**SS1 SECOND TERM CIVIC EDUCATION**

1. Democracy
2. Rule of law
3. Liberty
4. Majority& Minority
5. The major pillars of democracy
6. Freedom: A pillar of democracy
7. Mid Term Break
8. State government & Local government
9. Arms of government
10. Other strong institutions
11. Definitions of citizens & alien
12. Revision
13. Examination

WEEK 1

**Democracy**

The word democracy is derived from the Greek words “demos” meaning people and “kratia” which means authority or rule. Therefore, democracy may be said to be the rule or authority of the people. However, the widely used definition of the term democracy was propounded by a former President of the United States of America, **Abraham Lincoln** saying, “Government **of** the people, **by** the people, **for** the people”. It is the type of government where all adult citizens have equal say in the decisions that affect their lives. Democracy is a form of government where the people have and exercise the supreme power directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving free and fair elections held at specific dates by the electoral body in the country.

**Types of democracy**

There are two types of democracy. These are:

* Direct Democracy
* Indirect Democracy or Representative Democracy

**Direct democracy**

Direct democracy places all power in the hands of the individual. When political decisions must be made, all members of a polity gather together and individuals cast a vote. In theory, this sounds like the ideal form of government. There are no intermediaries. Each person is treated as an equal, and each person is given a chance to directly influence the policymaking process.

**Indirect/representative democracy**

Representative democracy is a form of government whereby eligible citizens elect their leaders through periodic election to represent them at all levels of government for a fixed tenure.

This is a political arrangement that establishes an intermediary political actor between the individual and the policy outputs of the state. In other words, representative democracy is a process in which the people through election elect those who will represent or govern the state on their behalf for a fixed period. Through the electoral process, one person or a group of people are elected and assigned with the task of making decisions on behalf of the group of citizens that they represent.

In the Nigeria, we have multiple intermediaries. Each state has three representatives in the upper house or Senate. In the lower house or House of Representatives, each of the states has 10 representatives. It is important to note that while the power of the individual is diminished slightly, political representatives are still beholden to the group that they represent, also known as their “constituency”.

**Features of representative democracy**

1. Respect for Minority rights
2. The supremacy of the constitution
3. Existence of fundamental human rights
4. Periodic election
5. Free and fair election
6. Existence of political parties
7. Majority rule/Popular sovereignty
8. Party system
9. Presence of opposition
10. Separation of powers between the arms and levels of government
11. Freedom of association and groups
12. Equal political rights
13. Universal Adult Suffrage
14. Citizenship participation
15. Up to date electoral register
16. Political Awareness/ Political Education
17. Independent Electoral body
18. Independence of the judiciary
19. Rule of law
20. Free Press/Mass media
21. Transparency and accountability
22. Informed electorate
23. Effective popular participation
24. Divergent partisan ideology
25. Consensus building
26. Popular consultation
27. Constitutional government

**Reasons for the Adoption of Representative Democracy in Nigeria**

1. Large electorate size due to high population.
2. Complex state structure of the Nigerian government.
3. Large territorial size of the country.
4. Greater political participation.
5. The complexity of many political issues.
6. Desire to protect the interest of the minorities/ethnic diversities.
7. Safeguarding the fundamental human rights of the citizens.
8. Promotion of accountability.
9. To give voice to the opposition for good governance.
10. To conform to the international trend in modern governance/popularity of democracy.
11. Expanding the scope of modern government for the welfare of citizens.
12. To maintain international relations with other democratic countries.
13. To ensure stability and peaceful transition of government.

**Advantages/merits of democracy**

1. Democracy promotes the rule of law and constitutionalism.
2. It facilitates the effective participation of citizens in governance.
3. It encourages checks and balances resulting from the separation of powers which enhances cooperation, collaboration and partnership in governance.
4. Democracy guarantees periodic election to ensure a smooth transition of government.
5. It promotes a political culture which makes the people favourably dispose towards nation-building.
6. It allows constructive criticism of government policies which checks abuse of power thereby promoting good governance and national development.
7. Democracy promotes transparency and accountability.
8. It encourages loyalty to the state since the people/citizens see themselves as part of the democratic process.
9. The people have freedom of choice in the election of those that will represent them in government.
10. It brings about legitimacy, that is legal and constitutional powers conferred on the leader.
11. It ensures equity, justice and fair play.

