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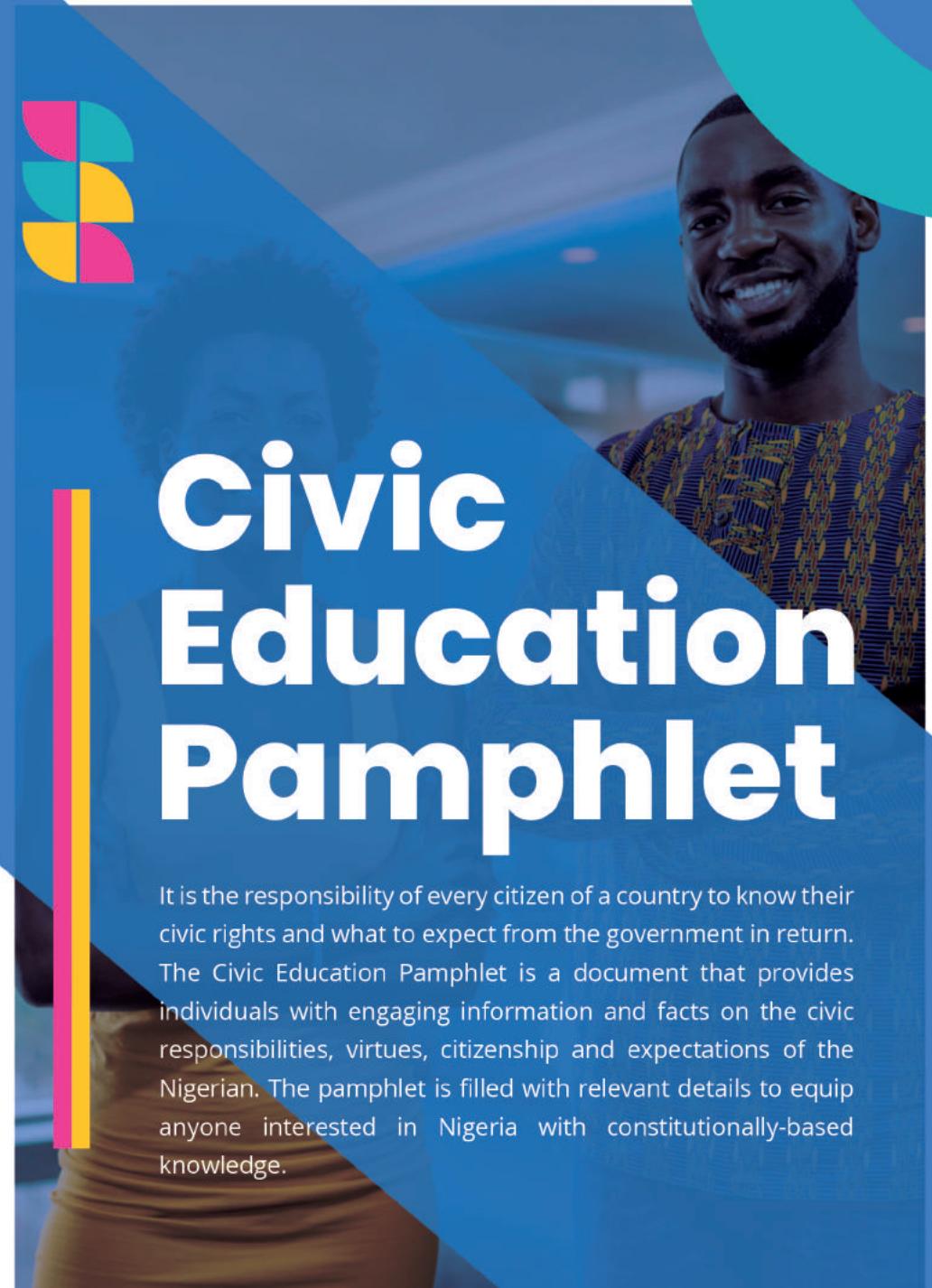
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Civic Education Pamphlet

It is the responsibility of every citizen of a country to know their civic rights and what to expect from the government in return. The Civic Education Pamphlet is a document that provides individuals with engaging information and facts on the civic responsibilities, virtues, citizenship and expectations of the Nigerian. The pamphlet is filled with relevant details to equip anyone interested in Nigeria with constitutionally-based knowledge.

