

Social Studies

Junior Secondary School Notes

New Syllabus Study Notes

Revised Edition

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TOPIC 1: FAMILY

- Family can be defined as group of people who are related either by blood, marriage or adoption.

TYPES OF FAMILIES

- a) **Nuclear family:** It is composed of the mother, father and their children born to them or adopted
- b) **Extended family:** It is composed of the father, mother and their children born to them or adopted plus their relatives e.g. aunts, cousins, uncles and nieces
- c) **Single parent family:** It is composed of one parent either the mother or father and the children
- d) **Step families or blended families:** These are as a result of divorce and remarriage.
- e) **Adoptive or hybrid families:** These are families which adopt children especially orphans or abandoned children
- f) **Child headed families:** a type of family where the family is being headed by the children especially in case of the death of both parents. Normally, the elder son resumes the responsibility of other children.

COMMON CAUSES OF SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES IN MALAWI

- a) Death of one of the parents
- b) Divorce: If the parent have separated or one of them has married another one the result is a single parent family
- c) If one of the parents has gone to a distant land to work and does not want to come back.
- d) The desire not to get married. Some people choose not to get married but just to adopt children out of their will. This result in a single parent family.

FACTORS THAT CAN INFLUENCE FAMILY SIZE

- a) **Culture:** Most cultures regard children as source of wealth this makes them to have many children. Some cultures also

encourage early marriages and polygamy this also results into big families.

- b) **Sex preference:** The desire for a family to have a boy or a girl in a family may result into a big family. For example, if the family wants a boy and only girls are born in a family, the family may continue bearing girls until a boy is born this may result into a large family.

ADVANTAGES OF LARGE FAMILIES

- Parents are assured that some of their children will attain adulthood
- Parents are assured of getting assistance from their children in their old age
- Work is done fast in the farm

DISADVANTAGES OF A LARGE FAMILY

- It leads to rapid population growth
- There is less parental care, love and attention to the children
- Parents find it difficult to provide basic needs for their children
- It is difficult to provide counseling, proper guidance and quality of education
- Conflicts are more likely to occur in large families.

ADVANTAGES OF A SMALL FAMILY

- Parents can afford to provide for their children
- There is more parental care love and attention to the children
- It is easy to educate every child
- Parents give adequate security to their children

DISADVANTAGES OF A SMALL FAMILY

- Parents are less assured that their children will reach adulthood
- Parents are less assured of getting assistance from their children in their old age
- It promotes individualism

- It may lead to a low or declining population in society which is weak to defend itself and declining consumer market.

MAJOR CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE NATURE OF THE FAMILY IN MODERN TIMES

- a) Change in family size.** Malawians prefer small/nuclear families adopted from western culture
- b) Change in responsibilities.** Matrilineal societies are now raising children on their own unlike in those days when they were considering it to be the responsibility of the uncle.

FACTORS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED THE CHANGES IN THE NATURE OF THE FAMILY

- a) Economic reasons:** The rising cost of living in modern times has influenced many parents to prefer small families which they can afford to manage
- b) Influence of western culture:** The coming of Europeans has made Malawians to adopt small families and how members of the family relate to each other.
- c) Population growth and availability of resources:** Large families exert pressure on land water and social services and leads to rapid population growth. This has forced many Malawians to change in the nature of their family.
- d) Education:** As children stay in school they delay their marriage as a result they have small families
- Also the knowledge and values they get from school make them to have knowledge of family planning and make rational decisions of their family

TOPIC 2: CULTURE AND CHANGE

- **Culture** is the people's way of life.
- It is the way of life for an identified group of people who share common customs, traditions and values in society.

ELEMENTS OF MALAWIAN CULTURE

- a) Language:** In Malawi every ethnic group has its own language. For example, the Lomwe speak Chilomwe, the Tumbuka speak Chitumbuka and the Chewa speaks Chichewa.
 - Language allows people to pass on their culture to the other generation.
- b) Religion:** In Malawi, all ethnic groups worship God through various religions such as Christianity, Islam and African Traditional Religion (ATR)
- c) Music and Dance:** In Malawi there are various ethnic groups and each ethnic groups perform different traditional dances. For example gule wamkulu by the chewa, manganje by the Yao and Ingoma by the Ngoni.
- d) Dress:** In Malawi most men wear a pair of trousers while most women wear a piece of cloth called *chilundu*, a blouse called *nyakula* and a headgear *duku*
- e) Food:** Most ethnic groups take similar food. Nsima which is made from maize flour is the staple food for most ethnic groups.
- f) Etiquette:** Are rules for polite social behavior.
- g) Customs:** it refers to a long established practice among members of a culture or a society
- h) Other elements of culture include:** dress, Housing, moral values.

MAJOR RELIGIONS FOUND IN MALAWI

- a)** Christianity
- b)** Islam
- c)** African Tradition Religion
- d)** Buddhism
- e)** Hinduism

LANGUAGES FOUND IN MALAWI

- a)** Chitumbuka f) Chisena

- b) Chichewa g) Kyangonde
- c) English h) Chingoni
- d) Chilomwe
- e) Chitonga

REASONS WHY MALAWIANS PERFORM DIFFERENT DANCES

- a) For entertainment
- b) To express sorrow
- c) It is a means of giving instructions and communication
- d) It is a means of curing some illnesses
- e) For religious festivals

IMPORTANCE OF CULTURE

- a) The way of life is passed from one generation to the other generation
- b) It provides people with standards of appropriate behaviors. For example dressing, respect and health habits.
- c) It ensures continuity of society
- d) It gives people an identity
- e) It promotes cooperation and unity

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

- It is having many groups of people with different beliefs and values in a society.

