

SUBJECT: GOVIC

CLASS: SS2

WEEK: 4

TERM: FIRST

CAPITALIST DEMOCRACY

Capitalism is a political and economy system of government whereby individuals or private organization owns or control means of production, capital and exchange. It is a system whereby the market forces- demand and supply control prices of goods and services.

Democracy can be defined, according to Abraham Lincoln, as the government of the people, for the people and by the people. It is a system by which people freely elect their leaders and representatives.

Therefore, capitalist democracy could be seen as a system whereby the state does not control or manage the economy, it allows individuals or groups to manage and control the economy. Examples of states that practiced this system are Nigeria, Senegal, Cote d'ivoire, Britain, France, etc. It could also be defined as the system by which people elect officials who can manage and control the resources of the country for the good of all the citizens.

FEATURES OF CAPITALIST DEMOCRACY

1. **Respect for the Rule of law:** This implies that those who govern must do so according to the laws of the land. They should not rule according to their desire.
2. **Constitutional Government:** The government operates with the use of the constitution.
3. **Periodic Elections:** Elections are expected to be held periodically and should be free and fair.

4. Popular consultation: Officials of government should not make policies out of their own selfish interest without seeking the opinions of the citizens.
5. Respect for fundamental Human Rights: there is recognition for the civil rights such as freedom of speech, press, Association, etc.

HOW POLITICAL PARTIES COMPETE FOR POWER

1. Campaign: It could be meeting with groups one on one or through the media, i.e. television, radio or newspaper advertisement. They use this as an opportunity to win the heart of the electorates.
2. Manifesto: It is a written document containing the programs, beliefs and ideology of a political party.
3. Rallies: This refers to a large public meeting, especially on open outdoors, to support a political ideal.
4. Logo: Each political party has a logo by which it identifies.
5. Slogan: This is a catch-phrase to express the aim of the party or what it stands for.
6. Use of souvenirs: In order to endear the party to the electorates, political parties make use of branded items i.e. the parties print their logo on items such as ball pens, shirts, face-caps and so on.

ASSIGNMENT

Why do many countries prefer Capitalist Democracy to Socialism ?