**Demerit of democracy**

1. An elected representative at times forgets their people when in the position of power and authority.
2. The interests of the masses are sometimes forgotten.
3. It gives the fate of the masses to only a few people.
4. Minorities at times never have a say in the polity and matters that affect them since only a few elected people make decisions.
5. It is too expensive or costly to run.
6. It is characterized by selfish interest.
7. Representative democracy is prone to corruption.
8. Duplication of functions
9. The rigging of an election.
10. Illiteracy

**Factors that retard the growth of democracy in Nigeria**

1. Electoral Malpractices
2. Lack of proper political education
3. High level of illiteracy/ignorance
4. The high cost of running a democracy
5. Bribery and corruption
6. Elections based on sentiments/ethnicity/tribalism/religion
7. Sit-tight syndrome/tenure elongation
8. Lack of respect for a popular will by politicians
9. Biased electoral umpire
10. Military intervention in politics
11. Political apathy
12. Monetization of politics
13. Lack of internal democracy among political parties
14. Dictatorial influence of political godfathers/party leaders
15. The proliferation of political parties
16. Inadequate democratic political culture
17. Bad governance/unfulfilled electoral promises
18. Militancy/Political thuggery/violence
19. Poverty
20. Erosion of judicial independence
21. Erosion of press freedom
22. Political instability/breakdown of law and order

**Democratic institutions and their functions**

For democracy to function effectively in a country, certain institutions must be in place. Some of the institutions are as follows:

1. The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)
2. Political parties
3. Pressure groups
4. Arms of government

**The Independent National Electoral Commission**

INEC is the electoral body that is saddled with the responsibility of conducting elections in Nigeria.

The body has a chairman as its head who is nominated by the President, and the nominee is approved by the national assembly. Apart from the chairman of INEC, other important officers in INEC are the Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC), who are the heads of INEC in the various states. INEC not only conducts elections but also monitors the activities of the political parties and divides the country into constituencies for administrative convenience.

**Functions of INEC**

1. Division of states into constituencies
2. Provision of electoral materials
3. Registration of political parties
4. Registration of voters
5. Education of voters
6. Screening of candidates

**Political Parties**

Another democratic institution is the political party. Political parties are the registered bodies of people who share a common political interest. They are organised, based on shared ideologies, with the primary aim of gaining political powers.

**Functions of political parties**

1. Conduct of primary elections
2. Mobilisation of members into the parties
3. Mobilisation of people for elections
4. Political Campaign
5. Education of the electorate
6. Guiding party members in government
7. Criticizing government

**Pressure Groups**

Pressure groups are non-political organisations or associations that have interests in the day-to-day governance of a country. They are groups who do not have political interests but come together with the common interest of influencing government policies to satisfy their aims and objectives. These groups fight for the interest of their members. Examples of these groups in Nigeria are the National Trade Union (NTU), National Union of Teachers (NUT), Nigeria Bar Association (NBA), Nigeria Medical Association (NMA) and so on.

**Functions of pressure groups**

1. Influencing government decisions
2. Links between the government and their members
3. The offering of constructive suggestions
4. Educating members
5. Fighting for the interest of their members
6. Provision of welfare services

**Arms of government and their roles in entrenching democracy**

1. **Legislative Arm of Government:**

The legislative arm makes law for the nation. It is an important arm of government that legislates into the electoral law.

1. **Executive Arm of Government**

The executive arm of government funds elections. They ensure peaceful conduct of elections by providing the necessary security. They also fund political parties. The executive arm appoints the chairman of INEC and the Resident Electoral Officers.