SUBCULTURES IN MALAWI

- a) **Ethnic Subculture:** It refers to customs, traditions, beliefs and values of an ethnic group as shown by the type of food, dress, music, language and behavior pattern
- b) **Religious Subculture:** It refers to several religious subcultures in Malawi such as Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Bahai faith
- c) **Occupational Subculture:** It refers to the behavior patterns people show as a result of the work or occupation.

WAYS HOW MALAWIANS MAINTAIN UNITY IN SPITE OF THE VARIOUS CULTURES

- a) Through respect of family values**
- b) Through socialization at family, school and community levels.** This is true because socialization of children enables them to appreciate their diversity
- c) Teaching of morals through schools and religious institutions.** This helps to cultivate feelings of love and respect for other people.
- d) Inter-marriages between people of different subculture groups.** This allows people of different ethnic groups and races to live together and understand each other.
- e) Use of national symbols such as national flag and the national anthem** which help to facilitate and maintain unity among Malawians
- f) Civil service regulations which allows employees to work anywhere in Malawi.** This makes them to interact freely with members of other subcultures
- g) Promotion of civic education programs** that help to create awareness among people on the importance of cooperation and unity.

ELEMENTS OF MALAWIAN CULTURE THAT ENHANCES UNITY IN MALAWI

- a) Language**
- b) Music and dance**
- c) Rituals**
- d) Marriage and family values**
- e) Moral values**
- f) Religion**
- g) Occupations**

IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING UNITY IN CULTURAL DIVERSITY

- a) It provides people with an identity**

- b) It promotes patriotism
- c) It enhances development and respect of other peoples culture

CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN MALAWIAN CULTURE

- a) **Clothing/dressing:** Traditionally Malawians wore clothes made from animal skins and barks of trees but now these have been replaced by clothes made from cotton, silk and other fibers
- b) **Language:** The interacting with other groups and races has made Malawians to change in their language. For example Malawians are able to use words
- c) **Moral values:** Boys no longer wait for their elders to take their food as the tradition requires.
- d) **Family values:** Parents are able to bring up their children unlike in those days when the uncles were taking the responsibility
- e) **Eating habits:** This has also changed now Malawians use spices and do not take much food.
- f) **Individualistic behavior**

FACTORS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED THE CHANGES IN THE MALAWIAN CULTURE

- a) **Intermarriages:** Marriages between people of different cultures have resulted in changes of cultural elements.
- b) **Religion:** When the Asians and the Europeans came to Malawi most ethnic groups regarded their own religion as inferior this converted them to foreign religions.
- c) **Colonization:** The colonization of Malawi brought foreign ideas, beliefs and values. This resulted in change of African culture
- d) **Migration:** When people travel they meet people who have a culture different from theirs as a result their cultural elements also change
- e) **Trade:** As the people exchange goods and services they also exchange ideas, beliefs and values, this result in change of cultural elements.

- f) Urbanization:** As people migrate to urban areas, they meet people of other cultures and become delinked from their traditional setting.
- g) Education:** It is the vehicle for new ideas. These new ideas change the outlook on life of people especially the younger generation.
- h) Mass media:** Through the mass media, young people are exposed to foreign cultures which they copy.

TOPIC 3: GENDER BIAS IN MALAWI

- **Gender** is the condition of being male or female
- It refers to socially and culturally constructed differences between males and females
- **Sex refers** to the biological differences that distinguish males from females.

MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SEX AND GENDER

- a) Sex** is acquired from birth while **gender** is learned behavior
Sex is something one is born with. One is born male or female not both while Gender is the behavior we learn as we grow up
- b) Sex** is global while **gender** is culturally specific
People on the globe are either male or female while gender in some cultures such as Europe, and Malawi there are differences in roles among sexes. For example women prepare food while men work in industries
- c) Sex** is physical while **gender** is social

EQUITY

- Is fairness and the principles of justice

GENDER EQUITY

- Refers to equal access to opportunities available to girls and boys men and women

EQUALITY

- Is the state of being equal in opportunity, status and rights

GENDER EQUALITY

- Refers to the state of being equal in having rights, status and chances between women and men, boys and girls regardless of their physical and biological differences

EXAMPLES OF GENDER EQUITY IN THE FAMILY

- Equal opportunities for boys and girls to study time
- Equal opportunities to play time
- Equal opportunities to education between boys and girls
- Equal financial support to both girls and boys
- Equal material and moral support to both boys and girls

EXAMPLES OF THE GENDER BIASES IN MALAWIAN FAMILIES

a) Marriage procedures

The payment of lobola in patrilineal societies subject women to gender violence in the family because the husband thinks he has bought the woman through lobola. In matrilineal society women do not have a say in decisions concerning their lives.

b) Child rearing practices

In Malawi boys are favored in most families than girls because boys are given more attention and respect than girls.

c) Succession and inheritance practices

Most of the times the property of the deceased is taken away from the woman by the relatives of the dead husband.

