religions to freely carry out their activities in society. Secularism demands such a religious freedom.

### **(8) Moral Liberty:**

It means the freedom to act according to one’s conscience. It stands for the liberty to work for securing moral self-perfection. Freedom to pursue moral values is moral freedom.

## **Factors that safeguard the Liberty of Citizens**

### **1. Love for Liberty:**

Only when people are strongly in love with their liberty, that liberty can be really safeguarded. Liberty needs continuous attempts on the part of the people to defend their liberty.

## **2. Eternal Vigilance:**

The commitment of the people to defend their liberty and their full alertness against any encroachment of their liberty is the second most important safeguard of liberty. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

## **3. Grant of Equal Rights to All:**

For safeguarding Liberty, it is essential that there should be no class of privileged persons in society. Liberty can exist only when equal rights are granted and guaranteed to all the people without any discrimination.

Grant of special privileges and rights to any class is always against the spirit of liberty. However, grant of some special privileges to the deprived sections of society (Protective Discrimination) is deemed just and essential.

## **4. Democratic System:**

Establishment of a democratic system is an essential safeguard of liberty. Both liberty and democracy are supplementary to each other. We cannot conceive of a democracy without the presence of civil, economic, political and individual liberty. Likewise, in the absence of the right to freedom there can be no real democracy.

## **5. The Rights of one should not be dependent upon the will of others:**

Laski suggests that the state must ensure that rights and freedoms of some people should not be dependent upon the will and happiness of others. The rulers and ruled should both be under the rule of law.

## **6. Fair Governmental Action:**

For safeguarding Liberty, it is essential that the government should exercise unbiased and impartial control over every section of society. It must act as a responsible transparent and accountable government.

## **7. Protection of Fundamental Rights:**

One of the key methods of safeguarding liberty is to incorporate a charter of fundamental rights and freedoms in the constitution of the State. Along with it, judicial protection should be given to rights.

## **8. Independence of Judiciary:**

Judiciary should be assigned the responsibility to protect all rights and freedoms of the people. For discharging such an important function, the judiciary must be made independent and fully empowered.

### **9. Separation of Powers:**

Separation of powers should be secured between the legislature and executive. Judiciary should be totally separate from these. Any concentration or combination of these powers can be dangerous for Liberty.

### **10. Decentralisation of Powers:**

For safeguarding liberty against possible dictatorship/ authoritarianism, it is essential that decentralisation of powers should be affected. The power of the government, particularly its executive branch should be distributed among a number of organisations and these should be located at all the three levels of government—local, provincial/ regional and national.

### **11. Rule of Law:**

All the people should be under the same laws and bound by same types of obligations. No one should be above law.

### **13. Economic Equality:**

Equitable and fairer distribution of income, wealth and resources, and adequate opportunities for livelihood are essential safeguards of Liberty. Without economic equality, there can be no real enjoyment of liberty.

### **14. Well Organised Interest Groups and Non-government Organisations:**

One very essential safeguard for Liberty is the presence of well-organised interest groups and non-governmental organisations or voluntary social service organisations i.e. Civil Society. Such organisations can act unitedly for fight all violations of liberty.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **Liberty can be defined in two ways. These are**
  - (a) positive liberty and negative liberty
  - (b) right liberty and wrong liberty
  - (c) plus liberty and minus liberty
  - (d) simple liberty and complex liberty
  
2. **The type of liberty which is equally available to each individual member of the society is called**
  - (a) natural liberty
  - (b) political liberty

- (c) civil liberty
  - (d) economic liberty
3. **When there is fear of hunger, starvation and destitution, people cannot enjoy their**
- (a) money and properties
  - (b) rights and freedoms
  - (c) jobs
  - (d) education
4. **These are the factors that safeguard the liberty of citizens except**
- (a) rule of law
  - (b) love for liberty
  - (c) grants of equal rights for all
  - (d) civil unrest and strife
5. **The liberty that allows one to pursue desires and interests as a person also provides that**
- (a) such interests do not clash with the interests or desires of others
  - (b) such interests must clash with the interests or desires of others
  - (c) such interests must include criminal activities
  - (d) such interests must be what others also want

## **ANSWERS**

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

## Week 5

### Topic: Minority and Majority Interest

#### **Content:**

1. **Definition of Minority and Majority Interest with Examples**
2. **Reasons for protecting Minority Interest**
3. **Ways of Protection/Safeguard Minority Interest**

#### **Definition of Minority and Majority Interest**

Majority rule is a way of organizing government where citizens freely make political decisions through voting for representatives. The representatives with the most votes then represent the will of the people through majority rule. Minority rights are rights that are guaranteed to everyone, even if they are not a part of the majority. These rights cannot be eliminated by a majority vote. Minorities must trust that the majority will keep in mind the wishes of the minority when making decisions that affect everyone. Minorities – whether as a result of ethnic background, religious belief, geographic location, income level, or simply as the losers in elections or political debate – enjoy guaranteed basic human rights that no government, and no majority, elected or not, should remove.

Minorities need to trust that the government will protect their rights and self-identity. Once this is accomplished, such groups can participate in, and contribute to their country's democratic institutions.

Among the basic human rights that any democratic government must protect are freedom of speech and expression; freedom of religion and belief; due process and equal protection under the law; and freedom to organize, speak out, dissent, and participate fully in the public life of their society.

#### **Examples of Majority and Minority Interests**

There are several instances in which the concept of majority rule with respect to minority rights has played a significant factor in American government and policy. One example is the case of *Plessy v. Ferguson* 1896. In this case Homer Plessy, a man who appeared white, but was one-eighth black, was arrested in Louisiana for sitting on the white railroad car and refusing to move to the black railroad car (Zimmerman, 1997). According to Louisiana law, all persons with a black blood line, regardless of how small, were to be considered black and must be segregated from the white people. After being released from prison, Plessy took his case to the US Supreme Court. The court decided that there could be segregation as long

as long as it was of equal standards. This case demonstrates the will of the majority to allow for segregation as well as protecting the minority by requiring “equal standards”.

The next example of majority rule with respect to minority rights challenges the Plessy v. Ferguson decision in the case of Brown v. Board of Education Topeka, KS 1954. This historic case dismantled the segregation that was allowed in the Plessy case (Brown v. Board of Education). The Brown case involved 13 minority parents and their children who were denied access to a school closer to their home because of segregation laws. The case showed that the separate schools were in fact not equal. The case also showed that the segregation laws were a violation under the Equal Protection Clause. This case demonstrates how the minorities do have a voice, and the majority taking on their responsibility to also protect and serve the minority. This case was also the catalyst for social change in the United States towards the treatment of non-whites, this social change was the beginning of the minority becoming the majority.

Majority rule with respect to minority rights is vital to a democratic government. This process allows for citizens to maintain individual rights while following the direction of the majority. It also allows for the citizens to make changes to the laws as society, the majorities, and the minorities change.

### **Reasons for protecting Minority Interests**

In any representative democracy, it is difficult if not impossible for the entire people or their representative to agree on issues. The principle of majority rule is always applied. This principle involves making decisions on issues that affect people in the society by the majority.

The concept of majority rule means that after an election, whichever political party wins the election, there should be no discrimination against the people that voted against the winning party.

Those in minority groups still have the right to express their views on issues. The minority rights should be protected.

### **Ways of Protection/Safeguard Minority Interest**

#### **1. Minority representation**

By making sure that minorities are equally represented and thus have a say in the governance of the country. This way, the minorities will not feel left out in the decision making process.

#### **2. Self-help groups**

These associations play an important role in helping members of their community who are less fortunate to get aid in their studies and training for their jobs. They also give moral support to members of their own community.

These self-help groups help minorities to cope and compete with majorities on equal footing. People from minority groups will then be able to improve their social and economic positions in the society.

### **3. Constitutional protection**

constitutional protections of rights of all citizens. Parliamentary systems, which give minority groups representation, rather than giving complete power to the group that wins 51% of the vote is also a way to increase the power of minority groups.

### **4. Political subdivision**

Another important mechanism for protecting minority rights is the use of political subdivisions. Here the idea is to divide the larger society into a number of highly homogeneous political subdivisions without significant minority groups. These divisions are then granted as much autonomy and home rule as possible. In theory, this does much to eliminate the minority group problem. Unfortunately, it only works in situations where there is a clear geographic separation between groups who are involved in serious conflict. In most cases, contending groups are so intermingled that the subdivision approach is not workable. In these cases other measures are needed to protect minority rights.

## **Test and Exercises**

1. **Majority rule allow citizens to participate in political decisions through**
  - (a) voting for representatives
  - (b) becoming political godfathers
  - (c) following politicians
  - (d) changing the constitution
  
2. **These are basic human rights that any democratic government must protect except**
  - (a) freedom of speech and expression
  - (b) freedom of religion and belief
  - (c) due process and equal protection under the law
  - (d) elevating rich people over the poor
  
3. **Why must minority rights protected?**
  - (a) to ensure they produce the president
  - (b) to give them power over the majority
  - (c) to discriminate against the majority
  - (d) to ensure they participate in the political process
  
4. **These are ways of protecting the minority except**
  - (a) political subdivision
  - (b) constitutional protection

- (c) self-help groups
- (d) dictatorship

5. **One of these is a minority group in Nigeria**

- (a) yoruba
- (b) igbo
- (c) hausa
- (d) kanuri

## **ANSWERS**

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

## Week 6

### Topic: Major Pillars of Democracy

#### Contents:

- **Definition of constitution: sources and types**
- **Constitution as a major pillar of democracy**
- **Merits and Demerits of various types of constitution**

#### **Definition of Constitution**

Constitution can be referred to as a book or document which contains the rules and principles by which a state is governed. It is the fundamental laws and principles that prescribe the nature, functions and the limits of a Government.