1. **Judiciary Arm of Government:**

This arm of government interprets the electoral laws made by the legislative body. They look through the electoral laws and correct the areas that contradict the constitution and listen to all electoral cases in the country. They are the last resort, which citizens run to whenever their political rights are infringed upon.

**WEEK 2**

Rule of law

**Rule of Law**



Laws are official rules and regulations that guide human conduct, activities and behaviours in any group, society or nation. Laws are the means by which decisions or actions are formulated as rules and regulations and implemented as policy. Laws can also be defined as a body of official rules and regulations generally found in the constitutions, legislation, and judicial opinion and so on that is used to govern a society and control the conducts of its members.

Rule of law is a concept that emphasizes the supremacy of the law, legal equality, impartiality and individual liberty. Rule of law is a principle of governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and which are consistent with international human rights norms and standards.

**Principles of rule of law**

According to Prof. A. V. Dicey, rule of law contains three principles or it has three meanings as stated below:

* **The supremacy of the law:** This means that every citizen must act according to the law and that nobody should be punished, except for breaking the established laws of the land. This principle simply emphasizes the lack of arbitrariness. The power of the government is limited.
* **Equality before the law:** According to this principle, every citizen irrespective of his rank and position is subject to the ordinary laws of the land. No special treatment for different people.
* **Individual Rights/Fundamental Human Rights:**This means that the fundamental human rights are natural and inalienable rights of individual citizens that are not derived from the constitution are suspended. Also, citizens are entitled to fundamental human rights.

**Hindrances/limitation of the rule of law**

1. Diplomatic immunity
2. Immunity of Heads of state
3. Parliamentary immunity
4. Delegation legislation
5. Administrative tribunal
6. Inadequate independence of the Judiciary
7. Immunity of Judges
8. Illiteracy/Ignorance
9. State of Emergency
10. Customs and Traditions
11. Type of government in power

**Need/importance/benefits of the rule of law**

1. It makes everyone equal in a political system.
2. It brings about obedience to the law of the land.
3. It guarantees the supremacy of law over citizens.
4. It guarantees peace and order in society.
5. It enhances the protection of citizens’ rights.
6. It ensures freedom of press and association.
7. It prevents tyrannical rule.
8. It guards against illegal or unlawful detention.
9. It guarantees the inalienable rights of the citizens.
10. It promotes separation of powers.
11. It guarantees good governance.
12. Promotes the freedom of the judiciary
13. Enhances the freedom of the individual
14. Promotes qualitative life
15. Preserves the constitution
16. Prevents arbitrariness and dictatorship
17. Fundamental Human Rights is Guaranteed
18. Equality of all citizens
19. The supremacy of the law

**The state and the rule of law**

The principle of rule of law emphasizes or places law over and above all persons in the society, no matter their positions i.e. nobody is above the law. This is to ensure that those who rule do so according to lay down rules and regulations. Therefore, in accordance with the rule of law, state:

1. Has the responsibility of protecting the rights of an individual.
2. Must apply the rule of law in the adjudication of cases among people in the state.
3. Ensure separation of powers among organs of government.
4. Ensure that government officials and citizens understand that the constitution is the fundamental law of the land.

**WEEK 3**

**Liberty**

Liberty can be defined as the state of being free within society from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority on one’s behaviour or political views***.***In this sense, liberty means freedom from restraints and the freedom to act as one likes. We must understand that we cannot have *absolute liberty* in our social relationship with one another. If a person has absolute liberty, then he is free to limit or indeed eliminate the freedom of another. Rather, the best we can do is to maximize the freedom by accepting certain limitations on our individual freedom, so that we do not infringe the freedom of others.

**Types of liberty- individual, civic and political 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. It is popularly believed that man has inherited the right to liberty from nature. Natural reason is the basis of liberty.
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 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.
3. **Political Liberty:**Good and adequate opportunities for using political rights by the people are defined as political liberty. When 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.
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.
5. **National Liberty:** National liberty is another name for the independence of the nation. To have a constitution of their own, freely organize their own government etc.
6. **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.