INFLUENCE OF CULTURE GENDER BIAS

- Some cultures give more privileges to boys than girls in most societies. Culture also encourages girls to listen and give respect to their husbands and to be obedient to them.

CONSEQUENCES OF GENDER BIAS IN THE FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND THE NATION

a) Inequality in opportunities

Girls are left out in decision making; there is a reduced enrollment of girls in some schools and less numbers of girls who are employed

b) Ineffective development programs

This is because girls and women do not take part in decision making and development activities

c) Sexual harassment and violence against women

Cases of rape, defilement and insulting women are common because of gender bias

MEASURES FOR ERADICATING GENDER BIAS IN MALAWI

a) Through civic education programs on gender issues

This should be through radios, television and newspapers. The focus should be on the evils of gender bias and the goodness of gender equity.

b) Through legislation of women's rights

This refers to making laws that protect and promote the rights of women

c) Through normative action

This refers to discrimination which is carried out deliberately in order to reverse the negative trend.

d) Eradicating retrogressive cultural practices which influence gender bias.

TOPIC 4: CITIZENSHIP

- A citizen is a person who is a member of a community such as a town, city or country.
- Citizenship is the status of belonging to specific community

TYPES OF CITIZENSHIP

- a) Dual citizenship – is the status of belonging to two countries
- b) Single citizenship – is the status of belonging to one country

IMPORTANCE OF CITIZENSHIP

a) Citizens of the country enjoy certain rights or benefits

Only citizen of the country have the right to vote

b) It promotes unity

This is because citizenship unit people of a country regardless of their differences. The people work together in peace and harmony to improve their lives

c) It promotes patriotism

Patriotism is love for and pride in one's country. Citizenship makes the people to have strong love for their country and this feeling unit all the people.

WAYS OF ACQUIRING MALAWIAN CITIZENSHIP (HOW CAN A PERSON FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY BECOME A CITIZEN OF MALAWI)

a) By birth

According to the constitution of Malawi any person born in Malawi after 5th July 1964 automatically becomes a citizen of Malawi and any person whose father or mother is a Malawian is also a citizen of Malawi

b) By descent

Descent means tracing where your parents came from. This means that a person born outside Malawi whose mother or father is a Malawian citizen can become a citizen of Malawi by descent. For example Kenneth Kaunda ruled Zambia for over 20 years but he was a Malawian by descent.

c) By marriage

A foreign woman married to a Malawian man can become a citizen of Malawi by marriage. But not a foreign man married to a Malawian woman.

d) By registration

A person who is not a Malawian by birth or descent may apply for citizenship to the minister responsible for citizenship registration

e) Naturalization

Naturalization is the process of becoming a citizen of a country because of living in the country for a long period of time. For example if a person has lived in Malawi for 12 years or more can become a citizen of Malawi by naturalization

f) **Restoration:** It is the reclamation of one's citizenship which you lost as a result of obtaining citizenship for another country.

CONDITIONS FOR ONE BE REGISTERED AS A CITIZEN OF MALAWI

- a) One has to stay in Malawi for more than 5 years
- b) One should speak or understand one vernacular language and or English
- c) One should be of good character
- d) One should comply with the laws of Malawi
- e) One should renounce his/her citizenship

LOSS OF CITIZENSHIP (HOW CAN A CITIZEN LOSE HIS/HER CITIZENSHIP)

a) Through voluntary renunciation

This is when a person voluntarily surrenders his/her citizenship in preference to that of another country

b) Through deprivation

A person can be deprived of his or her citizenship by an act of parliament

Security implications for citizens who acquire their citizenship through registration and naturalization

- a) The citizens are not secure because they can lose their citizenship if the government has changed or if there is a change in citizenship policy.
- b) Children may experience difficulties in acquiring citizenship after the death of their parents
 - *Citizenship by birth and descent is more secure and permanent*
 - *Citizenship by marriage is not secure because if the husband has died one may lose her citizenship.*

TOPIC 5: CIVIC RIGHTS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A CITIZEN

MEANINGS OF THE TERMS:

- **Responsible citizenship:** it is the enjoyment of one's civic rights as a citizen while fulfilling ones responsibilities and duties.
- **Civic rights:** These are rights and privileges of the citizens of the country.
- **Duties:** These are obligations that one is ordered to do either by government or by being in charge of something.
- Are responsibilities which are enforced by law.
- *Failure to fulfill one's duty is punishable*
- **Responsibilities:** These are things one does out of will or commitment.
- Are duties that are not enforced by law.
- *Failure to fulfill one's responsibilities is not punishable but one is considered to be a bad citizen*

CIVIC RIGHTS OF CITIZENS OF MALAWI

a) Right to vote

Every Malawian citizen who has attained the age of 18 has the right to vote

b) Right to protection

The citizens of Malawi are entitled to protection of their lives and property within and outside the country

c) Right to social services

Malawian citizens are entitled to good standards of living. They have the right to clean and safe water, health services clean environment and education

d) Right to economic welfare

Every Malawian has a right to earn a living in a respectable manner either by doing business or through employment

e) Right to participate in civic affairs

Citizens of Malawi have the right to be informed about the affairs of their village, township or country and the right to form or join any group and right to strike

f) Right to stand for election for public office

g) Freedom of movement and residence

CIVIC RIGHTS AND THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT

- It is the role of the government to make sure that civic rights of citizens explained above are upheld, promoted and safeguarded.
- While the government's role is to provide the civic rights, the citizens have duties and responsibilities to fulfill so that their provision of rights is sustained

