

**COMPREHENSIVE**  
**GST 103**  
**NIGERIAN PEOPLE**  
**AND CULTURE.**

## **GST 103**

- **Nigeria States.**
- **Nigeria before independence / Pre – colonial Nigeria.**
- **Nigeria after independence / post - independence Nigeria.**
- **People of Nigeria.**
- **Culture; Types.**
- **Identify and social culture.**
- **Indigene and settlers.**
- **Nigeria economic system; problems facing the economy & solutions.**
- **Social and environmental problems; characteristics.**
- **Norms and values; Behaviour, types of behaviour.**
- **Justice and types of justice.**
- **Self - reliance.**
- **Negative attitude; cultism.**
- **Moral obligations of citizens.**

### **Nigeria States.**

We have 186 million, 53 thousand, 385 people (186,053,386), 1,923,768 square meters, 910,768 square kilometre land, the rest are water bodies.

### **Landmark Climates.**

- **North – arid climate.**

- Centre area – tropical climate.
- South – equatorial climate.
- Averagely Nigeria is about 380m high above the sea level.  
Natural resources – crude oil, gold, coal, limestone, rubber etc.
- Land use – Agriculture .
- Natural hazards – flood.
- Languages – Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba are the major languages.  
There are over 250 minor languages.
- Nigeria is the third republic that started in 1999.
- Nigeria political system – Democracy .
- International organization – ECOWAS.
- Economy – we import electronics, automobiles, we export crude oil, palm oil, rice etc.

Nigeria before independence .

We had two states namely:

**Centralized states:** are categorized as empires / kingdoms with large number of people which have a strong military force and can fight and conquer. They include Oyo, Sokoto, Borono and they occupied a large area of land.

Oyo Empire.

- Occupation – farming.
- Government system – Monarchy.
- Geographical location – Oyo state.

Sokoto Caliphate.

- Geographical location – North.
- Occupation – farming maize, rice, millet.
- System of Government – Monarchy, king and subject.

**Non – centralized states:** are states that are not large, they don' t have military strength and don' t have a defined system of government. They are majorly in the east.

### **Reasons for colonial rule (Amalgamation).**

- To expand their marketing system.
- To provide raw materials for British industries.

The British came onto power in 1861. The first governor General Sir Henry Freeman. On January 4<sup>th</sup> 1900, there was amalgamation in three zones in Lagos. The second amalgamation was in 1906 in the south region. The last amalgamation occurred in 1914 in which the northern and southern dictectorate amalgamated.

In 1914, Nigeria came into existence. The first governor general that ruled Nigeria was Lord Lugard.

### **Modern Nigeria:**

First republic started October 1963 and ended 1966. In 1960, Nigeria was divided into three major regions; the Northern, Western and Eastern regions. After 1960, Nigeria became a republic then another region was created which is the Mid – Western region. The first president was Nnamdi Azikiwe. The first military intervention was in January 1966 by Aguiyi Ironsi.

Yakubu Gowon came into power in July 1966, he split the four regions into 12 states. In July 1975, Murtala came into power (1975 – 1976) during Murtala's regime there was another coup but it was not successful. Yakubu Gowon was the longest serving president.

Biafra war started on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1967 – January 15<sup>th</sup> 1970 officially. There was another coup by Obasanjo (February 1976 – October 1979). He leads an election and handed over power to who won the election. Shehu Shagari ruled from (October 1979 – December 1983) and that was the second republic. There was another military coup which was led by General Muhammadu Buhari in (December 1983 – August 1985). The second republic started in 1979 and ended in 1983.

General Ibrahim Babangida came into power in August 1985 – August 1993. Ernest Shonekan August 1993 – November 1993. Sani Abacha was the last person who created 6 more states. Abacha died on June 8<sup>th</sup> 1998. He came into office in 1993 – June 1998. Abdulsalam came into power (June 1998 – May 1999). During his regime, there was increment in wages from (3000 – 9000). He conducted the election and handed over power to Obasanjo. Obasanjo ruled from May 1999 – 2007.

The third republic started from 2007 till date. General Musa Yar Adua was elected in 2007 – 2011. Jonathan (2011 – 2015) and President Muhammadu Buhari (2015 – till date).

## **Culture.**

Culture is simply the way of life of a people. Culture is the entire social heritage of a people which involves the life of its members, connections, habits and capabilities which are learnt shared and transmitted from one generation to another.

### **Characteristics of culture.**

- Culture is learnt.
- It is universal and relative (diverse).
- It is shared.
- Culture is interrelated.

### **Functions of culture.**

- Culture regulates and guides the behaviour of the members of the society.
- It preserves the society from generation to another.
- It gives room for a distinct identity.
- Culture provides a basis for social cooperation and solidarity for all members.

**Cultural diversity:** Cultural diversity means different or diverse culture existing together.

### **Reasons / causes of cultural diversity.**

- Population explosion.
- Physical environment.
- Existing culture.

### **Concepts of culture:**

1. Sub – culture: It is a smaller group with distinct identity within the larger group with similar pattern.
2. Ethnocentrism: It is common to believe in the superiorities of one's culture and tendencies to judge other culture.
3. Enculturation: Is the process where by people adopt or learn a native culture through the family or other agents of socialization.
4. Acculturation: It is the change from an existing culture to another distinct culture.