The constitution of a country dictates how power is shared among the arms of Government and the rights and duties of citizens in the country.

#### **Sources of Constitution**

1. **History of the people:** This involves the past events or activities of the people in the country, the history of the people therefore needs to be considered in the preparation of a constitution.
2. **Decrees:** These are the laws made by the federal military Government; the laws have form part of the constitution in Nigeria.
3. **Convention:** These are the established ways of doing things. Convention does not have a legal implication if it is not carried out.
4. **Custom of the people:** These are the beliefs, values and norms of the people. The people's custom needs to be considered in the constitution.
5. **Acts of parliament:** These are laws made by the national Assembly which affect the constitution.

#### **Types of Constitution:**

##### **1. Written Constitution:**

A written constitution means a constitution written in the form of a book or a series of documents combined in the form of a book. It is a consciously framed and enacted constitution. It is formulated and adopted by a constituent assembly or a council or a legislature.

Garner writes, "A written constitution is a consciously planned constitution, formulated and adopted by deliberate actions of a constituent assembly or a convention." It provides for a definite design of government institutions, their organisations, powers, functions and inter-relationships.

It embodies the constitutional law of the state. It enjoys the place of supremacy. The government is fully bound by its provisions and works strictly in accordance with its provisions. A written constitution can be amended only in accordance with a settled process of amendment written in the constitution itself. It is a duly passed and enacted Constitution. The Constitutions of Nigeria, India, the USA, Germany, Japan, Canada, France, Switzerland and several other states, are written constitutions.

## **2. Unwritten Constitution:**

An unwritten constitution is one which is neither drafted nor enacted by a Constituent Assembly and nor even written in the form of a book. It is found in several historical charters, laws and conventions. It is a product of slow and gradual evolution. The government is organised and it functions in accordance with several well settled, but not wholly written rules and conventions. The people know their Constitution. They accept and obey it, but do not possess it in a written form. An unwritten constitution cannot be produced in the form of a book.

However, an unwritten constitution is not totally unwritten. Some of its parts are available in written forms but these do not stand codified in the form of a legal document or a code or a book. According to Garner, "an unwritten constitution is one in which most and not all, rules are unwritten and these are not found in any one charter or document."

The Constitution of the United Kingdom is an unwritten constitution.

### **Difference between Written and Unwritten Constitutions:**

- (1) A written constitution is written in the form of a book or document, whereas an unwritten constitution is not written in such a form.
- (2) A written constitution is made and enacted by a constituent assembly of the people. An unwritten constitution is the result of a gradual process of constitutional evolution. It is never written by any assembly.
- (3) A written constitution is usually less flexible than an unwritten constitution. An unwritten constitution depends mostly on unwritten rules or conventions which do not require any formal amendment.
- (4) A written constitution is definite. Its provisions can be quoted in support or against any power exercised by the government. An unwritten constitution cannot be produced in evidence. It has to be proved by quoting its sources and practices.

However, the difference between written and unwritten constitutions is not organic. A written constitution has written parts in majority. Along with these, it also has some unwritten parts in the form of conventions. In an unwritten constitution, most of the parts are unwritten and are not written in the form of a book. However some of its parts are also found written in some charters and other documents.

### **3. Flexible Constitution:**

A Flexible Constitution is one which can be easily amended. Several political scientists advocate the view that a flexible constitution is one in which the constitutional law can be amended in the same way as an ordinary law. Constitutional amendments are passed in the same manner by which an ordinary law is passed.

British Constitution presents a classic example of a most flexible constitution. The British Parliament is a sovereign parliament which can make or amend any law or constitutional law by a simple majority. Laws aiming to affect changes in a constitutional law or in any ordinary law are passed through the same legislative procedure i.e., by a simple majority of votes in the legislature. Similarly, a Constitution is flexible when the procedure of amending it is simple and the changes can be made easily.

#### **(A) Merits of a Flexible Constitution:**

(i) First, a major merit of the flexible constitution is its ability to change easily in accordance with the changes in the social and political environment of the society and state.

(ii) Secondly, it is very helpful in meeting emergencies because it can be easily amended.

(iii) Thirdly, because of its dynamic nature, there are less opportunities for revolt. The constitution has the ability to keep pace with the changing times. The people do not feel the need for revolutionary changes.

(iv) Finally, since the flexible constitution keeps on developing with times, it always continues to be popular and remains up-to-date.

#### **(B) Demerits of a Flexible Constitution:**

(i) First, a flexible constitution is often, a source of instability. Flexibility enables the government in power to give it a desired dress and content.

(ii) Secondly, it is not suitable for a federation. In a federation, a flexible constitution can lead to undesirable changes in the constitution by the federal government or by the governments of federating units.

### **4. Rigid Constitution:**

The Rigid Constitution is one which cannot be easily amended. Its method of amendment is difficult. For amending it, the legislature has to pass an amendment bill by a specific, usually

big, majority of 2/3rd or 3/4th. For passing or amending an ordinary law, the legislature usually passes the law by a simple majority of its members.

A rigid constitution is considered to be the most fundamental law of the land. It is regarded as the basic will of the sovereign people. That is why it can be amended only by a special procedure requiring the passing of the amendment proposal by a big majority of votes which is often followed by ratification by the people in a referendum.

The Constitution of United States of America is a very rigid constitution.

**(A) Merits of a Rigid Constitution:**

- (i) First, a rigid constitution is a source of stability in administration.
- (ii) Secondly, it maintains continuity in administration.
- (iii) Thirdly, it cannot become a tool in the hands of the party exercising the power of the state at a particular time.
- (iv) Fourthly it prevents autocratic exercise of the powers by the government.
- (v) Finally a rigid constitution is ideal for a federation.

**(B) Demerits of a Rigid Constitution:**

- (i) First, the chief demerit of a rigid constitution is that it fails to keep pace with fast changing social environment.
- (ii) Secondly, because of its inability to change easily, at times, it hinders the process of social development.
- (iii) Thirdly, it can be a source of hindrance during emergencies.
- (iv) Fourthly, its inability to easily change can lead to revolts against the government.
- (v) Fifthly, a rigid constitution can be a source of conservativeness. It can grow becomes old very soon because it cannot Keep pace with times.

Thus, there are both merits and demerits of Flexible and Rigid Constitutions. The decision whether a state should have a flexible or a rigid constitution, should be taken on the basis of the needs and wishes of society. No hard and fast rule can be laid down as to whether a state should have a flexible or a rigid constitution.

In fact, a constitution must have both a certain degree of rigidity as well as an ability to change for keeping pace with the changing times. An excessive rigidity or excessive flexibility should be avoided. The Constitution of India is partly rigid and partly flexible. In several respects, it is a rigid constitution but in practice it has mostly worked as a flexible constitution.

## **5. Evolved Constitution:**

An evolved constitution is one which is not made at any time by any assembly of persons or an institution. It is the result of slow and gradual process of evolution. Its rules and principles draw binding force from the fact of their being recognised as ancient, historical, time-tested and respected customs and conventions.

Some of these conventions get recognised by law and hence become enforceable while others are followed because these are supported by public opinion, their practical utility and moral commitment in their favour. Evolved Constitutions is the product of historical evolution and of political needs and practical wisdom of the people. The Constitution of Great Britain presents a key example of an evolved constitution.

## **6. Enacted Constitution:**

An Enacted Constitution is a man-made constitution. It is made, enacted and adopted by an assembly or council called a Constituent Assembly or Constitutional Council. It is duly passed after a thorough discussion over its objectives, principles and provisions. It is written in the form of a book or as a series of documents and in a systematic and formal manner. The Constitutions of India the USA, Japan, China and most of other states are enacted constitutions.

## **Constitution as a Major Pillar of Democracy**

In simple words, we can say a Constitution is the constitutional law of the state. Constitutional law enjoys the position of being the supreme and fundamental law of the state. It lays down the organisation and functions of the government of state. The Government can use only those powers which the Constitution grants to it.

1. "Constitution is the collection of principles according to which the powers of the government, the rights of the governed and the relations between the two are adjusted. - Woolsey

2. "Constitution is a body of judicial rules which determine the supreme organs of state, prescribes their modes of creation, their mutual relations, their spheres of action and the fundamental place of each of them in relation to state." -Jellinek

3. " Constitution of a state is that body of rules or laws, written or unwritten which determine the organisation of government, the distribution of powers to the various organs of government and the general principles on which these powers are to be exercised." -Gilchrist

On the basis of these definitions it can be said that the Constitution is the sum total of the constitutional laws of the state.

### **It lies down:**

(1) Organisation and powers of the government;

- (2) Principles and rules governing the political process;
- (3) Relations between the people and their government; and
- (4) Rights and duties of the people.

The government of state gets organised and works in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. People get their rights protected from the constitution. No one, not even the government, can violate the Constitution.