This pamphlet contains relevant information on Election, Democracy, Citizenship and the Nigerian Symbol. It will be updated with more information from time to time.



How can one become a citizen of Nigeria?



By birth

Birth within the territory of Nigeria does not automatically confer citizenship. **BY DESCENT:** Child, at least one of whose parents is a citizen of Nigeria, regardless of the child's country of birth.



By naturalisation

Nigerian citizenship may be acquired upon fulfillment of the following conditions:

- Person is of full age (18)
- Individual has resided in Nigeria for at least 15 years,
- Individual is of good character, plans to remain in Nigeria, is familiar with Nigerian language and customs
- Individual has a viable means of support, and has renounced previous citizenship.



By registration

The following persons are eligible to become citizens through registration: A foreign woman who marries a citizen of Nigeria. Person who is of adult age (17), born outside Nigeria, any of whose grandparents is or was a citizen of Nigeria. A foreign child adopted by Nigerian parents.



Citizenship

Citizenship is based upon the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, dated 1989. Those born before or on the date of independence, October 1, 1960, whose parents or grandparents were born in Nigeria and who were legally residing in Nigeria at the time, are considered citizens of Nigeria.

Nigerian nationality law allows dual nationality of people of Nigerian descent either through birth or parentage. They are also allowed to hold public office in Nigeria



What is the obligation of a Citizen?

The Constitution of Nigeria contains a very clear list of duties for the citizens of its country. Here is the direct text taken from the Nigerian constitution:

"It shall be the duty of every citizen to:

abide by this Constitution, respect its ideals and its institutions, the National Flag, the National Anthem, the National Pledge, and legitimate authorities;

render assistance to appropriate and lawful agencies in the maintenance of law and order;

declare his income honestly to appropriate and lawful agencies and pay his tax promptly.

help to enhance the power, prestige and good name of Nigeria, defend Nigeria and render such national service as may be required;

respect the dignity of other citizens and the rights and legitimate interests of others and live in unity and harmony and in the spirit of common brotherhood;

make a positive and useful contribution to the advancement, progress, and well-being of the community where he resides;