DUTIES OF THE CITIZENS OF MALAWI

- a)** paying taxes and rates
- b)** Obeying the law
- c)** Assisting in protecting life and property
- d)** Parents have the duty of bringing up their children and wards

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITIZEN OF MALAWI TO THEMSELVES, TO THE SOCIETY AND THE NATION

- a)** Taking care of one's life by going to the hospital when one is sick
- b)** Being self reliant by not becoming a burden to others and the government
- c)** Being honest, cooperative and observing all moral values
- d)** Attending meetings
- e)** Collecting and disseminating information

- f)** Taking part in local and national debates
- g)** Choosing leaders and participating in civic affairs
- h)** Using the social services and environment properly

IMPORTANCE OF RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP

a) It promotes unity among the people

As individuals fulfill their duties and responsibilities they work together with others.

b) It benefits everybody regardless of status

Since there is cooperation and unity in the society, everybody enjoys the privileges the society provides

c) It promotes communal ownership of resources

The citizens look at the community resources as theirs therefore they care and protect them

d) It promotes peace, justice and development

The cooperation that exists as a result of working together brings peace and harmony. The individual also develops a spirit of law abiding which ensures justice. Justice ensures development

TOPIC 6: THE CONSTITUTION

- It is the supreme law of the land
- It is a document that sets out all the rules and regulations of governing the country

IMPORTANCE OR DUTIES OF THE CONSTITUTION IN A COUNTRY

- a) It establishes the principle organs of the government
- b) It gives the government organs powers
- c) It describes who a citizen is and how citizenship is acquired in the country
- d) It describes procedures that the government officials should use to make laws and other decisions
- e) Describes how positions in the government should be filled

BILL OF RIGHTS

- It is a list of fundamental freedoms and rights of the citizen set out in the constitution and protected by law.

TYPES OF THE CONSTITUTION

- a) **Written/documentary constitution:** This is a document that contains all rules and regulations for governing a countries political life.

This implies that the rules about governing the country are in one book or document.

- b) **Unwritten/non-documentary/uncodified constitution:** this is a constitution whose basic principles and laws that is not written down in a single document or book.

For this type of constitution, the rules are found in different sources such as conventions.

ADVANTAGES/STRENGTHS OF A WRITTEN CONSTITUTION

- It provides the government with legal document to which it can refer for legal guidance without making mistakes
- It helps both the government and the public to check the operations and performance of the government
- It helps in the formulation of the institutions and rules of other organizations such as schools, courts, hospitals or companies
- It makes each government department aware of the roles of other organizations or departments

DISADVANTAGES/WEAKNESSES OF WRITTEN CONSTITUTION

- They are not flexible for judges and other people who have the task to interpret the rules in a given situation
- It is not easy to amend or remove strong rules no matter how bad they are to the public.
- The basic constitutional principles sometimes do not tally (agree) with some items in the bill of rights. For example, according the bill of rights in the constitution of republic Malawi, everyone has a right to vote; yet the constitution did not allow prisoners and

police officers to vote because they are offenders and because of their nature of work of enforcing law and order respectively.

ADVANTAGES OF UNWRITTEN CONSTITUTION

- It is flexible to interpretation by judges at times of a constitutional dispute
- It is extremely adaptable and therefore easy to change to deal with new situations or remove bad rules

DISADVANTAGES OF UNWRITTEN CONSTITUTION

- Government can easily go astray in its operations as the rules are not written in one book
- It makes it difficult for the government and the public to check that the rules of the constitution are being observed.

SOURCES OF UNWRITTEN CONSTITUTION

- a) Case law
- b) Acts of parliament
- c) Conventions
- d) Subsidiary legislature
- e) Authoritative textbooks

HOW IS A CONSTITUTION MADE

- Through holding constitutional meetings and conventions
- Some constitutions are made by dictators

GROUPS OF PEOPLE WHO MUST BE PRESENT WHEN DRAFTING A CONSTITUTION

- a) Lawyers
- b) Politicians
- c) Traditional leaders
- d) Religious readers
- e) The business community
- f) Women and children groups and old people.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

a) The will of the people

All legal and political authority of the government is derived from the people of Malawi. This means that it is the people of Malawi who have the ultimate authority.

b) Lawful authority

All persons given the power to carry out their duties by the constitution do so on being trusted by the people of Malawi.

c) Trust in the government

This means the authority to govern only last as long as the people have trust in the persons in authority

d) Universal suffrage

This means that the government shall protect the fundamental human rights and freedoms of all individuals, groups and minorities whether they are entitled to vote or not

e) National policy

This refers to the government's commitment to national policies to improve the standards of living of all the people.

f) Rule of law

This means that no one is above the law including the president. They can be taken to court if they have done something wrong.

FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE CHANGES OF A CONSTITUTION

a) **Political reasons** such as the end of a colonial rule, removal of a dictator from power

b) **Social changes** for example, in 1994 an eligible voting age was changed from 21 years to 18 after discovering that at 18 years boys and girls are able to make rational decisions.

c) **Economic reasons** aimed at changing the way people generate income in a country like adoption of a land reform.

HOW CAN A CONSTITUTION BE CHANGED

- If there is a two third majority of voters in a referendum or a two third majority in parliaments

OFFICES AND INSTITUTIONS THAT STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND PRACTICES IN MALAWI.

- a) The office of the Ombudsperson: It investigates all complaints of injustices.
- b) Special commission of enquiry: They investigate report and make recommendations on corruption injustice and unfair treatment.
- c) The law commission: It receives and makes recommendations relating to the repeal and amendment of the laws of the country that do not conform to the constitution
- d) The national compensation tribunal: It was a fund established to hear and judge claims for compensation for the people who suffered injustices during one part system of government (1964 - 1994)
- e) Human Rights commission: It protects the rights of the people

DUTIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSPERSON/OMBUDSMAN

- a) Recommending amendments to bad laws
- b) Hears complaints from citizens about public officials
- c) It is a watchdog over the government administrative functions
- d) Ensures accountability of all public officials

SYMBOLS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY

- a) The national anthem
- b) Coat of arms
- c) Public seal
- d) The national flag
- e) Independence day

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PUBLIC SEAL AND THE COAT OF ARMS

- a) The coat of arms is used on government official papers while the public seal is the official stamp of the office of the president
- b) The coat of arms has the motto *unity and freedom* while the public seal bears the words *republic of Malawi* around it

MAIN FEATURES OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

a) It is supreme

This is because all other laws in Malawi conform to it

b) It determines the sovereign status of Malawi

c) It safeguards the rights and protects the freedoms of the people of Malawi

d) It derives its authority from the people of Malawi

e) It is legally protected by the courts

f) It describes the powers, limits, duties and responsibilities of the president cabinet ministers members of parliament and all government officials

WAYS WHICH SHOW THE SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

a) Functions

The constitution is supreme because it creates government's hierarchy, and controls all its affairs. This means the constitution is the only supreme source of authority rule and law

b) Equal application

The supremacy of the constitution is also shown by its application to all citizens regardless of status, race or position

c) Legal protection

The supremacy is also marked by its legal protection by the independence of courts

TOPIC 7: HUMAN RIGHTS

➤ **Human rights** are generally accepted principles of fairness and justice

They are universal moral rights that belong to all people simply because they are human beings

➤ **Why are human rights said to be inalienable?**

Because human rights can only be lost when one ceases to be human. (when one is dead)

FACTORS THAT LED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (UDHR)

a) Holocaust

This is also called genocide. Genocide is a planned killing of a people not for anything wrong they have done but for who they are. This led to establishment of UDHR.

b) Prisoners of war (POW)

During Second World War many POW were kept in inhumane conditions. For example without food, water and in overcrowded cells with poor sanitation

c) Discrimination

Discrimination based on sex, religion and political beliefs, ethnic and race also led to the establishment of UDHR

d) Abuse of children

Children were exploited by being overworked in industries and coalmines

e) The slave trade

This was the buying and selling of human beings. The slaves were exposed to ill-treatment such as being striped necked and starved to death

FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS WHICH ALL PEOPLE INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COURTS SHOULD RESPECT, UPHOLD AND PROTECT

a) The right to life

Every person has the right to life and no person shall be deprived of his or her life by a court of law.

b) The right to liberty

This is the right to move freely. No one can take away your right to liberty unless it is done according to the law

c) The right to equality

Everyone is entitled to all human rights and freedoms. This means that all people shall be treated equally before the law.

d) Freedom of thought, conscience and belief

All the people are free to think about anything they like and to believe in what ever they wish. All the people are free to join and practice any type of religion.

e) Freedom of expression

All people are free to speak and express their opinion even those opinions are against the government.

EXAMPLES OF HUMAN RIGHTS

- a) Right to education
- b) Right to own property
- c) Freedom of assembly
- d) Freedom of the press
- e) Right Culture and language
- f) Right to economic activity
- g) Right to join a trade union

EXAMPLE OF RIGHTS OF DETAINEES

- a) Right to remain silent and not to be compelled to make a confession
- b) Right to be told in a language one understand
- c) Right to be told the reasons for detentions and right to be charged within 48 hours
- d) Right to consult a lawyer and to communicate and to be visited by relatives
- e) Right to obtain bail

TYPES OF HUMAN RIGHTS

- 1. Civil and political rights:** These are rights which protect individuals' freedom, life and equality and ensure their full

participation in the civil and political life of the country without discrimination.