## **Assessment**

1. **The book document which contains the rules and principles by which a state is governed is called**
  - (a) law book
  - (b) rule book
  - (c) constitution
  - (d) rules and regulations
2. **All these are sources of constitution except**
  - (a) history of a people
  - (b) convention
  - (c) novels
  - (d) decrees
3. **Written constitution can be amended**
  - (a) if judges decide to change it
  - (b) only through a settled process of amendment written in the constitution itself
  - (c) when there is a dispute
  - (d) when there is a new president
4. **One of these is an example of a country that uses unwritten constitution**
  - (a) Nigeria
  - (b) India
  - (c) United Kingdom
  - (d) USA
5. **One of the disadvantage of a flexible constitution is that**
  - (a) it can be changed easily
  - (b) people do not feel the need for revolutionary changes
  - (c) it can be easily amended during emergencies
  - (d) it is not suitable for a federation

## **ANSWERS**

1. c

2. c

3. b

4. c

5. d

# Week 7

## Topic: Arms of Government

### Contents:

1. Legislative – Types and Functions
2. Judiciary – Types and Functions
3. Executive – Types and Functions

There are three arms of government namely, the legislature, the executive and the judiciary.

### **A. THE LEGISLATURE**

This is the arm of government that is assigned the function of law making. The legislature is given different names in different countries e.g. National or State Assembly in Nigeria, Parliament in Britain, Congress in United States.

The National Assembly in Nigeria comprises of Senate with 109 members and House of Representatives with 360 members. The Senate being the upper house is headed by a senate president while the House of Representative (the lower house) is headed by a speaker.

The symbols of authority for the legislative arm of government are the MACE and the GAVEL.

### **TYPES OF LEGISLATURE**

There are two types of legislature.

1) **UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE:** This refers to a situation in a country where there is only one legislative house or body that makes law. Countries like Kenya, Ghana have once adopted unicameral legislature. Hence, it is more suitable for a country with small population. Composition is based on population.

#### **ADVANTAGES OF UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE**

- i) It is democratically constituted, this is because it reflects the distribution of people in the country.
- ii) It is cheaper to run.
- iii) It gives room for faster process of law making.
- iv) The squabbles in the bicameral legislature as to which house is upper or lower is avoided.

## **DISADVANTAGES OF UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE**

- i) It does not allow bills to be properly debated before they are passed.
- ii) The executive arm can easily pocket unicameral legislature.
- iii) It does not make for adequate representation in a country of large population.
- iv) It makes room for the emergence of dictatorial leaders.

2) **BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE:** This is the type of legislature with two legislative houses or bodies. One is called the lower house and the second is the upper house or upper chamber. This type of legislative is adopted in countries like Nigeria, Britain, USA, Australia, Canada etc.

## **ADVANTAGES OF BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE**

- i) Bicameral legislature allow bills to be properly debated before they are passed.
- ii) It makes for adequate representation of the people in a country.
- iii) The error committed in the first chamber can be corrected in the second chamber.
- iv) The second chamber checks and prevents hasty and ill-considered passage of bills.
- v) The interest of the minority groups are protected with bicameral legislature.
- vi) It is difficult for the executive arm of government to dominate the two chambers.
- vii) The second chamber reduces the work load of the upper house.

## **DISADVANTAGES OF BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE**

- i) Bicameralism is expensive to run.
- ii) It causes serious delay in the process of law making.
- iii) It encourages duplication of functions since they perform the same functions.
- iv) It leads to unnecessary rivalry as to which of the house is superior to the other.
- v) It is not the best in the time of emergency for passage of bills.

## **FUNCTIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE**

- i) Making of laws that direct and guide the affairs of the nation and guarantee peace and progress of a country.
- ii) Amendment of the constitution. To amend the constitution of the country whenever it is deemed necessary.

- iii) To avoid misrule, the legislature is empowered to check and control the executive arm.
- iv) Control of public expenditure: The legislative arm of government controls and approves the proposed financial expenditure of the executive arm.
- v) Approval of appointment: It approves the appointment of ministers and commissioners.
- vi) Impeachment of president: The legislature is empowered to remove the president, governors and their deputies through the process of impeachment.
- vii) Probe functions: It has the power of questioning and to probe public officers.
- viii) Platform for expression of public opinion: Members of the public express their opinion in the legislature through their elected representatives.
- ix) It approves state of emergency and war if the president and Commander in Chief need to declare a state of emergency or war, he must get approval from the legislature.
- x) It approves the appointment of Chief Justice of the Federation and states.

## **THE EXECUTIVE**

This is the arm of government responsible for the implementation, execution or enforcement of laws, policies and directives made by the legislative arm of government.

### **TYPES OF EXECUTIVE**

- i) Single / presidential executives: The control of the executive rests with one individual. He named the ministers and they are dependent on him, they are not his colleagues.
- ii) Dual / parliamentary executives: This is the system in which one person is the head of state, while another person is the head of government and Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces.

### **FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE ARM OF GOVERNMENT**

- i) It executes or implements the laws made by the legislature.
- ii) Giving Assent to Bills: The head of the executive arm signs or give assent to bills before they can become laws.
- iii) The head of the executive performs crucial military functions as the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.
- iv) It is responsible for formulating policies and programmes to be tabled before the legislature, signs and give assent to bills before they can become law.
- v) It is responsible for maintaining law and order.

vi) It decides the country's foreign policies.

vii) Initiation of bills to the legislature: The executives sometimes initiates and submit bills to the legislature to pass into law.

viii) It is the executive that prepares the total proposed financial expenditure and revenue of the government in every new financial year.

ix) The executive through the powers granted to it by the constitution performs crucial judicial function of pardoning convicted criminals. This is also known as prerogative of mercy.

x) Appointment of judicial officials: The executive appoints the Chief Justice of the Federation and other high ranking officials of the judiciary like judges subject to ratification by the legislature.

### **C. THE JUDICIARY**

The judiciary is the third arm of government responsible for interpretation and application of the laws when they are broken or violated. It is the same as the court system of a country. The judiciary acts as the watchdog of the law by making sure that laws made are obeyed and those who refuse to obey the laws are severely punished. The judiciary is made up of different courts like the Supreme Court, Appeal Courts, High Courts, Magistrate Courts, Customary Courts, Administrative Courts and tribunals.

#### **FUNCTIONS OF THE JUDICIARY**

i) Interpretation of laws. The judiciary interprets the law and determines the meaning of provisions in the constitution.

ii) Dispute adjudication: It settles disputes between the executive and the legislature and between government and citizens, organizations etc.

iii) It punishes the law breakers.

iv) It guards the constitution against violation by anybody, no matter how highly placed.

v) Protection of citizens' rights and liberties. It is in line with this function that the court is referred to as the last hope of common man / oppressed.

vi) It deals with electoral litigation. It performs this function by setting up tribunals to hear electoral matters.

vii) It advises the president especially on judicial matters.

### **Assessment**

#### **1. The three arms of government include**

(a) police, army executive

- (b) legislature, presidency, courts
  - (c) army, judiciary, executive
  - (d) legislature, executive, judiciary
2. **A situation where there is only one legislative house or body that makes laws in a country is called**
- (a) unicameral legislature
  - (b) Bicameral legislature
  - (c) omnicausal legislature
  - (d) tricameral legislature
3. **One of these is not a function of the legislature**
- (a) making of laws that direct and guide the affairs of the nation
  - (b) to check and control the executive arm
  - (c) preventing the judiciary from doing their work
  - (d) control of public expenditure
4. **The executive arm of government does all of these except**
- (a) implement laws
  - (b) enforcement laws
  - (c) make laws
  - (d) sign bills into laws
5. **The arm of government that makes sure that laws made are obeyed and punish offenders is**
- (a) executive
  - (b) legislature
  - (c) judiciary
  - (d) none of the above

## **ANSWERS**

- 1. d
- 2. a
- 3. c
- 4. c
- 5. c

## Week 8

# Topic: Other Strong Institutions of a Democratic Government

### Content:

- **Other Strong Institutions of a Democratic Government**
- **Their Roles on Democratic Processes**
- **The roles of the police in a democratic system**

Detailed below are some other institutions in a democratic society

### **ARMED FORCES**

The armed forces include the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. They are to assist the law enforcement agents to quell difficult internal crisis like terrorist attack, riots or violent demonstration. They are responsible for defending and protecting the territorial integrity of the state against any external attack or threat. They must also honour and respect the constitution and the military code of justice and accept order from the civilian Commander-in-Chief.

### **TRADE UNION**

Trade union in Nigeria has played vital roles in the vanguard of the struggle for democracy and democratic principles.

- 1) They played major role in the struggle for independence during the colonial era.
- 2) It played major role against dictatorship during the military dictatorship and despotic rules in Nigeria. The number of strike action and man-hour loss are unquantifiable.
- 3) They have been paying major role in ensuring good governance even during the few years of democratic rule in Nigeria.

### **CIVIL SOCIETIES**

This refers to privately organized groups formed for the purpose of promoting collectively shared interests, values and objectives.

### **MAJOR CHARACTERISTICS OF CIVIL SOCIETIES**

- 1) Membership is free and voluntary without coercion.

2) They come under different organisations, community groups etc. but they are non-governmental organisations. Examples in Nigeria include: Campaign for Democracy, Civil Liberties Organization, National Democratic Coalition (NADECO).

3) They are funded by members through donations, gifts.

4) Some are formed to promote issues that are permanent in nature

5) The focus of campaign could be local, national and international in dimension.

