

PROCESS OF DEMOCRACY

To attain true democracy in our State (Country), there are processes that we must follow. These processes include the following:

i. Introduction of constitution and electoral laws: Any democracy that must survive must have a constitution. A country that will practice democracy must have a constitution that will establish electoral acts or laws that will guide the electoral process(es) in such state.

ii. There must be an electoral commission: This is the body that enforces the electoral acts/laws and influence the people to play the game of politics in accordance to electoral acts. In Nigeria, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) is responsible for the above responsibility and conducting an credible election.

iii. Delimitation of constituency and registering of voters: The nation is divided into constituencies through which the electorates can exercise their civic and political rights

iv. Establishment of political parties: The presence of political parties is an indication that democratic process has started in a state. People are allowed to form political parties of their choice through which they can contest and compete for power.

v. Peaceful political rallies: Political parties in a democratic system carryout rallies and campaign in order to sell their manifestoes to the public to present their candidates and win the heart of people to the party.

vi. Periodic election: Election is very keen to democratic system of government. It should be stipulated in the constitution and be free, fair and void of violence. Electorates (voters) are allowed in this stage to exercise their franchise (right to vote) and exercise their sovereign power in determining who leads them for another period as stipulated by the constitution which may be four (4) or five (5) years as the case may be.

vii. Inauguration of government: The winner of the election after the results

may have been announced is expected to be sworn in to assume leadership and form a government. The elected executive will afterward inaugurate the legislature and his/her cabinet members (ministers) that will work with him.

viii. Delivery of democracy: Government in democracy is to be responsive to the electorate by assuring that all their campaign promises were fulfilled since the responsibility of the government is to serve.

ix. Enlightenment: The electorates are to be enlightened regularly in order to ensure the safety of democracy.

x. Qualification: Candidate that must contest for any leadership position in Nigeria like presidency must at least acquire a minimum of secondary school certificate (SSCE).

xi. Independent Judiciary: Judiciary should be allowed to operate in the area of their jurisdiction and capabilities without any form of interference either from the executive or the legislature in the affair of the judiciary.