- 2. Civil rights** such as right to life, right to liberty, equality, right to freely practice ones religion, freedom of expression, right to fair trial
- 3. Political rights** such as right to vote, freedom of opinion, freedom to join a trade union or other associations and organizations, right to campaign for a political party.
- 4. Social, cultural and economic rights:** These rights guarantee citizens equal conditions and treatment.
 - (i) Economic Rights:** right to freely engage in economic activity, the right to fair and safe work, right to fair and safe work, right to fair wages and equal remuneration for work of equal, the right to freely engage in economic activity.
 - (ii) Social rights:** right to education, the right to have a name, the right to personal privacy, the right not to be forced to enter into marriage.
 - (iii) Cultural rights:** the right to use to use the language of your choice, the right to participate in the cultural life of your choice.
- 5. Environmental and developmental rights (solidarity rights):**
 - (i) Environmental rights:** the right to live in an environmental that is clean and free from pollution and other forms of destruction
 - (ii) Developmental rights:** right to the enjoyment of economic, social, cultural and political development

LIMITED AND UNLIMITED HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights exist in two forms:

- (a) Limited Human rights:** are those human rights that can be restricted or suspended by the state

Examples of limited human rights

- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of press
- Right to privacy

- Freedom of assembly
- Freedom of movement.

CIRCUMSTANCES THAT REQUIRE LIMITATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

- a)** When there is a crisis in the country
- b)** When there a natural disaster
- c)** When there is an attempted coup d'état or revolution
- d)** When there is wide spread lawlessness

(b)Unlimited Human rights: are those human rights that cannot be restricted or suspended by the state or anybody else

Examples of unlimited Human rights

- Right to life
- Right to equality
- Right to freedom of thought
- Respect for human dignity
- Prohibition of slavery, slave trade and slave-like practices

IMPORTANCE OF EXERCISING RIGHTS WITH RESPONSIBILITY

- a)** One develops respect of other people's rights
- b)** Promotes tolerance of other people's views, beliefs and practices
- c)** One can take care the responsibility to care for the services provided by the government for the common good
- d)** Brings unity and cooperation among the people

WAYS OF APPLYING HUMAN RIGHTS IN A DEMOCRACY

- (a)Vertical application:** this involves enforcement of human rights by citizens against the government only, but not against other private individuals or companies. Thus, a citizen is only able to sue government for any human rights breaches or violations but not private individuals or companies.
- (b)Horizontal application of Human rights:** this involves enforcement of human rights by citizens against both the government and private individuals or companies. Thus, if

someone feels that her/his rights have been breached or violated by a person or company, horizontal application of human rights allows them to sue that person or company directly.

ELEMENTS OF SUCCESS DEMOCRACY

- (a)** Observance of human rights
- (b)** Holding regular free and fair elections
- (c)** Citizens 'participation
- (d)** Free press(media)

The role of citizens and opposition parties in monitoring and eradicating human rights violations

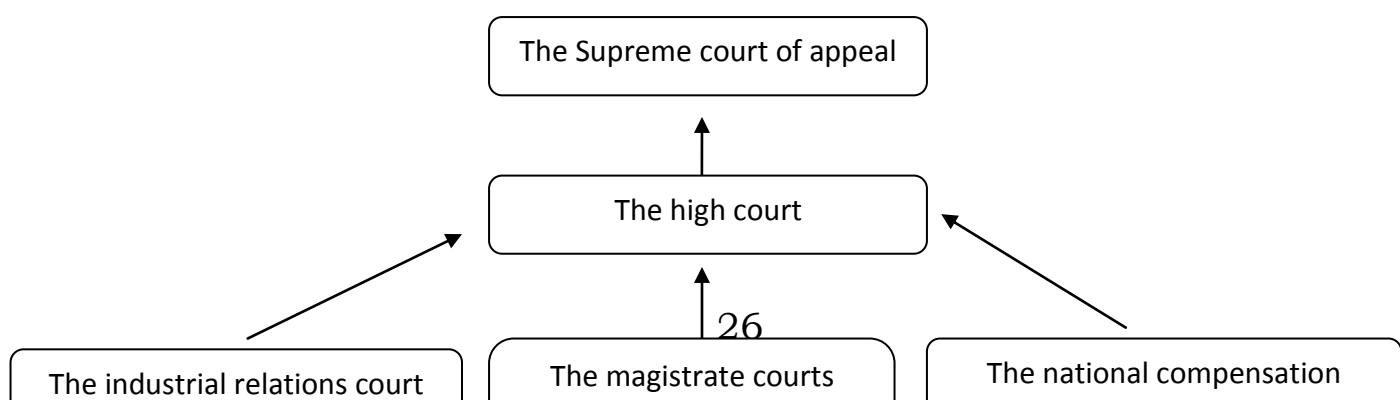
- Reporting serious cases of human rights violations to police
- Campaigning for the rights of those who cannot speak for themselves such as children
- Forming organizations to carry out human rights awareness
- Opposition parties should prevent any proposed piece of legislation (bill) that would lead to violation of human rights from passing in parliament.
- Speaking openly against certain cultural practices that lead to violation of human rights.

TOPIC 8: THE JUDICIAL SYSTEMS IN MALAWI

COMPOSITION OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF MALAWI

- It is composed of courts and judges

THE STRUCTURE OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM IN MALAWI



The structure of the Judicial system of Malawi

FUNCTION OF THE COURTS

To hear cases and pass judgment

FUNCTIONS OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS

a) The supreme court

Its function is to hear appeal cases from the high court or any other court set up to deal with special matters

b) The high court

Its function is to hear civil cases such as quarrel between people
It also hears criminal cases such as drug trafficking and murder
It hears appeal cases from lower courts

c) Industrial relations court

It is a labour court. It hears cases involving labour issues

d) Resident magistrate courts

There are four of them. They hear criminal cases except those involving treason or murder

They also hear civil cases e.g. distribution of land and divorce

e) Graded magistrate courts

They are four of them. They hear minor civil and criminal cases e.g. marriage disputes and theft

WAYS HOW CASES ARE BROUGHT BEFORE THE COURT

a) Through the police

The police act on behalf of individual persons, companies, organizations and government to bring law breakers to court

b) The director of public prosecutions

This is the lawyer for the government. The DPP brings criminal cases to court on behalf of the government.

c) The ant-corruption bureau (ACB)

It monitors and investigates corrupt practices in both the public and private sector. ACB can also take the accused person to court

d) The office of the ombudsperson.

