

(WEEK ONE)

DATE: 30TH MARCH – 3RD APRIL, 2020

CLASS: SS 2

SUBJECT: Government

FEDERALISM

Federalism is defined as the system of government in which the governmental powers are shared or divided between the central government and the coordinate/subordinate units or regions like the state/regional and local government or authorities. Nigeria, USA, Germany, etc practice federal system of government.

The powers between the central government and the regions are shared by the constitution as follows:

- a. **The exclusive legislative functions** are given to the central government, which has the power to handle all issues that concerns currency, defense, customs, immigration, external/foreign affairs, etc.
- b. **The concurrent legislative functions** are given to both the central (federal) and state/regional government. They handle issue that concern agriculture, higher education, roads, transport, industrial development, insurance, research, etc.
- c. **The residual legislative functions** are given to the local governments and they handle issues that pertain to primary healthcare and maternity, chieftaincy matters, library, markets, motor parks, etc.

Factors Responsible for Federalism In Nigeria

- 1) Cultural diversity: Nigeria comprises of diverse cultural and ethnic groups, we have over 250 ethnic groups in Nigeria and this makes the operation of a federal system possible
- 2) British colonial policy: In order for Britain to rule Nigeria properly they divided the territory into regions and ruled them separately.
- 3) Size of the country: Nigeria has a large population and territory which make federalism the best option

- 4) Availability of human and natural resources: Nigeria has enough human and natural resources to run a federal system
- 5) Geographic factor: The nearness of one geographic area to the other makes it easier for the adoption of a federal system
- 6) For effective administration: In federalism there is duplication of office functions and this brings about effectiveness in administration
- 7) Federalism brings government closer to the grassroots because people get involved in government

Features of the Nigerian Federalism

1. The constitution adopted is written and rigid
2. The powers of the three tiers of government is derived from the constitution
3. The constitutional powers are separated between the executive the legislature and the judiciary
4. The supreme court had the power of judicial review and interpretation of cases
5. The regions were created in an unequal basis
6. There was duplication of functions in every department
7. The constitution was supreme
8. There was bi-cameral legislature e.g. houses of representatives and the senate

PROBLEMS OF NIGERIA FEDERALISM

1. Problem of powers sharing between the federal and states
2. Problem of revenue allocation
3. The fear of domination of one group over the others
4. Corruption, favoritism and nepotism
5. Boundary disputes

6. Problem of census figures
7. Problem of creation states and issues of minority groups
8. The problem of federal character
9. Fear and threat of secession
10. Ethnic based political parties
11. Problem of resource control
12. It breeds sectional consciousness
13. Unnecessary duplication of organs of government

ADVANTAGES OF NIGERIAN FEDERALISM

1. Political unity irrespective of ethnic diversity
2. Social and economic development
3. Recognition of the cultural diversity of Nigerian people
4. It reduces strains and conflicts among the various section of the country
5. Development at each state of the federation
6. Easy governance and administration
7. Inter-dependence and sharing of resources

DISADVANTAGES OF NIGERIAN FEDERALISM

1. The system of federalism is too expensive to operate/run.
2. Inter-state frictions
3. Disparity in development
4. Decisions are not easily taken
5. Problem of secession

6. Promotion of ethnic interests
7. Problems of revenue allocation
8. Problem of power sharing and superiority

ASSIGNMENT: Trace the constitutional evolution of the federalism in Nigeria up to 1954.
(WAEC SSCE JUNE 1996)

(WEEK TWO)

DATE: 6th – 10th April, 2020

CLASS: SS II

SUBJECT: Government

NIGERIAN NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NNDP)

NNDP was the first political party in Nigeria formed on 24 June, 1923 under the leadership of Sir Herbert Macaulay, who is popularly referred to as the 'Father of Nigerian nationalism'. It founded Lagos Daily News in 1925, a newspaper which helped to encourage political participation and aided its campaign. NNDP was formed as a result of the increasing opposition to colonial policies and the introduction of elective principle by the Clifford Constitution in 1922.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF NNDP

1. To obtain independent for Nigeria within the British Empire
2. To have a municipal status and self-government for Lagos
3. To provide facilities for higher education in Nigeria
4. To Africanize the civil service
5. To encourage indigenous entrepreneurs.
6. To cooperate and support the programmes of National Congress of British West Africa (NCBWA)
7. To contest for the Lagos seats on the legislative council

CONTRIBUTIONS OF NNDP

1. It won all the three seats in Lagos into legislative Council in the elections of 1923, 1928 and 1933.
2. It also won the elections into the Lagos Town Council when the elective principle was introduced by Clifford.
3. It founded the Lagos Daily News. A newspaper which helped to encourage political activities in Lagos.
4. It enlightened the masses about colonial policies which promoted nationalism
5. It dominated the political scene of the country until 1938 when it lost to NYM
6. As a pacesetter, it awakened political awareness and encouraged the emergence of other political parties
7. It helped in reinstating the Eleko of Eko who was deposed and deported by the British colonial government

FAILURE OF NNDP

1. NNDP was mainly Lagos based.
2. It had no national outlook

NIGERIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT (NYM)

NYM was formed in 1935 when Lagos Youth Movement changed its name to Nigerian Youth Movement. It was formed by a group of young Nigerians, mainly students and graduates of the then Nigerian premier institution, King's College, Lagos. NYM was led by Dr. J.C. Vaughan. Other founding fathers were Ernest Okoli and Samuel Akinsanya. It gave NNDP a serious challenge and it became the first authentic Nigerian nationalist organization to be formed.