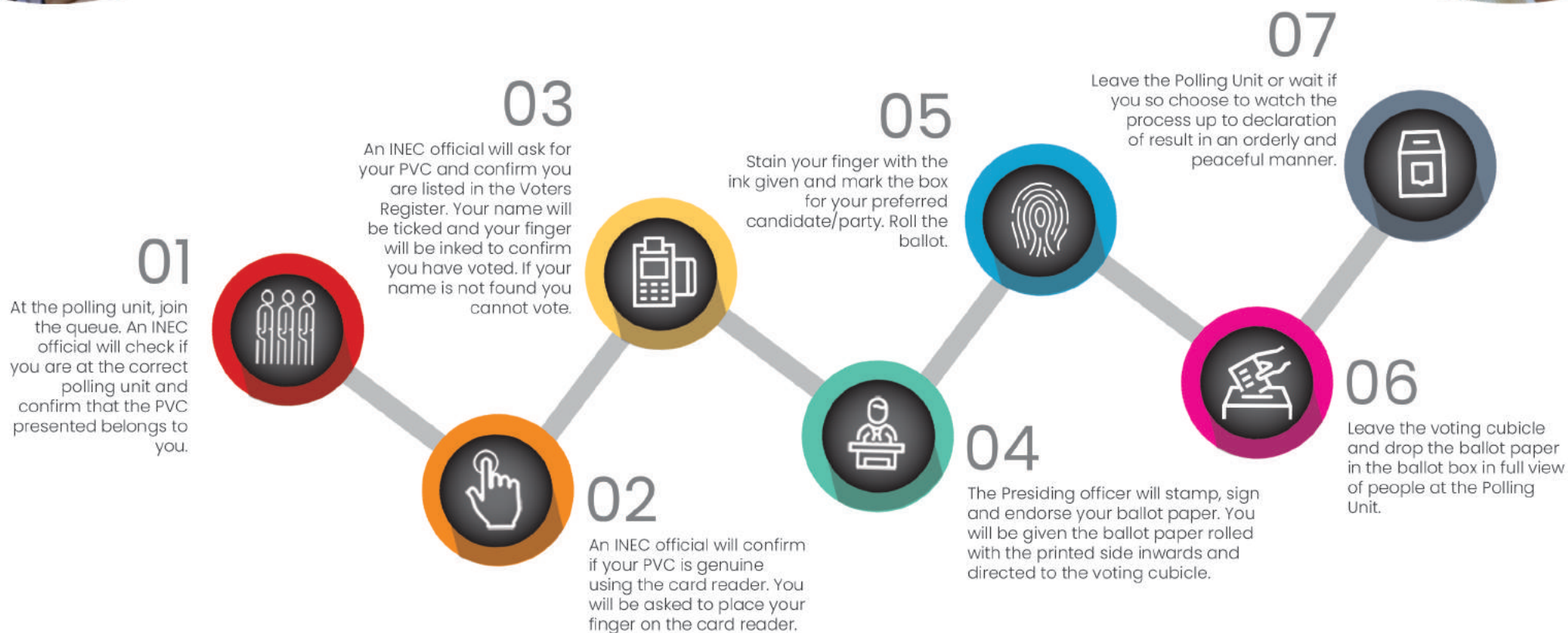
It's your Civic Duty to get out there and Vote

How to Vote in Nigeria

On each Election Day, polling stations will open for Accreditation and Voting from 8:00 am to 2.00 pm. However, voters on the queue before the close of the poll at 2:00pm will be accredited and allowed to vote.



Voting Procedure:
Voting at the polling unit will be as follows:





What are your Rights and Responsibilities as a Voter During General Elections?

Right to recall an elected representative

A voter has a right to participate in the process of recall of an elected legislator. To recall means to summon back and withdraw the mandate given to an elected legislator through an election. The affected constituency's registered voters can recall a candidate once elected to the Senate, House of Representatives or House of Assembly.



What are your Rights and Responsibilities as a Voter During General Elections?

Right to register

It is the right of every qualified citizen to register to vote during the general elections. This right is guaranteed by the constitution and cannot be denied any potential qualified citizen.



Right to secrecy (privacy) when voting

Voters have the right to mark their ballot papers (make their choices) in secret. The voting exercise in an election situation in most developing countries especially in Africa, South of the Sahara, is sometimes fraught with dangers and bitter conflicts. In order to avert assault and open attacks, polling booths often provide privacy and security for voters.



Right to vote and be voted for when registered

Every person who has satisfied the requirements laid down by the law is eligible to vote and be voted for. However, a voter will only be able to exercise that right if he/she has a valid voter's card, his/her name is on the Register of Voters and he/she turns up at the polling unit between 8:00am to 2:00pm on Election Day.

To be voted for, a person has to put himself forward as a candidate for an elective office. This can only be done through the sponsorship of a political party.



Right to attend Rallies and Campaigns of political Parties and Candidates

A voter has the right to attend the campaigns of Political Parties and Campaigns during the build-up to general elections in order to receive information about the programmes they intend to implement if voted into office. This will enable the voter decide on which candidate to vote for.





Your Rights As a Voter



Right to Information About Election

The following persons are eligible to become citizens through registration: A foreign woman who marries a citizen of Nigeria. Person who is of adult age (17), born outside Nigeria, any of whose grandparents is or was a citizen of Nigeria. A foreign child adopted by Nigerian parents.