### **Citizenship Education.**

**Citizen:** A citizen is a person or an individual that has full political and legal right in a particular state or country. If you are not a citizen then you are a settler. He enjoys no political and legal right.

**A Right:** a right is a privilege that is contained in the constitution of that country.

**Duties:** are responsibilities that citizens perform to the state and to other citizens.

**Obligations** are the performance of civil and political right as well as duties whether directly or indirectly to contribute to the citizenship.

How to acquire citizenship (in Nigeria).

- By birth: By birth where by a child is born in Nigeria where both parents are members / citizens of Nigeria.

In Nigeria there is no dual citizenship. Except citizenship part-time.

- By Registration: By following the procedures.
- Naturalization: By naturalization where a foreigner applies after being married to a citizen of Nigeria.
- Honourization: Is a way where by a country honours distinguished persons its right citizenship.

### **Constitutional Development in Nigeria.**

- Constitutional development before independence.
- Constitutional development after independence.

### **Pre – Constitutional Development:**

1. Clifford Constitution of 1922: Became operational in the year 1922 as at then we had British as the official members and Nigerians (19) as non-official members. Voting principles only male adults were allowed to vote.

Merits of the Clifford constitution:

- It allows Nigerians to participate in government.
- There are elective principles.
- It awakens the spirit of nationalization.
- It was the first ever constitution in Nigeria.

Demerits of the Clifford constitution:

- The elective principle was limited in coverage.
- The constitution was dominated by the British.
- It was an imposed constitution .
- Nigerian representatives were mostly literates.



2. Richard Constitution of 1946: the constitution became operational in 1946 by Sir Arthur Richard.

Features of the Arthur Richard constitution.

- It provides the unity of Nigeria.
- There was a wider participation of Nigerians.
- All the legislative seats were occupied by Nigerians (44 seats).
- The Governor general remains the president of the council.

Merits.

- It promotes the unity of Nigeria.
- It laid the foundation of Nigeria's federal structure.
- It provided room for regional assemblies.

Demerits.

- There are non-elective council members who are the executive.
- There is veto – power of government.
- The executive members are majorly British.

3. Mac Pherson Constitution of 1951: it became operational in 1951 by Sir John Mac Pherson.

Features of Mac Pherson constitution.

- It changes the legislative council to the house of representatives.
- It allows for the wider participation of Nigerians in government.

- It provides or gives room for regional legislature.

#### Merits.

- It allows for Nigerians in the constitution making process.
- The constitution was not imposed because Nigerians were members drafting the constitution.
- It granted more powers to the regional assembly.
- Nigeria became majority in council.
- It gave rise to more political activities.
- It acknowledged the formation of political parties.

#### Demerits.

- The governor general still remained the veto-power.
- The constitution promoted party politics.

4. The Lyttleton Constitution of 1954: it became operational in 1954, it was named after Sir Oliver Lyttleton.

#### Features.

- There is formal adoption of the federal system of government (Executive, Judiciary, Legislature).
- It operates a bicameral legislation.
- It officially provides offices for ministers.
- Election is through electoral college.

#### Merits.

- There is a formal beginning of the federal system.
- Ministers are assigned port-folios upon resumption.

- The law-making process are also given to regional assemblies.

Demerits.

- The governor general remains the president and retains the veto-power.
- There is establishment of electoral system governing body.
- There is a presence of British members in the decision-making arm of government.

### **Post-Independence Constitution:**

1. The first post-independence constitution was the 1960 and the last is the 1999.

Features of 1960 constitution.

- It retained the federal structure.
- The governor general became the ceremonial head of state.
- The executive power lies with the prime minister and also the premier at the regional level.
- The senate has power over bills and other financial issues.
- There is a bi-cameral legislation.
- The prime minister has the power to recommend the removal of the premier.

Merits.

- This constitution made Nigeria a sovereign state.

- The constitution gave Nigeria the freedom to participate in diplomatic activities.
- The constitution gave Nigerians the opportunity to start their own development process.

#### Demerits.

- The Queen of England through the governor general remained the ceremonial head of states.
  - The British also retained the highest court of appeal.
  - The colonial government were involved in the constitution drafting process.
2. 1963 was an upgrade version of the 1960 constitution.
  3. 1979 constitution came into being in 1979 when Shagari became president.

#### Features of 1979 constitution.

- It retained the bi-cameral legislation.
- The government combined both head of state and head of government functions.
- It gave room for direct election of all political office holders.
- It gave room for impeachment of both president and governors.

#### Merits of 1979 constitution.

- There are checks and balance of political office holders.
- There is judicial independence.

- The constitution recognises the principle of separation of power among the three organs of government.

Demerits of the 1979 constitution.

- The constitution gave room for regional politics.
- The president has exclusive power to make laws and policies.

4. 1999 constitution: It became operational 1999 and its still in use till date but has been amended.

Features of the 1999 constitution.

- There is separation of power among the levels of government.
- There is the principle of check and balance.
- There is supremacy of constitution.
- It provides for bi-cameral legislation at federal level and uni-cameral legislation at the state level.
- It provides for multi-party pollical system.

Signed:

*Mc Lazy.*