### **MODE OF OPERATION OF CIVIL SOCIETIES**

The mode of operation of civil societies vary from society to society, depending on the quality of members, size and type of regime of government in power, financial status and type of issue at stake.

Generally, their mode of operation takes the form of lobbying, manipulation of public opinion, demonstration, supporting political parties during election.

1) **Lobbying:** This involves meeting key government officials, legislators and traditional rulers for the purpose of getting support.

2) **Sharing public opinion:** Civil societies promote their objectives through the use of the mass media and social media like the radio, television, newspapers and internet to secure the favourable public opinion for their cause.

3) **Public demonstration:** This takes the form of carrying placards, mass movements and disruption of free flow of traffic.

4) **Supporting parties during electioneering campaign:** They provide election campaign materials such as posters, billboards, vehicles and sometimes they accompany political parties on campaign tours.

### **ROLE OF POLICE IN DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM**

It is the department of government that is concerned with the maintenance of public order and safety and the enforcement of law.

1) Prevention and protection against crime.

2) The apprehension of offenders.

3) Preservation of law and order.

4) Protection of lives and properties.

5) Regulations within which they are directly charged.

6) Military duties within and outside Nigeria as it may be required by law.

## **Assessment**

**1. The armed forces include the following except**

- (a) Army
- (b) Navy
- (c) Police
- (d) Air Force

**2. One of these is not a function of the armed forces**

- (a) to quell internal crisis
- (b) to defend and protect the territorial integrity of the state
- (c) accept orders from the commander-in-chief
- (d) to help political parties rig elections

**3. Privately organized groups formed for the purpose of promoting collectively shared interests, values and objectives are known as**

- (a) secret cults
- (b) non governmental organisations
- (c) civil societies
- (d) armed forces

**4. Civil societies carry out their operations through the following methods except**

- (a) lobbying
- (b) public demonstration
- (c) sharing public opinions
- (d) smear campaigns

**5. One of these is not a role of the police in a democratic system**

- (a) maintenance of public order
- (b) enforcement of law
- (c) protection of lives and properties
- (d) arresting opposition parties

## **ANSWERS**

1. c

2. d

3. c

4. d

5. d

## Week 9

# Topic: Freedom as a Pillar of Democracy

### CONTENT:

- Definition and Reasons for Freedom as a Pillar of Democracy
- Features of Federalism
- Merits and Demerits of Federalism

### **Definition and Reasons for Freedom as a Pillar of Democracy**

Freedom is the right and capacity of people to determine their own actions, in a community which is able to provide for the full development of human potentiality. This means that everyone has the same freedoms that are respected by all. There are different types of freedoms:

### **POLITICAL FREEDOMS**

Political freedom (also known as a political autonomy or political agency) as one of the pillars democracy is described as freedom from oppression or coercion, the absence of disabling conditions for an individual and the fulfillment of enabling conditions, or the absence of life conditions of compulsion, e.g. economic compulsion, in a society. It can also refer to the positive exercise of rights, capacities and possibilities for action, and the exercise of social or group rights.

### **PERSONAL FREEDOMS**

Personal freedom in the context of human rights guarantees that the state has a responsibility to:

- Protect citizens from torture and degradation
- Protect citizens from slavery or forced or compulsory labour
- Guarantee citizens a fair trial and effective remedy in case of breach of citizens' rights
- Ensure citizens' right to liberty, freedom of thought and freedom of expression
- Protect citizens from discrimination and prohibit abuse of citizens' rights
- Guarantee citizens' right to conscience and religion
- Guarantee citizens' right to expression (includes freedom of the press)

## **FREEDOM OF THE PRESS**

A free press is the one that is not controlled through government censorship both in politics and ideology. The press is the mass media. The mass media comprise newspaper, magazine, radio and television and lately, the internet. These mass media are important to the realisation of democratic values. They must be free to criticise the government policies and expose corrupt practices of private and public office holders.

## **FEATURES OF FEDERALISM**

A federal system of government can be defined as one in which there is division of powers between the central government and its component units which are called states, cantons, regions or provinces.

This system is usually adopted in countries that are very large and divided by cultural, economic, political and other district attributes.

## **MERITS OF FEDERALISM**

- 1) Federalism promotes national unity i.e. unity among different units.
- 2) It allays the fear of ethnic domination in a large country with multi-ethnic groups.
- 3) It makes possible checks and balances in the exercise of power between the units and the central government.
- 4) It promotes local initiatives and local autonomy.
- 5) It creates opportunity for rapid development in all parts of the country.
- 6) It gives opportunity to smaller states to come together and form a very strong, federation to prevent foreign attacks.

## **DEMERITS OF FEDERALISM**

- 1) Problems of Revenue Allocation: Problem of sharing revenue and other resources generated in the country among the federal and state governments.
- 2) Minority Issue and Creation of States: The fears of domination of the minority by the majority group commonly arouse agitation for new states.
- 3) Boundary Disputes: This happens because many ethnic groups come together to form a federation.
- 4) It is Expensive to Run: This is a consequence of duplication of ministries and offices.
- 5) Federal character: Federal character means the Federal government must appoint citizens from all the federating units to form cabinet. This may result in less qualified people being put in key positions.

## **Assessment**

1. **All of these is true of Freedom except**
  - (a) it is the right and capacity of people to determine their own actions
  - (b) it allows for the full development of human potentiality
  - (c) it creates the opportunity for hooligans to take control
  - (d) everyone has the same freedoms that are respected by all
  
2. **The freedom to exercise of rights, capacities and possibilities for action, and the exercise of social or group right is known as**
  - (a) political freedom
  - (b) economic freedom
  - (c) personal freedom
  - (d) press freedom
  
3. **Personal freedom in the context of human rights guarantees the following except**
  - (a) freedom from torture and degradation
  - (b) freedom from slavery, forced or compulsory labour
  - (c) rights to a fair trial
  - (d) rights to abuse the freedom of others
  
4. **One of these is not an attribute of a free press**
  - (a) criticize government policies
  - (b) only communication from government is aired
  - (c) expose corrupt practices of private and public office holders
  - (d) uphold democratic values
  
5. **One of these is not a reason countries choose federalism as a system of government**
  - (a) promotes national unity
  - (b) it allays the fear of ethnic domination by the majority
  - (c) it is expensive to run
  - (d) gives opportunity to smaller states to come together and form a very strong country

## **ANSWERS**

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

## Week 10

# Topic: Meaning of the State Government and the Local Government

### CONTENT:

- Meaning of the State Government and the Local Government
- Functions of State and Local Government as Pillars of Democracy
- Problems of the three tiers of Government

### **The State Government**

This is the second tier of the federalism system of Government, it is headed by the state governor, and currently Nigeria has 36 states all together. The legislative arm of the state government is called the state house of assembly.

### **Functions of the state government**

1. They are charged with the duty of providing Education for its residents
2. They are to ensure that the roads at their jurisdiction are well maintained and build new roads at where necessary.
3. They implement federal mandate
4. They are charged with the duty of collecting and generating revenue.
5. They operate judicial system.

### **The Local Government**

The local government is the third tier of the federalism Government, it is headed by a "chairman". It is the government of the grass root where the majority lives.

### **Functions of the local government**

1. The local government provides health centres to the people at the grassroots.
2. They are responsible for naming the streets and the roads
3. They help to maintain orderliness

4. They help with the duty of registering death, birth and marriage certificate.
5. Control and regulation of outdoor advertising and hoarding.

### **PROBLEMS OF THE THREE TIERS OF GOVERNMENTS**

- 1) Revenue allocation formula among the tiers of government.
- 2) Boundary disputes among the component units.
- 3) Inter-village or town rivalry. There had been rivalry resulting to clashes between villages or town over boundary and creation of local government.
- 4) Federal character: Appointment into federal establishments, states and local governments are not usually based on merit but federal character.

### **ASSESSMENT**

1. **In Nigeria, the state government is headed by the**
  - (a) mayor
  - (b) president
  - (c) legislator
  - (d) governor
2. **One of these is not a function of the state government**
  - (a) provision of education for residents
  - (b) maintain and build new roads
  - (c) collecting and generating revenue
  - (d) command the armed forces
3. **The government of the grass root where the majority of citizens live is**
  - (a) federal government
  - (b) state government
  - (c) local government
  - (d) house of assembly
4. **Registration of death, birth and marriage certificate is the responsibility of**
  - (a) house of assembly
  - (b) federal government
  - (c) local government
  - (d) state government
5. **Under the Federal Character principle, appointments into federal establishments, states and local governments are usually by merit**
  - (a) true

(b) false

## **ANSWERS**

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

# Week 11

## Topic: Definition of Citizen and Alien

### CONTENT:

- Definition of Citizen and Alien
- Duties of Citizen and Alien
- Functions and Responsibility of a citizen in fostering democracy

**CITIZEN:** A citizen is a person who is a legal member of and owe allegiance to a particular country he resides in which he enjoys full civil and political rights and will be ready to put his life at stake in defence of his territory when occasion calls for that.

The special status which is accorded to citizens by the state is called citizenship. It can rightly be said that not everybody that resides in a territory is a citizen.

### DUTIES OF CITIZENS

The following are some of the duties of a citizen in a state, in return for most of the rights enjoyed.

1) **Payment of Taxes:** A citizen should pay his tax to provide the state with revenue for social services e.g. pipe-borne water, hospitals etc.