**WEEK 4**

**Majority & Minority**

**Minority and Majority Interest**

**While the majority interest refers to the right of the major dominant ethnic groups in a given society or country, the minority interest refers the right of several small ethnic groups scattered all over the state of the federation. Numerically and politically, the major ethnic groups in Nigeria are the composite Hausa-Fulani, the Yoruba, and the Igbo. These three ‘hegemonic’ ethnic groups are popularly referred to by the generic term ‘*wazobia*’. All the rest constitute different degrees of ‘minority’ status.**

**Under colonial rule, however, but particularly under the ethnicized electoral politics associated with decolonization, minority status became associated with the smallness of population size and the related question of limited electoral clout. Nigeria’s ‘majority’ and ‘minority’ ethnic groups developed in this political hothouse from the early 1950s.**

**There are ‘large minorities’ with millions of members, such as the Ijaw, Kanuri, Fulani, Edo, Ibibio, Nupe and the Tiv. However, since minority status is both a numerical and a political category, often underlined by administrative and economic factors, the bulk of the minority groups shade into different degrees of ‘minorities’. It is on this basis the struggles for the recognition of the right of the minority ensued.**

**Reasons for protecting minority interest**

1. **To avoid war**
2. **To promote the stability of the country**
3. **To enhance mutual relation and trust among the otherwise diverse society**
4. **To ensure rapid socio-economic development**
5. **To promote the promote equal treatment and enhance democratic principles in a country**
6. **To ensure equal distribution of national resources**

**Ways of protecting/safeguarding minority interest**

1. **Creation of state**
2. **Establishment of federal character commission**
3. **Legislation**
4. **Equal treatment**
5. **Equal distribution of national resources**

**WEEK 5**

The major pillars of democracy

Pillars of democracy are the human and non-human factors that contribute to the smooth running of democratic processes in a given democratic system.

**Constitution**

The constitution is the fundamental laws, rules, regulations and other related elements according to which democratic state are expected to be governed. It can also be defined as a book or document that contains the rules and principles by which a state is governed. It is a body of fundamental principles or established precedents according to which a state or other organization is acknowledged to be governed. 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**

The main sources of Nigerian Constitution include the following:

1. History of the people
2. Decrees
3. Convention
4. The custom of the people
5. Acts of parliament

**Constitution as a major pillar of democracy**

Constitutions can be regarded as a pillar of democracy because of the following functions its performs in a country

1. It sets the limit of power of the use of powers of Government
2. It protects the right of the minority
3. The constitution defines the right and power of Government
4. It helps to share power among the arms of Government
5. It also spelt out political institution, party system, tenure of office of Government, etc.
6. The constitution protects the right of the minority
7. It reflects the sovereign will of the people.
8. Lays down of the aims, objectives, values and goals which the people want to secure.
9. It contains a description and guarantee of the fundamental rights of the people.
10. It gives a detailed account of the organization of the government. The organization, powers and functions of its three organs of the and their interrelationship.
11. In a federation, the Constitution lays down the division of powers between the central government and the governments of the federating states/provinces. It is binding upon both the centre and the state governments.
12. It specifies the power and method of amendment of the Constitution.
13. The constitution governs all and no one can violate its rules.
14. It lays down the election system
15. It provides for the independence of judiciary and rule of law.

**WEEK 6**

Freedom: A pillar of democracy

**Freedom**

Freedom is the right of being free. Freedom is the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint, and the absence of a despotic government.

**Reasons for freedom**

1. To be free and prevent dependency
2. To ensure easy decision making
3. To prevent the authoritarian government
4. To ensure rapid and effective development
5. To promote a healthy society

**WEEK 7**

Mid Term Break

**WEEK 8**

State government & Local government

**Meaning of the state government and local government**

* **State government:**

A state government is the government of a country subdivision in a federal form of government, which shares political power with the federal or national government. A state government is a unit of government that specifically makes and enforces laws for a state. A state government may have some level of political autonomy, or be subject to the direct control of the federal government.