It investigates all complaints of injustice if the one who is complaining cannot find justice. It can help to bring offenders to court

e) Through private lawyers

Private lawyers take to court accused persons or institutions on behalf of their clients who hire them.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The attorney general is the principal legal advisor of the government. If the government is sued by the company or individuals the attorney general defends the government.

IMPORTANCE OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM

- a) It ensures fairness and justice
- b) It promotes the maintenance of human dignity
- c) It maintains law and order
- d) It ensures good governance

TOPIC 9: NATIONAL IDENTITY

- National identity is the sense of belonging to one's nation or country

TYPES OF NATIONAL IDENTITIES

- a) **Single national identity:** it is one held by a person who owes allegiance to one nation only. Any person holding single citizenship has this type of national; identity
- b) **Dual national identity:** this is the one held by a person who owes allegiance to two different nations. It applies to those holding dual citizenship and those whose nation-state is within another state such as Scotland in Britain.
- c) **Sub-state national identity:** It is the one held by an individual who belongs to a national-state that is within another state. Scottish national identity, English national identities are sub-state national identities in Britain.

IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL IDENTITY

- It promotes unity and oneness among people across tribal or ethnic divide
- It fosters sense of pride, loyalty and patriotism

IDENTITY DOCUMENTS

- An identity document is any document used to verify details of an individual's personal identity.

EXAMPLES OF IDENTITY DOCUMENTS

- a) **National identity card:** It is an identification card that each citizen or resident in a country is issued and required to carry as a means of confirming their nationality or citizenship
- b) **Passport:** it is a document, issued by a national government, which certifies the identity and nationality of its holder for the purpose of international travel
- c) **Drivers License:** it is an official document which allows a person to drive a car on the road
- d) **Employee identity card:** It is a document to identify employees of an organization or company.

VITAL REGISTRATION

- It is a record of very important events that countries keep about their citizens.

TYPES OF VITAL REGISTRATION

- a) National identity registration:** Registering citizens for the purposes of issuing national identity cards. The National Registration Bureau(NRB) is responsible for national identity registration
- b) Birth registration:** Registering newly born child in a hospital register
- c) Marriage registration:** registering marriage at the church, mosque, magistrate court or registrar General's office
- d) Voter registration:** Registering eligible voters in readiness for an election
- e) Death registration:** registering death at the hospital or clinic.

IMPORTANCE OF VITAL REGISTRATION

- a) National identity registration**
 - Provides authenticity of citizenship of a person
 - Helps to present entry of illegal immigrants into the country
 - Helps to identify real beneficiaries of relief items during disasters
 - Helps to curb child trafficking and child labour.
- b) Death registration**
 - Provides information on major causes and frequency of deaths in a community or country
 - Helps the government to know the quantity and types of drugs to be supplied in hospitals
- c) Marriage registration**
 - It makes it easy to know the number of households to receive relief assistance in an area during natural disasters
 - Government is able to estimate the number of households to benefit from its programmes
- d) Birth registration**

- Provides evidence of one's citizenship when applying for other important documents
- Provides information which can help to curb age cheating in sports and other activities
- Provides important information on population changes for government to appropriately plan for national development
- It helps in combating child labour

e) Voter registration

- It helps to prevent those who do not qualify from voting during an election
- It helps to make sure that all eligible voters are able to cast their votes during an election
- It helps to ensure that people do not vote twice in an election.

f) Business registration

- Government is able to keep a record of the types and sizes of businesses operating in the country
- It is easy for government to estimate the amount of tax revenue to be collected from businesses for the national budget
- It helps government to protect local businesses from competition with foreign companies or firms.

TOPIC 10: INTERDEPENDENCE AMONG NATIONS

- Interdependence of nations means that every nation in the world relies or is dependent on other countries in various ways.
- it involves a give-and take relation that exists between co-dependent individuals or groups

WAYS IN WHICH NATIONS OF THE WORLD ARE INTERDEPENDENT ON EACH OTHER (FORMS OF INTERDEPENDENCE)

(a) International trade: countries depend on each other on issues of trade.

- (b) Communication and cultural exchange:** Technologically advanced countries such as USA and Russia launch their satellites into space. The satellites are used by them and other nations of the world for communication purposes.
- (c)Transport:** To carry out trade with other countries, Malawi needs international transport links because it is a landlocked
- (d)Health:** outbreaks of epidemics such as cholera and pandemics' such as HIV and AIDS illustrate the interdependence among all nations of the world.
- (e)Security:** Nations have demonstrated interdependence in dealing with security issues> For example, when the terrorists attacked Americans on 11th September, they needed support of other nations to combat terrorism.
- (f) Education:** Most African countries have sent their citizens to North America, Asia and this shows the interdependence in respect to education.
- (g)Economic aid/assistance** from developed countries to developing countries: Malawi as a developing country, it needs the economic assistance of other countries and international organizations.