2) **Obedience to Law:** A citizen should obey all the laws of the state for the common goods of the citizens

3) **Voting at Elections:** A citizen has to vote during election to elect the right leaders for the country.

4) **Detection and Prevention of Crimes:** A good citizen should always assist the law enforcement agencies in detecting and preventing crimes in the society.

5) **Not Interfering in the Rights of others:** A good citizen is to respect other people's right and not interfere with the rights of another citizen.

6) **Show Respect for National Symbols:** National symbols like the national flag, national anthem are to be respected by citizens.

7) **Loyalty:** A good citizen must show loyalty to his country and must not be a betrayer.

8) **Enlistment in the Armed Forces:** When called upon to be enlisted in the armed forces for the defence of the country, a good citizen should make himself available.

**ALIEN:** People who are not legally recognised as members are called aliens. Aliens are foreigners who does not enjoy the rights which a citizen enjoy. A legal alien is a non-citizen who is legally permitted to remain in a country. This is a very broad category which includes tourists, guest workers, legal permanent residents and student visa resident aliens.

### **Function and Responsibilities of Citizens in Fostering Democracy**

Citizens' responsibilities are the duties a citizen is expected to carry out to ensure growth and development in the state. some of this responsibilities are:

1. Payment of taxes and rates: Citizens are expected to pay their taxes and rates for the purpose of enabling the government to discharge her functions.
2. Voting during election: The citizens must perform the duties of voting during election period .A citizen at the age of 18 should vote to choose candidate of his or her choice.
3. Reporting criminals: A good citizen should report criminals so as to make the state free from danger.
4. Obedience to law and order: Good citizens must be obedience to law and ensure orderliness in the state.
5. Loyalty to the state: A good citizen must be loyal to his state i.e. must show constant and firm support to your country.

### **ASSESSMENT**

1. **A citizen is a person who is all of the following except**
  - (a) legal member of a country
  - (b) fights against a country
  - (c) owe allegiance to a particular country
  - (d) enjoys full civil and political rights in a country
2. **The special status accorded to citizens by the state is called**
  - (a) passport
  - (b) indentiy card
  - (c) drivers licence
  - (d) citizenship
3. **One of these is not a duty of the citizen to the state**
  - (a) payment of taxes
  - (b) voting at elections
  - (c) disrespect for national symbols
  - (d) obedience to law

4. **People who are not legally recognised as members of a country are called**  
(a) aliens  
(b) parasite  
(c) immigrant  
(d) natives
5. **A good citizen can be called upon to enlist in the armed forces in times of conflict**  
(a) true  
(b) false  
(c) none of the above  
(d) all of the above

## **ANSWERS**

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

**S.S.S 1**

**CIVIC EDUCATION**

**THIRD TERM**

## TABLE OF CONTENT

<b>WEEK 1 TOPIC:</b>	<b>POLITICAL PARTIES</b>
<b>WEEK 2 TOPIC:</b>	<b>THE PRESS – THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESS IN ENSURING DEMOCRACY</b>
<b>WEEK 3 TOPIC:</b>	<b>UDHR (UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS)</b>
<b>WEEK 4 TOPIC:</b>	<b>THE MEANING OF THE SEVEN CORE FREEDOM OF UDHR</b>
<b>WEEK 5 TOPIC:</b>	<b>AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS</b>
<b>WEEK 6 TOPIC:</b>	<b>PROJECT WORK</b>
<b>WEEK 7 TOPIC:</b>	<b>CULTISM (I)</b>
<b>WEEK 8 TOPIC:</b>	<b>CULTISM II</b>
<b>WEEK 9 TOPIC:</b>	<b>LAW AND ORDER – RESPECT FOR CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY</b>
<b>WEEK 10 TOPIC:</b>	<b>TYPES OF CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY</b>

# Week 1

## Topic: POLITICAL PARTIES

### Content:

- **Definitions and Types of Political Parties**
- **Functions of Political Parties**

### **Definition of Political Party**

A political party is an organization of people of like-minds united by the common desire to obtain the mandate of an electoral constituency to form and operate a government.

### **Types of Political Party**

1. **Mass parties:** These are political parties that are structured to allow as many citizens as possible to take membership. Membership of mass parties are mainly composed of different sections of the society
2. **Elitist parties:** These parties either deliberately or otherwise limit membership to a few elitist in a society and these elitists are of the upper class.
3. **Ideological parties:** Some parties are formed mainly to promote a particular ideological belief, a good example is Adolph Hitler national socialist party (NAZI).
4. **Oligarchy parties:** These are parties that are formed by and which invariably revolves around certain individuals.

### **Functions Of Political Party**

1. Political parties unite the people on major issues affecting the states
2. It serves as a line between the people and government
3. It enables the government's accountability to the people
4. It provides an organization for running the government
5. It serves as an avenue for changing government

## ASSESSMENT

1. **What is the major goal of political parties?**
  - (a) influence public opinion

- (b) form and operate government
  - (c) recruitment of leaders
  - (d) educate government
2. **Which of the following is not a function of political parties?**
- (a) aggregation of opinion
  - (b) educating the government
  - (c) interest articulation
  - (d) unifying factor
3. **One of these is not a type of political party**
- (a) elitist parties
  - (b) religious parties
  - (c) ideologies parties
  - (d) mass parties
4. **The kind of political parties that restrict membership to the upper class are known as**
- (a) mass parties
  - (b) elitist parties
  - (c) ideological parties
  - (d) oligarchy parties
5. **The party that allow as many citizens as possible to take membership is**
- (a) mass parties
  - (b) ideological parties
  - (c) religious parties
  - (d) elitist parties

## **ANSWERS**

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

## Week 2

# Topic: The Press – The Activities of the Press in Ensuring Democracy

### Contents:

- Freedom of the Press – Reasons for and how to ensure freedom of the press
- Importance of F.O.I.B. (Freedom of Information Bill)

### The Activities of the Press in Ensuring Democracy

The press are journalists and photographers who work for newspapers and magazines (media organizations). They are responsible for gathering information about current and past events that are of importance.

Modern democracy requires a well-informed citizenry to which the press (media) plays an important role in the process of keeping people informed by providing information, commentary and opinion.

### FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

Freedom of the press is the right to publish newspaper, magazines and other printed matter without governmental restriction and subject only to the laws of libel, obscenity, sedition etc.

### REASONS FOR FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

- 1) A free press ensures that all news points are expressed, even when it affects those with lots of powers.
- 2) It ensures that the government represents its people.
- 3) The Press should be free so that free and informed voting public can hear and critically assess competing ideas.
- 4) People want freedom of the press so that they can say what is happening in their country and in some cases voice their opinion on it.
- 5) It ensures the right of an individual to self-fulfillment.
- 6) It is needed so that government may not control access to information and persuade voters on how to vote.
- 7) Because we operate indirect democracy, we need to know what happens in other regions, zones, states and different sectors of the country.

## **HOW TO ENSURE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS**

- 1) By ensuring that all news are published from accredited source.
- 2) The press should be able to respond to any request of information before it's taken.
- 3) There should be judicial oversight when anything is requested. That is, there should be checks and balances in the judicial department.
- 4) The department of justice guidelines need to be updated. The time the guidelines were made, there was no such things as internet, E-mail or text.
- 5) A federal shield law that protects journalists should be implemented.
- 6) A formal rule should be made of guideline that the Department of Justice (DoJ) will not prosecute any journalist for being a journalist.

## **IMPORTANCE OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BILL**

- 1) Public accountability and equal treatment of all people under the rule of law.
- 2) Freedom of information bill helps in advancement of commerce and science. As it accelerate the rate of development.
- 3) To the legitimacy of democratically elected government. Without access to government records, citizens cannot determine whether their leader deserves re-election or be voted out.
- 4) It makes those who hold information and administer freedom of information to manage information responsibly.
- 5) It will enhance the speedy dispensation of justice. It will facilitate the investigation of cases by law enforcement agencies.
- 6) It is useful as an anti-corruption tool as it will assist various government agencies such as the National Human Rights Commission, the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission to expose corruption.

## **ASSESSMENT**

1. Journalist and photographers are responsible for
  - (a) representing people in court
  - (b) defending the territorial integrity of the state
  - (c) gathering information about current and past events
  - (d) taking care of people during natural disasters
2. Freedom of the press is subjected to the following laws except
  - (a) libel

- (b) sedition
- (c) divorce
- (d) obscenity

3. One of these is not a reason for Press freedom
- (a) to ensure the government represents its people
  - (b) voting public can hear and critically assess competing ideas
  - (c) right of an individual to self-fulfillment
  - (d) ensures dissenting viewpoints and ideas are disallowed

## **ANSWER**

- 1. C
- 2. A
- 3. C

## Week 3

# Topic: UDHR (Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

### Contents:

#### **UDHR (Universal Declaration of Human Rights)**

#### **The Definition of UDHR**

#### **Historical Background of UDHR**

#### **The Importance of UDHR**

#### **Definition of UDHR (Universal Declaration of Human Rights)**

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights reflects the fundamental beliefs shared by countries around the world regarding human rights.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is a declaration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 December 1948 at the Palais de Chaillot, Paris.

#### **Historical background of UDHR**

The UDHR was adopted by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly on Dec 1948 as a result of the experience of the Second World War, the end of the war brought about the creation of United Nations, the international community vowed never again to allow atrocities like those of that conflict happen again.