OBJECTIVES OF NYM

1. Promotion of Nigerian unity and national consciousness
2. Achievement of complete autonomy within the British Empire.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF NYM

1. It won all the three legislative seats allocated to Lagos
2. It worked to promote national unity
3. It was the first political party with a national outlook in terms of membership
4. This movement brought about modern nationalism to Nigeria

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NIGERIA AND CAMEROUN (NCNC)

NCNC was formed in 1944 and later renamed National Convention of Nigerian Citizens in 1960 when Cameroun broke away from Nigeria. It was led by Herbert Macaulay and later by Nnamdi Azikiwe after the death of Macaulay in 1946.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF NCNC

1. To achieve self-government for Nigeria.
2. To spread political education to the people
3. To arouse political consciousness of the masses
4. To unite the people against a common foe colonialism
5. To advance the interest of the people of Nigeria and the Cameroun under the British Mandate

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NCNC

1. It united the Nigerian nationalists.
2. It lent its political muscle behind the general strike of 1945
3. It participated in all the constitutional conferences
4. It formed the first regional government of Eastern Region
5. It educated the people on their political rights
6. It worked in agreement with NPC to create the Mid-Western region
7. It sent delegates to London against 1946 Constitution

NORTHERN PEOPLE'S CONGRESS (NPC)

NPC was formed in 1951. It was transformed from the Northern Cultural Organization named, Jamiyyar Mutanen Arewa formed in 1948 by Dr R.A.B Dikko and D.A.Rafih. NPC came as a reaction against the alleged threats of dominance of the Northern part by the politicians from the Southern part. NPC motto was: 'One North, One people irrespective of religion, rank or tribe'. The party was dominated by the Hausa/Fulani and Islam was the main focus. The leader was Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Sarkin Sokoto (a spiritual and traditional leader) with Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa as deputy. It produced the first Prime Minister of Nigeria.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF NPC

1. To foster the autonomy of the North
2. It worked towards the developing the North both politically and economically.
3. To create an atmosphere for common understanding among the people of the North
4. TO help in educating the Northerners on their political rights

ACHIEVEMENTS/CONTRIBUTIONS OF NPC

1. It controlled and ruled northern Nigeria for a number of years
2. It produced the first prime minister of Nigeria and ruled throughout the First Republic
3. It created an atmosphere for common understanding among the people of the

north

4. It was involved in most constitutional conference both within and outside Nigeria.
5. It helped to educate the people on their political rights and it increased the political awareness of the people.

ACTION GROUP (AG)

AG was formed in 1951 through the conversion of the EgbeOmoOduduwa-a Yoruba cultural organization founded in 1945 in London by some Yoruba students studying there. ObafemiAwolowo was the founder and the leader of Action Group. It dominated the Western region political scene for eleven years. Other political figures in this party were S.L AkintolaMaja, Pa Alfred Rewane, Bode Thomas, Chief Shonibare as well as other Yoruba traditional rulers and chiefs.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF ACTION GROUP

1. To contest and win elections and control Western region
2. To challenge the political dominance of NCNC
3. To unite the various clans and tribes in Yoruba-land and foster the idea of a single nationalism
4. To foster qualitative education and mass literacy
5. To cooperate and work with other nationalists in the Western region
6. To cooperate and strengthen all tribal organizations in Western region
7. It advocated for a federal form of government

CONTRIBUTIONS OF ACTION GROUP

1. It won several seats into the Federal House of Representatives and Senate
2. It dominated Western Nigeria's political scene for about 11 years.
3. It formed the opposition party in federal parliament before and during the first Republic
4. It joined the NCNC and NPC in the struggle for Nigerian independence.

5. Universal Free Primary Education (UPE): AG advocated for free education and successfully introduced the UPE in Western Nigeria
6. It was involved in most of the constitutional conferences e.g 1953 London conference
7. The motion for self-government was moved by Action Group member, Chief Anthony Enahoro.

OTHER MINOR POLITICAL PARTIES

1. Northern Element Progressive Union (NEPU)

ASSIGNMENT:

1. State 6 problems of the pre-independence political parties in Nigeria.
2. State all the pre-independence Minor political parties and their founders.
3. Explain the coalition/Alliance system of the First Republic.