**Functions of state government as a pillar of democracy**

1. Foreign Relations – Diplomacy and Defense
2. Incubate special research, business and development, such as small businesses, space research, job training, unemployment insurance and more.
3. Protect and regulate the sustainable use of natural resources.
4. Enforce and regulate fair and responsible business practices. Included in this is monitoring monetary policy, giving consumer protection and regulating banking practices.
5. Determine and enforce civil laws of property and conduct. This includes the freedoms of the press, religion and rights of property.
6. Provide public goods and services for the well-being of the community as a whole, such as infrastructure, vaccination programs, disaster relief, fireworks shows, public parks, basic healthcare, subsidized housing, public education and public utilities.
* **Local government:**

Local government is a government at the grassroots. It is also the third tiers of government.

**Functions of the local government as a pillar of democracy**

1. Local governments set the overall direction for their local area through long-term planning.
2. Local government is responsible for managing and delivering a range of quality services to their communities, such as public health and recreational facilities, local road maintenance, and public libraries.
3. Local governments legislate and make decisions in areas over which they have legislative authority.
4. The laws made by local governments are called local laws and cover issues such as the activities permitted on public land, animal management, and use of infrastructure.
5. Local governments are also responsible for enforcing local laws and other legislation over which they have authority.
6. They develop and implement policies
7. The councils often represent their local community on matters of concern to those constituents.
8. They perform advocacy on behalf of their constituencies to state and federal levels of government, statutory authorities and other sectors.

**Problems of the three tiers of government**

1. Corruption
2. Nepotism and favouritism
3. Poor financing
4. Mismanagement of resources
5. Poor planning, monitoring and supervision
6. Ethno-religion crisis
7. Ghost worker syndromes

**The relevance of power-sharing among the three arms/organs of government**

1. People’s rights as citizens of a place are secured.
2. The stability of government is guaranteed.
3. It promotes adherence to the rule of law
4. It promotes focus on national interests/objectives.
5. It promotes active participation in governance/politics.
6. It promotes healthy rivalry among all tiers/levels of government.
7. It promotes rapid socio-economic and political development.
8. It ensures peace and harmony in society.
9. It encourages different units of government to develop at its own pace.
10. It guarantees greater employment opportunities for citizens.
11. It brings government programmes and activities closer to the people.
12. It promotes efficiency in governance.
13. It promotes peace and harmony among the tiers of government.
14. It promotes cooperation among the tiers of government.
15. It prevents the concentration of power in one tier of government/dictatorship.
16. It promotes efficient or proper budgeting/allocation of resources.

**WEEK 9**

Arms of government

The arm of government refers to the division of governmental powers into three organs in a modern political system. The constitution of most countries has defined the functions of them. The three arms or organs or structure of government are the executive, the legislature and the judiciary.

* **The Executive:**

The executive arm of government is the organ responsible for policymaking and implementation of policies and laws that are made in the country. The executive arm deals with administration and that is where we can find personalities such as the president, Governors of states, Ministers, the Civil servants, the armed forces, the police, and so on. The executive is the highest and the most visible arm of government.

**Functions of the executive**

1. The executive arm is responsible for the formulation of policies which guide the day-by-day running of government.
2. The executive is responsible for the implementation of the policies and laws made by the legislative arm. For example, the police, the military and other law enforcement agencies perform this function.
3. The executive arm of government maintains law and order. The Chief executive officer of a state is the Chief security officer of the state.
4. The executive generates funds and allocates it. In other words, it is the executive through the ministry of finance that prepares the budget and implements when it is approved.
5. The executive manages all the activities of the government. It appoints various government functionaries such as the ministers, ambassadors, heads of service, permanent secretaries, etc.
6. It maintains external relations with other countries.
* **The legislature:**

The legislative arm of government is the organ responsible for law-making. It is also in charge of policies, programmes and ideas concerning important decisions.

The legislature is often referred to as the parliament, assembly, congress, and so on.