The commission on human rights was made up of 18 members from various political, cultural and religious backgrounds. It was chaired by Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of American President Franklin D. Roosevelt, with her were Rene Cassin of France, who composed the first draft of the declaration, the committee Rapporteur Charles Malik of Lebanon, vice -chairman Peng Chung change of China and John of Humphrey of Canada, director of the UN's Human Rights Division, who prepared the declaration's blueprint. But Mrs. Roosevelt was recognized as the driving force for the declaration's adoption.

#### **IMPORTANCE OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

- 1) The recognition and declaration of human rights is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.
- 2) It is the last resort and a rebellion against tyranny and oppression.
- 3) It promotes friendly relations between nations of the world.

- 4) It promotes social progress and better standard of life in larger freedom.
- 5) It brought about the promotion of universal respect and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- 6) It acts like a guideline for human king in determining what is right and what is wrong.

## **ASSESSMENT**

1. Define UDHR.
2. What are the importance of UDHR?

## **ANSWER**

1. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is a declaration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 December 1948 at the Palais de Chaillot, Paris.
2.
  - 1) The recognition and declaration of human rights is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.
  - 2) It is the last resort and a rebellion against tyranny and oppression.
  - 3) It promotes friendly relation between nations of the world.

## Week 4

# Topic: The Meaning of the seven core freedom of UDHR

### Contents:

- **The Seven Core of UDHR**
- **The importance of Fundamental Human Rights**

### **THE SEVEN CORE FREEDOM OF UDHR**

They are those rights that concerns individuals directly and influence their peaceful existence as human beings either within or outside their country. The freedoms include the following:

- 1) **Freedom from Discrimination:** Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion etc.
- 2) **Freedom from Fear:** Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal in the determination of his rights and obligations and or any criminal charge against him.
- 3) **Freedom of Want:** Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property. Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to form family.
- 4) **Freedom of Religion and Conscience:** Everyone has the right to freedom of conscience and religion, this right include freedom to change his religion or beliefs either alone or in community with others in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.
- 5) **Freedom of Assembly:** Everyone has the freedom to take part in any gathering that one wishes.
- 6) **Freedom of Association:** Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association. No one may be compelled to belong to an association. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and for protection against unemployment.
- 7) **Freedom of Thought, Belief, Opinion and Expression:** Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, this includes freedom to hold opinion without interference and to

seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of international boundaries.

### **Importance of Fundamental Human Right**

Human rights are important in the relationships that exist between individuals and the government that has power over them. The government exercises power over its people. However, human rights mean that this power is limited. States have to look after the basic needs of the people and protect some of their freedoms. Some of the most important features of human rights are the following:

- They are for everyone.
- They are internationally guaranteed.
- They are protected by law.
- They focus on the dignity of the human being.
- They protect individuals and groups.
- They cannot be taken away.

### **ASSESSMENT**

1. List one of the core freedoms of the UDHR?
2. List three importance of Fundamental Human Right?
3. Everyone has the freedom to take part in any gathering that one wishes. This is Freedom of\_\_\_

### **ANSWER**

1. **Freedom of Want:** Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property. Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to form family.
2. • They are protected by law.
- They focus on the dignity of the human being.
- They protect individuals and groups.
3. Assembly

## Week 5

# Topic: Agencies Responsible for Protection of Human Rights

### **Contents:**

1. The Establishment and Formation of the Agencies
2. The roles of Agencies for Protection of Human Rights

### **Agencies Responsible for Protection of Human Rights**

Some of the agencies responsible for the protection of human rights in Nigeria include:

- Constitutional Rights Project – founded in 1990 to promote rule of law in Nigeria.
- Nigerian Center for Human Rights and Development – founded in 1995 to promote democracy and enforcement of rights.
- Human Rights Monitor – founded in 1992 to promote human rights.
- Institute for Dispute Resolution – founded in 1999 to promote peaceful conflict resolution.
- Human Rights Law Services (Hurilaws) – established in 2007.
- Youths For Human Rights Protection And Transparency Initiative

### **The Establishment and Formation of the Agencies and the roles of Agencies for Protection of Human Rights**

## **Centre for Advanced Social Sciences (CASS)**

### **History**

The Centre for Advanced Social Sciences (CASS) was formed in 1992 and is based in Port Harcourt. Two other branches are planned, one for East and Southern Africa, the other for francophone West and Central Africa.

### **Mandate**

CASS is a think tank concerned with improving management and public policy in Africa.

## **Structure**

The Centre has a Board of Trustees and is governed by an international Board of Directors.

## **Program**

CASS's research areas are public policy, governance and democratization, and the international system. The Centre runs seminars and training sessions.

## **Civil Liberties Organisation (CLO)**

### **History**

Established in 1987, the Civil Liberties Organisation (CLO) is one of Nigeria's largest human rights organizations.

### **Mandate**

The CLO is a non-governmental organization set up for the defence and expansion of human rights and civil liberties.

### **Structure**

The CLO is a membership organization with sixteen state branches outside Lagos. It has a staff of 23 and is headed by a National Advisory Council and a Board of Governors. The organization is divided into the following project areas: litigation; police and prison; women's rights; national expansion (membership); annual report; campaign and empowerment (lectures, CD involvement, Liberty magazine); environmental action (in oil-producing areas); documentation and research; resource center; African monitoring group; ethics in government.

### **Program**

The CLO investigates human rights abuses and campaigns through litigation, publications and communications with the government on behalf of people whose rights have been abused. The CLO publishes a quarterly magazine, entitled Liberty, and a Journal of Human Rights Law and Practice. Its prison project has produced two major reports on prison conditions and a number of smaller publications. It has also published a number of reports on police brutality, military decrees, government impunity, the death penalty and annual reports on the human rights situation in Nigeria. Its legal aid project has represented over 4,000 indigent victims of human rights abuses. The organization also undertakes human rights education through its empowerment project, conducting clinics and seminars on rights issues. The organization is extremely active in lobbying the government through dialogue and public censure and launching campaigns to end specific government abuses.

## **Committee for the Defence of Human Rights (CDHR)**

### **History**

The Committee for the Defence of Human Rights (CDHR) formed in 1989 in response to the detention of trade unionist Femi Aborishade. The organization then evolved into a human rights organization.

### **Mandate**

CDHR's objectives are to:

- promote, defend and sustain fundamental human rights;
- establish a system of prompt and efficient assistance for needy persons whose human rights are violated; and
- collaborate with other organizations committed to participatory democracy and social justice.

### **Structure**

The organization has over 2,000 members and 19 state branches. The national branch is headed by a National Executive Committee and each state branch has its own Executive Committee. There are three full-time staff members.

### **Program**

The organization brings legal suits on behalf of people whose rights have been violated. It has also launched campaigns against detention without trial, extra-judicial killings and structural adjustment programs. CDHR also produces a quarterly newsletter and an annual report on human rights violations in Nigeria.

### **Constitutional Rights Project (CRP)**

#### **History**

The Constitutional Rights Project (CRP) was set up in 1990.

#### **Mandate**

The organization's aims are to ensure that Nigerian legislation conforms with international standards; to monitor institutions whose activities impact on the rights of citizens; and to provide legal assistance to victims of human rights abuses.

#### **Structure**

CRP is headed by a Board of Directors with a management committee. The research staff carries out research projects and the litigation staff is responsible for the legal cases.

#### **Program**

Among other activities, the Project has litigated numerous cases, conducted campaigns, held seminars and addressed the issues of application of bail and freedom of expression, the administration of justice, and police practices. It publishes a journal and a newsletter in addition to a number of full-length human rights reports.

## **Human Rights Africa**

### **History**

Human Rights Africa is an international organization set up in 1988 to address human rights issues from an African perspective.

### **Mandate**

The organization divides its work into three divisions: education, political and civil rights, and economic, social and cultural rights.

### **Structure**

Human Rights Africa has six senior staff members and a membership of over 800. It has three Boards, including a Founders Council, an African Board of Advisors, and an International Advisory Committee.

### **Program**

Most of Human Rights Africa's activities have been based in Nigeria. Its regional work has included a fact-finding mission and human rights report on the situation in Ethiopia, training workshops for West African leaders and local government officials, and assistance in setting up the Ghanaian-based African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters. The organization gives an annual Africa Service Award.

## **Human Rights Monitor**

### **History**

Human Rights Monitor is an organization in Kaduna which was started in January 1993 by about 15 people in response to the need for a human rights body in the North which was not headquartered in Lagos.

### **Mandate**

The purpose of the organization is to address human rights issues in the north of Nigeria.

## **Structure**

Human Rights Monitor has three full-time staff members, and is a membership organization with approximately 50 members.

## **Program**

The organization has taken cases to court with the CLO and issued joint releases with the CLO on human rights issues in the north. The organization is completely self-funded and accordingly its activities have been hampered.

# **Women in Nigeria (WIN)**

## **History**

Women in Nigeria is a national organization set up in 1983.

## **Mandate**

WIN's purpose is to organize and improve the condition of Nigerian women in all areas.

## **Structure**

WIN is an organization of 8,535 members with offices in 22 states. Each office determines its agenda and priorities in consultation with the national office. The National Executive has seven National Officers.

## **Program**

WIN organizes annual conferences on women's issues, produces publications and sponsors campaigns on issues affecting women. It provides legal aid to indigent women. WIN has been active in opposing structural adjustment programs and has also taken up the issue of income-generating projects for women. It was the only women's group to join the CD coalition in calling for political change.