Voter Responsibilities

Ideally, there are no rights without responsibilities. Responsibilities are those duties and activities that the citizens of a state are expected to be involved in to demonstrate their love, commitment, loyalty, patriotism, and selflessness. Within the electoral process, such responsibilities are as follows:

I. Responsibility to register:

It is the duty of every eligible citizen to register and ensure that his or her name is correctly listed on the register of voters in the area where he or she intends to cast his/her vote.

This can be achieved by cross checking the Preliminary Register of Voters during display for claims and objections for any irregularity on the registrant's details and acting accordingly.

II. Responsibility to vote:

This is perhaps a voter's most important responsibility. On Election Day, each voter is expected to take his/her permanent voter's card and proceed to the polling unit in his/her neighborhood where his/her name is listed on the voter's register.

III. Responsibility to conduct oneself in an orderly manner:

For a free and fair election to take place, it is important that voters comply with all laws and regulations governing the electoral process so as to ensure peace and orderliness. Hence, it is the responsibility of the voter to conduct him/herself in an orderly manner before, during and after election and encourage others to act in similar fashion.

Towards this end, the voter is supposed to wait for his turn on the queue, obey the directives of electoral officials, cast his/her vote peacefully. After casting the vote, the voter should leave the polling zone to avoid unnecessary clustering which may result in conflict.



Voter Responsibilities

Grievances, if any, should be channeled through the appropriate quarters, using the legal machinery put in place, rather than resorting to illegal actions.

IV. Responsibility to keep Permanent Voter Card safe:

The Permanent Voter's Card which is issued to every voter qualifies him/her to vote in an election. This card must be kept safe. It is not transferable. It must not be sold, given to another person or damaged.

To prevent the PVC from damage or loss, the voter must:

- Keep it safe and only come out with it on Election Day to cast his/her vote;
- Not sit on it as this can lead to the destruction of its antenna. A broken antenna makes the PVC unusable
- Keep it away from direct sunlight, heat, water or wet surface
- Not bend it.

V. Responsibility to enlighten others about the benefits of participation

Voters should encourage others about the benefits of registering and voting during elections. This will help reduce apathy and ensure that a good number of voters participate in electing candidates into various elective positions.

Guide for Transfer of Registered Voters

Eligibility for Transfer: A person who has relocated to another place, outside the unit in which he/she registered cannot vote in his/her new location unless he/she transfers his/her registration.

Procedure for Transfer:

Step 1:

The person who intends to transfer his/her registration will apply to INEC's Resident Electoral Commissioner of the state where he/she is currently residing through his/her Electoral Officer (EO).

Note: *The application should contain the current address and phone number of the applicant as these will assist in allocating the polling unit nearest to him/her as well as for contact purposes respectively.*

Step 2:

The applicant shall attach a photocopy of his/her Permanent Voter's Card (PVC) to the application and submit at the nearest registration centre nearest to him/her.

Note: *The applicant must apply to the Resident Electoral Commissioner in good time, well before 60 days to the election. No transfer can be entertained or granted less than 60 days to the election.*

Step 3:

If satisfied that the applicant is currently resident in the area, the Resident Electoral Commissioner shall approve the application and direct that the applicant's details be transferred to his/her new location.

Note: *The Commission may require evidence such as Utility Bill for confirmation of your residency.*





Guide for Transfer of Registered Voters

Step 4:

The applicant will be assigned to the nearest polling unit to his/her new residences.

Note: The applicant's registration and particulars will then be deleted from the register of voters in the previous location.

Step 5:

The applicant would be issued with a new Permanent Voter's Card at the registration centre where he/she submitted his/her application or at any other designated centre by the Commission and the previous one will be retrieved.

Note: When the PVCs are ready, the Commission will make a public announcement to that effect for collection. The applicant should pick up the new PVC in person as collection by proxy is not allowed.

Check [here](#) for Electoral Offences and Penalties.