**Functions of legislature**

1. The primary function of the legislature is to make laws for the country or state.
2. The legislature performs oversight function on the executive. This function is in the form of fact-finding to ensure strict compliance with the rules or law formulated.
3. The legislature must ensure that all appointees of the executives are screened.
4. One of the functions of the legislature is to amend any clause in the constitution that public calls for.
5. The legislature subjects the appropriation bills of the executive to thorough scrutiny before it is passed into law to become budget.
6. They have the power to set up panels to investigate the activities of any departments of the government.
7. They are empowered to impeach the President.
* **The judiciary:**

The judiciary is the structure of government that interprets the laws. It acts as a check and balance to the other two arms of government. This arm of government is made up of the different courts, such as the Supreme Court, Appeal Court, High Court, Magistrate Court, Customary Court, Administrative Courts and tribunals.

**Functions of the judiciary**

1. The most important function of the judiciary is to interpret laws in terms of giving judgement.
2. The judiciary protects the rights of the people. This is why it is referred to as the last hope of the common man.
3. By interpreting the law, the judiciary gives necessary punishment to the deserved offenders.
4. The judiciary enforces the law by commanding the police to enforce their judgments.
5. It settles disputes among individuals, corporate organisations, communities and governments.
6. The judiciary performs administrative functions such as swearing-in of heads of government such as the president and the governor.

**WEEK 10**

Other strong institutions

**Armed forces**

Armed forces are constitutionally established bodies empowered to protect or defend the territorial integrity of a democratic state against internal insurrection and external aggression. In other words, the armed forces are institutions established by the state for the primary purpose of national defence against external threats and internal conflicts. The armed forces consist of the Army, Air-force and Navy.

**Their roles in the democratic process**

The following are some roles of Arms Forces in the democratic process.

* They defend the country and participate in the collective defence of the Alliance
* Provision of humanitarian aid
* They perform search and rescue missions
* Armed forces provide internal security and stability.
* They participate in maintaining public order, with and without arms.
* They assist law enforcement, such as public order operations, border control, drug control, crime investigation, cyber operations, intelligence gathering.
* Development mandate, for example, infrastructure and engineering projects, harvest assistance and educational programmes, among others.
* They engage in civil defence, including responding to national emergencies and natural disasters;
* They also performed non-security assistance tasks, such as search and rescue, training and monitoring, equipment and facility provision, scientific research, environmental protection.

**Trade union**

Trade Union is an organization whose membership consists of workers and union leaders, united to protect and promote their common interests. I

**Their roles in the democratic process**

The following are some roles of Trade Unions in the democratic process.

1. They negotiate wages and working condition terms,
2. They regulate relations between workers (its members) and the employers,
3. They take collective action to enforce the terms of collective bargaining.,
4. They raise new demands on behalf of its members, and
5. They help settle their grievances. A trade union may be: (a) A company union that represents interests of only one company and may not have any connection with other unions.

**Civil societies as a pillar of democracy**

Civil societies are private nonprofit organizations formed to promote collectively shared values, interests and objectives that are capable of enhancing the general welfare and development of a democratic state. It can be seen as a group of people who come together for a common course and to provide an alternative to pressure groups in society.

Civil societies are also a body of people or persons joined together for the purpose of influencing government policies or legislation that are not in the interest of the people. It is a voluntary organization or group of people with common interest, purpose and values which it pursues and protects through peaceful and legal means.

Civil society is the aggregate of non-governmental organizations and institutions that manifest interests and will of citizens. Civil society includes the family and the private sphere, referred to as the third sector of society.

**Their roles in the democratic process**

Civil societies in Nigeria perform the following functions in the democratic process.