## **ASSESSMENT**

1. List the objectives of the CDHR?
2. List three agencies responsible for the protection of human rights in Nigeria?
3. Women in Nigeria is a national organization set up in\_\_\_

## **ANSWER**

1. – promote, defend and sustain fundamental human rights;  
– establish a system of prompt and efficient assistance for needy persons whose human rights are violated; and  
– collaborate with other organizations committed to participatory democracy and social justice.

2.

- Institute for Dispute Resolution – founded in 1999 to promote peaceful conflict resolution.
- Human Rights Law Services (Hurilaws) – established in 2007.
- Youths For Human Rights Protection And Transparency Initiative

3. 1983.

# Week 6

## Topic: Project Work

### CONTENT

- Locating and visiting Government Agencies concerned with the UDHR
- Browsing through the internet to locate world agencies for the protection of Human right

This is a practical work that involves the student going out of the school premises to Government Agencies concerned with the Universal Declaration of Human Right and browsing through the internet to locate world agencies for the protection of human rights.

### Human Rights

Human rights are standards that are essential to the full development of individuals and communities. They allow all people to live with dignity, freedom, equality, justice, and peace.

We must make sure that every person has these rights simply because they are human beings. They should be guaranteed to everyone without discrimination of any kind, such as race, color, sex or even their opinion. Human rights are part of international law, contained in treaties and declarations that spell out specific rights that countries are required to uphold. This doesn't mean human rights don't get violated. It frequently happens in every country on our planet.

#### 1. CARE

CARE's commitment to women's empowerment and gender equality is based on decades of expertise in dozens of countries and in every development sector. We see gender as a cross-cutting issue that we address in every program to make an equal world free of poverty.

#### 2. World Vision

They're continuously building relationships. By planning and working alongside local leaders, they're finding solutions to change the future for kids and the next generation.

#### 3. Oxfam International

The world only gets better as women expand their role as political, economic, family and social leaders. The cost of excluding women is well recognized. Women bear the biggest burden of poverty, and most people living in poverty are women. Oxfam works to advance women's wellbeing and increase the benefits of the contributions that women and girls can make to societies and economies.

4. **Amnesty International**

A worldwide movement of people who campaign for internationally recognized human rights for all. With more than 2.2 million members and subscribers in more than 150 countries, they conduct research and generate action to prevent and end grave abuses of human rights and to demand justice for those whose rights have been violated.

5. **Human Rights Without Frontiers**

HRWF focuses on monitoring, research, and analysis in the field of human rights, as well as the promotion of democracy and the rule of law on the national and international level.

6. **Avocats Sans Frontières**

Avocats Sans Frontières (ASF) is an international NGO, active in the human rights and development sector. Created in 1992 by a group of Belgian lawyers, ASF's primary objective is the realization of institutions and mechanisms that facilitate access to independent and fair justice systems that ensure legal security and guarantee fundamental human rights for everyone.

7. **Cultural Survival**

Cultural Survival (founded 1972) is a nonprofit group based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the US, which is dedicated to defending the human rights of indigenous peoples.

8. **MasterCard Foundation**

All people, no matter their starting point in life, should have an equal chance to succeed. They believe that with access to education and skills training, people can have that chance.

9. **Cuso International**

A development organization that works to reduce poverty and inequality through the efforts of highly skilled volunteers, collaborative partnerships and compassionate donors.

10. **Center for Economic and Social Rights**

The Center for Economic and Social Rights (CESR) is an international human rights organization that functions primarily as a research and advocacy nonprofit in the area of economic and social rights.

## **ASSESSMENT**

1. What is Human Rights?

## **ANSWER**

1. Human rights are standards that are essential to the full development of individuals and communities. They allow all people to live with dignity, freedom, equality, justice, and peace.

# Week 7

## Topic: Cultism (I)

### **Contents**

**Definition of Cultism, Different Cult Groups and their symbols**

**Origin of Cultism**

**Reason for establishing and joining cults**

**Definition of Cultism**

Cultism can also be called secret cult; it can be defined as an enclosed organized association devoted to the same cause. Members of this group always commit themselves to oath and allegiance which serves as their strong bond.

Cultism is a form of organization whose activities are not only exclusively kept away from the knowledge of others but such activities are carried out at odd hours of the day and they often clash with the accepted norms and values of everyday life.

The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines cult as small group of people of who have extreme religious beliefs and who not part of any established religion are.

### **Different Cult Groups**

*Some of the cults known to exist in educational institutions in Nigeria are:*

1. The mafia
2. The black axe
3. The vickings
4. Eiye confraternity
5. Mgba mgba brothers
6. KKK (Ku Klux Klan)
7. The Black Berret
8. The jurists
9. Royal Queens

10. The Air lords
11. The Vampires
12. The owl
13. The Scorpion
14. Amazon
15. Black heart etc.

## **Origin of Cultism in Nigeria**

Cultism started at the University College, Ibadan in 1952 when Wole Soyinka (now professor) and six others formed the Pyrates Confraternity. The remaining six are Olumyiwa Awe, Ralph Opara, Tunji Tubi, Daige Imokhuede, Pius Olegbe and Olu Agunloye. Their main objective at that time was to elevate the social life of the university campus orderliness and discipline could be planted in the mind of the youths who were expected to be future leaders in Nigeria.

Over the years, due to doctrinal differences and inability of intending members to meet required standards of the pyrate confraternity, protestants ones started emerging like the buccaneers, mafia, vickings etc the cult begins to be infiltrated by frustrated, undisciplined and disgruntled students with shady characters with the effect that the high and respected ideals of these cults began to wane.

Today, cultism in the Nigerian higher institutions have assuming a menacing dimension, making life in the institutions awry.

## **Reasons For Establishing and Joining cults**

Some of the reasons why students join cults are explained below

- **Search for security:** Many students because of fear of insecurity decide to join cult groups and some males join in order to secure their female friends from being snatched by other male students
- **Search for social identity:** The search for social identity and recognition is another reason, they want to be regarded as powerful people, to them it is a way of achieving prestige and greatness
- **Financial assistance:** Some students joined because of the need for financial support and ways to accumulate wealth
- **The influence of peer group:** peer group influence is a potent factor that compels young undergraduates to join secret cults, the kind of friends and age group students associate with determine if they join a cult group or not

- **Parental and home background:** Majority of cultist comes from homes with weak moral foundation, some are nonchalant about giving their children good home training. Parents who are members of secret cults may influenced by their parents involvement in similar activities.
- **The mass media:** The mass media also expose young ones to all kinds of negative behavior. There is the importation of magical films, occultist literature and obscene behavior, advertisements are placed in the media on how youths and adults can join cultist.
- **Unconducive learning environment:** Learning facilities provided by educational institutions are grossly inadequate to the extent that some students are frustrated academically, some weak students then join cults to harass lecturers and officers.
- **Inadequate religious and moral instructions /education:** Parents also neglect the responsibility in the area of moral upbringing of their children because of the craze for material wealth and therefore fail to bring up their children in the way of the Lord and give the children good instruction

## ASSESSMENT

1. Cultism started at (a) university of Lagos (b) university of Ilorin (c) University college, Ibadan (d) College of Education, Ikere
2. All are founders of pyrate confraternity except (a) Ralph Opara (b) Tunji Tubi (c) Wole Soyinka (d) Yakubu Gowan
3. All of these are characteristics of cultism except (a) they have rival groups within the institutions (b)they usually operate at night (c) they ensure peace in the institutions (d) they make use of signs and symbols to communicate
4. Types of secret cults in Nigeria are these except (a) mgba mgba (b) the scorpion (c) students union (d) the owl
5. The major aim of the pyrate confraternity is (a) to be more informed (b) elevate the social life of the university campus orderliness and discipline could be planted in the mind of the youths (c) to deceive the people (d) none of the above

## ANSWER

1. C
2. D

3. C

4. C

5. D

## Week 8

### Topic: Cultism II

#### **Contents:**

1. Consequences of Cultism
2. Preventive measures against Cultism
3. Government's efforts in preventing Cultism

#### **Consequences of cultism**

Cultism in Institutions will lead to the following consequences

- It can lead to expulsion
- It promotes violence
- It reduces the quality of the products of the schools through frequent interruption in the academic calendar
- It breeds insecurity on various campuses
- The end result is moral decadence in the society, it breeds generation of immoral students
- It leads to colossal loss of infrastructure and other resources on campus, the peace of the school is adversely affected.

#### **Preventive measures against cultism**

The following are the preventive measures against cultism

- Moral Education should be made compulsory in the primary and secondary schools in the country
- Parents should take time to understand their children, give enough time to listen to them at home and satisfy their emotional, psychological and physical needs
- Aggressive efforts to wage war against cultism in all tertiary institutions should be allowed by government and religious groups in the country
- Moral Education should be made compulsory in the primary and secondary schools in the country

- Cultism and its consequences should be treated in the general studies courses in all institutions
- A definite legislation that will pass a death sentence to anybody found guilty of cult activities on campus.
- Parents should be more vigilant, concerning the behavior and activities and activities of their children within and outside the home
- Parents should desist from being members of secret cult and also prevent their children from joining bad groups
- Government should set up security outfit to checkmate the activities of secret cults on campuses
- Government and non-governmental agencies should step up their campaigns against cultism and its destructive tendencies

### **Government's efforts in preventing Cultism**

1. Enacting enabling laws proscribing cultism and other secret societies.
2. Newly admitted students are made to take oath not to belong to any secret cult.
3. Expulsion of any student found to be member of secret cult from campus.
4. Prosecution and sentencing to jail terms of those found guilty of any cult-related activities.
5. Public enlightenment campaign against cultism.
6. Constitutional provisions prohibiting members of secret societies from holding public offices.
7. Public renunciation of membership of secret societies/cults is encouraged by government.
8. Introduction of civic education to educate citizens on social vices and other immoral behaviour associated with cultism in schools.
9. Government enhanced security presence in schools and colleges.