On each Election Day, polling stations will open for Accreditation and Voting from 8:00am to 2.00pm. However, voters on the queue before the close of poll at 2:00pm will be accredited and allowed to vote.

NOTE: No person will be allowed to vote at a polling unit other than the one where he/she registered and got accredited.



Why is the National Anthem important to Nigerians?

Answer:

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM REPRESENTS THE TRADITION, HISTORY AND BELIEFS OF A NATION AND ITS PEOPLE.

The Song of the Country The national anthem is a symbol that can move millions of hearts. The first anthem of Nigeria was written in 1960. Later the government of Nigeria decided to change it and announced a competition for the national anthem. The committee chose five winners and combined their entries into one. "Arise, O Compatriots" was composed in 1978. The music of Nigerian anthem was composed by Mr. Ben Odiase, the director of the Nigeria Band. It is the most important symbol of any country, as the anthem unites all Nigerians into one sovereign state. And that is its meaning and purpose.





Nigerian National Anthem:


ARISE, O
COMPATRIOTS,
NIGERIA'S CALL OBEY
TO SERVE OUR
FATHERLAND
 WITH *love* AND
strength AND *faith*
 THE LABOR OF OUR
HEROES PAST SHALL
NEVER BE IN VAIN
 TO SERVE WITH *heart*
 AND **MIGHT** ONE NATION
 BOUND IN FREEDOM,
peace AND *unity.*



What Are Nigerian Human Rights?

Answer:

HUMAN RIGHTS ARE
THE BASIC RIGHTS AND
FREEDOMS THAT
BELONG TO EVERY
PERSON IN THE
WORLD, FROM
BIRTH UNTIL
DEATH.

As a Nigeria, we must say the Human Right Pledge

Human Rights Pledge

I will respect your rights regardless of who you are. I will uphold your rights even when I disagree with you

When anyone's human rights are denied, everyone's rights are undermined, so I will STAND UP

I will raise my voice. I will take action. I will use my rights to stand up for your rights





What Are Nigerian Human Rights?

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Chapter IV of 1999 Nigeria constitution states the following fundamental human rights;



1. Every person has a right to life, and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his life, save in execution of a court's sentence in respect of a criminal offence of which he has been found guilty in Nigeria.
2. Every individual is entitled to respect for the dignity of his person
3. Every person shall be entitled to his personal liberty
4. A person shall be entitled to a fair hearing within a reasonable time by a court or other tribunal established by law
5. Every person shall be entitled to freedom of expression, including freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart ideas and information without interference.
6. Every person shall be entitled to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, including freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom
7. Every person shall be entitled to assemble freely and associate with other persons, and in particular he may form or belong to any political party, trade union or any other association for the protection of his interests
8. Every citizen of Nigeria is entitled to move freely throughout Nigeria and to reside in any part thereof, and no citizen of Nigeria shall be expelled from Nigeria or refused entry thereby or exit there from.
9. Every citizen of Nigeria shall have the right to acquire and own immovable property anywhere in Nigeria.



Q&A

What are the characteristics of a Federation?

A federation usually has the following features:

- Governmental powers are divided between the central and component government
- The country usually has a written constitution
- The constitution spells out the jurisdictions of the various tiers of government
- The country is usually a large one in terms of size
- The legislature or law making body is made up of two houses- the upper and the lower houses.



What are the benefits of Democracy?

Answer: There are so many benefits of democracy but here are few,

- (i) A democratic government is better because it is a more accountable form of government
- (ii) It improves the quality decisions making.

What are the importance of Democracy?

Answer: the importance of Democracy is that Democracy provides a method to deal with and conflicts



Democratic Institutions in Nigeria

Answer: The Democratic institution of Nigeria describes Democracy as a system of government with four key elements

- (i) Active through free and fair and fair elections
- (ii) active participation of the people etc

What are the pillars of Democracy?

Answer: Pillars of democracy are

- (i) Sovereignty of the people
- (ii) Government based upon consent of the governed
- (iii) Majority rule and
- (iv) Minority rule etc