1. They serve as a watchdog for political office holders from abusing and misusing their trust.
2. Civil societies also force political office holders to be accountable.
3. They render free professional services such as legal, medical and financial assistance to fight oppression and tyranny.
4. They stage protest against unpopular government policies, programmes and actions which may threaten the survival of the polity.
5. They sponsor a public protest against the unpopular government and are mostly the master minders of revolutionary changes.
6. They limit the power of the state more generally, including challenging the abuses of authority;
7. They defend the fundamental human rights of citizens and strengthening the rule of law.
8. The groups sometimes sponsor bills in the legislative house.
9. They promote democracy through the monitoring of elections and enhance the overall quality and credibility of the democratic process.
10. They educate citizens about their rights and responsibilities;
11. They build a culture of tolerance and civic involvement;
12. They incorporate marginal groups into the political process and enhancing the latter’s responsiveness to societal interest and need;
13. They provide alternative means, outside the state, for communities to raise their level of material development
14. They inform and enlighten the people on important national issues.
15. Develop and promotes societal values such as hard work, tolerance, honesty, etc.
16. They work to eradicate poverty and illiteracy in rural communities.
17. The diverse membership of civil society creates unity in a multi socio-cultural country like Nigeria.
18. They build a constituency for economic as well as political reform

**Economic and Financial Crimes Commission**

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) is a Nigerian law enforcement agency that investigates financial crimes such as advance fee fraud (419 fraud) and money laundering.

**Roles of the EFCC in the democratic process**

The following are some roles of EFCC in the democratic process.

1. The agency provides financial security in Nigeria
2. It provides a level playing field in the economy for all stakeholders
3. It Investigates and prosecutes financial Crimes as set out in section 47 of the enabling act to deal with crimes such as bank frauds, tax evasion, capital market fraud, futures market fraud, etc.
4. EFCC is the national coordinator for anti-money laundering.

**Nigeria Immigration Service**

Nigeria Immigration Service is responsible for making millions of decisions every year about who has the right to visit or stay in the country, with a firm emphasis on national security and a culture of customer satisfaction for people who come here legally.

**Roles in the democratic process**

The following are some roles of NIS in the democratic process.

1. They control of persons entering or leaving Nigeria
2. It issue of travel documents, including Nigerian passports, to bonafide Nigerians within and outside Nigeria
3. It issue of residence permits to foreigners in Nigeria
4. It engages in border surveillance and patrol
5. Ensure enforcement of laws and regulations with which they are directly charged; and
6. It performs such para-military duties within or outside Nigeria as may be required of them under the authority of this Act or any other enactment

**State Security Service**

The State Security Service (SSS) is the primary domestic intelligence agency of Nigeria. It is responsible for intelligence gathering within the country and for the protection of senior government officials, particularly the President and state governors. It is also called the Department of State Services (DSS).

**Roles in the Democratic Process**

The following are some roles of SSS in the democratic process.

1. They protect and defend the Federal Republic of Nigeria against domestic threats,
2. They uphold and enforce the criminal laws of Nigeria, and to provide leadership and criminal justice services to both federal and state law-enforcement organs.
3. SSS is charged with the protection of the President, Vice President, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, State Governors, their immediate families, other high ranking government officials, past presidents and their spouses, certain candidates for the offices of President and Vice President, and visiting foreign heads of state and government.
4. They prevent security threats in Nigeria including counter-terrorism and counter-insurgent
5. They gathered intelligent
6. They maintain and promote peaceful co-existence in Nigeria

**The Nigeria Police**

The Nigerian Police (NP) formerly The Nigeria Police Force is the principal law enforcement agency in Nigeria.

**Roles on democratic Process**

The following are some roles of Police in the democratic process.

1. Prevention of crime
2. Protection of lives and properties
3. Enforcing law
4. Maintenance of peace and public order.
5. Providing a wide range of services to the citizens.

**WEEK 11**

Definitions of citizens & alien

**Citizen and Alien**



Citizen is a native or naturalized member of a state or nation who owes allegiance to its government and is entitled to its protection. While an **alien** is a person who is not a national of a given country

**Differences between citizens and aliens**

1. A citizen is a permanent resident of a state, while an alien is a temporary resident, who comes for a specific duration of time as a tourist or on a diplomatic assignment.
2. Citizens enjoy political rights and participate in the functioning of government, i.e., exercise their right to vote, right to contest elections and right to hold public office. Aliens do not possess such rights in the state where they reside temporarily. They, however, enjoy certain civil rights, i.e., the rights to life, personal property and religion.