## **ASSESSMENT**

1. One of the reason why students join cultism is (a) to become a responsible student (b) to help the growth of the nation (c) to gain power and be respected in the institution (d) to learn how to be respectful

2. Consequences of cultism are all of these except (a) it breeds insecurity on various campuses (b) it can lead to violence (c) it leads to expulsion of students (d) it leads to promotion
3. Cultism can reduce the quality of education through (a) frequent interruption in the in the academic calender (b) informing the students about their right (c) making decision for the students (d) none of the above
4. Some of the preventive measures against cultism are the following except (a) Moral Education should be made compulsory in the primary and secondary schools in the country (b)Cultism and its consequences should be treated in the general studies courses in all institutions (c) releasing guns and arms for the cultist (d) a definite legislation that will pass a death sentence to anybody found guilty of cult activities on campus.
5. Cultism in institution will affect the standard of Education in the country. True / false

## **ANSWER**

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

## Week 9

# Topic: Law and Order – Respect For Constituted Authority

### Contents:

- **Definition of Authority and Types**
- **Meaning of Constituted Authority**
- **Differences between Authority and Constituted Authority**

### Definition of Authority

Authority is the legitimate or socially approved use of power. It is the legitimate power which one person or a group holds over another. The element of legitimacy is vital to the notion of authority and is the main means by which authority is distinguished from the more general concept of power. Power can be exerted by the use of force or violence. Authority, by contrast, depends on the acceptance by subordinates of the right of those above them to give them orders or directives.

### Types of Authority

These are the three types of authority:

**Traditional Authority:** Power legitimized by respect for long-established cultural patterns.

**Charismatic Authority:** Power legitimized by extraordinary personal abilities that inspire devotion and obedience.

**Rational-Legal Authority:** Also known as bureaucratic authority, is when power is legitimized by legally enacted rules and regulations such as governments.

### Meaning of Constituted Authority

A constituted authority refers to the different forms of leadership established for the smooth running of a society. A constituted authority is expected to be obeyed for the smooth running and development of the organization.

Constituted authorities are those powers which the constitution of group of people has established to govern them, to cause their rights to be respected.

For instance in a university the group of constituted authority is the vice chancellor, the deputy vice chancellor the school registrar and other management staffs.

## **Types of Constituted Authorities**

- **Traditional constituted authorities:** Traditional constituted authority is based on the customs and traditions or culture of the people. The leaders are in charge of the local traditions and customs. Examples of traditional constituted authorities in Nigeria are: Alafin of Oyo, the sultan of sokoto, the obi of umaiah

### **Functions of the Traditional Constituted Authority.**

1. They are the chief priests or heads of traditional ceremonies.
  2. They help the government to educate their people on the need for cooperation with the government.
- They help the local government to maintain law and order in local communities.
1. They take charge of local traditions.
- **Religious constituted authorities:** This is leaders of religious organization. These are spiritual leaders of any religious group in the society. They can be elected or appointed depending on their practice or doctrine, these leaders include pastors of churches, Imams of mosques, priest etc.

### **Functions of Religious Constituted Authority**

1. They help to maintain peace and orderliness in their different groups.
  2. They attend to the spiritual needs of their members
- They act as intermediaries between God and their followers.
1. They help in educating their members on various Government policies.
- **Government constituted Authorities:** These are leaders who have the Constitutional backing to rule the people. They are leaders of Government. E.g the presidents, the governors, the ministers etc.

### **Functions of Government Constituted Authority.**

1. They provide social amenities like water, electricity, etc for the people.
  2. They protect the citizens against internal and external attack
- They make Law and Execute them
1. They promote national unity
  2. They respect the dignity of individual
  3. They protect the right of individual in the country

- **Organizational constituted authorities:** These are leaders of business organizations, clubs political parties or social gatherings.

### **Functions of Organizational Constituted Authority.**

1. They cater for the interest of their members
  2. They make decision and policies for their members
- They protect the right of their members
1. They represent their organizations in any relevant event in the society.

### **Differences between Authority and Constituted Authority**

**AUTHORITY:** The formal right to do the work. Henry Fayol defined the authority as “the right to give orders and the power to exact obedience. Authority gives the management the power to enforce obedience. It is the power to give orders and make sure that these orders are obeyed.”

**CONSTITUTED AUTHORITIES:** Those powers which the constitution of each people has established to govern them, to cause their rights to be respected, and to maintain those of each of its members.

2. They are called constituted, to distinguish them from the constituting authority which has created or organized them, or has delegated to an authority, which it has itself created, the right of establishing or regulating their movements. The officers appointed under the constitution are also collectively called the constituted authorities.

## **ASSESSMENT**

1. ——— is refers to the different forms of leadership established for the smooth running of the society.(a)unconstituted authority (b)constituted power (c)constituted authorities (d)non of the above.
2. The constituted authorities based on the customs and traditions of the people is (a)religious constituted authority (b)Government constituted authority (c)organizational constituted authority (d)traditional constituted authority.
3. All of these are types of constituted authorities except (a)government (b)religious (c)environmental (d)organizational.ans
4. The constituted authority that attends to the spiritual needs of his followers is (a)religious (b)Organizational (c)Government (d)traditional.

5. The bank manager, the rotary club leader are examples of (a)government constituted authority (b)religious constituted authority (c)organizational constituted authority (d)traditional constituted authority.

## **ANSWER**

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

# Week 10

## Topic: Types of Constituted Authority

### Contents:

- **Types of Constituted Authority**
- **Importance of Constituted Authority to the Public**

### Types of Constituted Authorities

- **Traditional constituted authorities:** Traditional constituted authority is based on the customs and traditions or culture of the people. The leaders are in charge of the local traditions and customs. Examples of traditional constituted authorities in Nigeria are: Alafin of Oyo, the sultan of sokoto, the obi of umaiah

### Functions of the Traditional Constituted Authority.

1. They are the chief priests or heads of traditional ceremonies.
  2. They help the government to educate their people on the need for cooperation with the government.
- They help the local government to maintain law and order in local communities.
1. They take charge of local traditions.
- **Religious constituted authorities:** This is leaders of religious organization. These are spiritual leaders of any religious group in the society. They can be elected or appointed depending on their practice or doctrine, these leaders include pastors of churches, Imams of mosques, priest etc.

### Functions of Religious Constituted Authority

1. They help to maintain peace and orderliness in their different groups.
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- **Government constituted Authorities:** These are leaders who have the Constitutional backing to rule the people. They are leaders of Government. E.g the presidents, the governors, the ministers etc.

### Functions of Government Constituted Authority.

1. They provide social amenities like water, electricity, etc for the people.
2. They protect the citizens against internal and external attack
  - They make Law and Execute them
1. They promote national unity
2. They respect the dignity of individual
3. They protect the right of individual in the country
  - **Organizational constituted authorities:** These are leaders of business organizations, clubs political parties or social gatherings.

#### **Functions of Organizational Constituted Authority.**

1. They cater for the interest of their members
2. They make decision and policies for their members
  - They protect the right of their members
1. They represent their organizations in any relevant event in the society.

#### **Importance of Constituted Authority to the Public**

The importance of constituted authority cannot be overemphasized, reason been that when there are no leaders there is usually a problem. Some of the points below are the importance of constituted authority:

1. protection of citizens: The government ensures that all the citizens are protected from both internal and external danger. They ensure all citizens are free from terrorism.
2. Development of the society: Constituted authorities joins hands together to bring about development in the society through maintenance of law and order.
3. Religious authority helps followers to be closer to God and helps the followers to fear God.
4. Constituted authorities are responsible for the smooth running of the society.
5. They ensure the people lives in peace with one another,
6. They ensure orderliness in the state and help to settle dispute in the society.
7. They also help to make policies and decisions to achieve the set goals.

## ASSESSMENT.

1. Explain the types of constituted authority.
2. List the importance of constituted authority.

## ANSWER

- **Traditional constituted authorities:** Traditional constituted authority is based on the customs and traditions or culture of the people. The leaders are in charge of the local traditions and customs. Examples of traditional constituted authorities in Nigeria are: Alafin of Oyo, the sultan of sokoto, the obi of umaiah
  - **Religious constituted authorities:** This is leaders of religious organization. These are spiritual leaders of any religious group in the society. They can be elected or appointed depending on their practice or doctrine, these leaders include pastors of churches, Imams of mosques, priest etc.
- 2.
- Religious authority helps followers to be closer to God and helps the followers to fear God.
  - Constituted authorities are responsible for the smooth running of the society.
  - They ensure the people lives in peace with one another,
  - They ensure orderliness in the state and help to settle dispute in the society.
  - They also help to make policies and decisions to achieve the set goals.