ORGANISATIONS THAT PROMOTE COOPERATION AMONG NATIONS.

(a)Regional organizations:

1. Common Market for Eastern and southern Africa(COMESA)
2. Southern African Development Community(SADC)
3. Council of southern Africa Football Associations(COSAFA)
4. The Economic Community Of West African State(ECOWAS)
5. The African Union(AU)
6. European Union(EU)
7. African Development Bank(ADB)

(b)International Organizations

1. The United Nations (UN)
2. World Customs Organization(WCO)
3. The Commonwealth of Nations

4. The Federation International de Football Association(FIFA)

TOPIC 11: MORAL AND ETHICAL CODE OF CONDUCT

- Morality is a system of conduct that includes principles of right and wrong.
- Morals are standards of right behavior
- Moral action refers to any action that agrees with the standards of right conduct or behavior
- Ethics are standards of behavior governing a particular group of people, like the same profession, belief cultural group.
- A code of conduct is a set of rules that guide the behaviour of people in a given situations which require them to choose between right behavior and wrong behavior.
- Values are things we believe in and uphold

Examples of moral and ethical codes of conduct at Home and school

- Respect
- Honesty
- Faithfulness
- Justice
- Justice
- Punctuality
- Obedience
- Respect for the truth

IMPORTANCE OF PRACTICING GOOD MORAL AND ETHICAL CODES OF CONDUCT AT HOME AND SCHOOL

- It fosters orderliness at various occasions such as when queuing for a particular service
- It promotes peace
- It helps to promote good health
- It fosters love among people
- It helps to foster unity among people
- It fosters personal progress

EXAMPLES SOCIAL PROBLEMS AT HOME

- Rebelliousness
- Rape
- Teasing
- Indiscipline
- Drug and substance
- Abuse of children
- Vandalism

CAUSES OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS AT HOME AND IN SCHOOL

1. **Orphan-hood:** an orphan may lack many things such as clothes, school fees, food and parental care, as a result, some orphans may indulge in prostitution, theft and other vices
2. **Poverty:** poverty may influence some people to get involved in unwanted behaviors such as theft and prostitution.
3. **Peer pressure:** through peer pressure, a boy or a girl may do certain things such as pre-marital sex, drinking beer and smoking in order to be accepted by friends.
4. **Frustration:** frustration may influence a person to start abusing drugs and substances, drinking beer and smoking.
5. **Ignorance:** sometimes, girls and boys get involved in reckless behavior due to lack of information on the bad effects.
6. **Drunkenness:** some people become violent when they are drunk and they disturb the peace and tranquility in the home and school.
7. **Influence of media:** the media such as videos, television, magazines and newspapers, radio and the internet expose boys and girls to foreign and uncensored cultural materials.

EFFECTS OF MORAL DEGRADATION (MORAL DECAY)

- **Moral degradation or moral decay** refers to the erosion of moral and ethical values of a society. The following are some of the effects of moral decay
 1. Increased spread of sexually transmitted infections

2. Breakdown of law and order
3. Rise in crime rate
4. Increased cases of violence against women and abuse of children
5. Vandalism of public and private property
6. Slow socio-economic development
7. Sterility or bareness

WAYS OF PREVENTING MORAL DECAY (DEGRADATION)

1. Problem solving and decision-making skills: these skills help a person to make a rational and an informed decision.
2. Self-discipline or self-control: This is about exercising control over one's behavior and emotions. it involves self-respect and respect for others.
3. Setting positive goals in life: setting positive goals about what you would like to become and achieve in life helps to avoid such things as early marriage, pre-marital sex, drug and substance abuse.
4. Assertiveness: it means standing firm by one's opinion or decision without offending others. An assertive person is able to resist negative peer pressure, achieve his or her goals.
5. Keeping busy: finding something positive to keep you busy during free time helps one to avoid getting involved in bad behaviors
6. Obedience: it means respecting the rules and rules and pieces of advice from elders, parents and others in authority such as teachers and counselors

TOPIC 11: HUMAN VIRTUES AND VICES

- **Virtues** are desirable attributes (good character or traits) of a person.
- **Vices** are undesirable attributes (bad character traits) of person.

EXAMPLES OF VIRTUES

- Courage
- Justice
- Humility
- Prudence
- Charity
- Self-control
- Tolerance
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Honesty
- Patience
- Obedience
- Generosity
- Empathy
- Love
- Hard work.

EXAMPLES OF VICES

- Corruption
- Cowardice
- Arrogance
- Impudence
- Selfishness
- Intolerance
- Disrespect
- Impatience
- Sexual immorality
- Greed
- Laziness
- Cheating
- Disobedience.

IMPORTANCE OF VIRTUES

Virtues help to:

- Promote fairness and equality
- Promote good health
- Promote peace, stability and prosperity
- Ensure proper use of resources
- Cement friendships and marriages

DISADVANTAGES OF VICES

Vices lead to:

- Conflict and wars
- Suffering and death
- Wastage of resources
- Poverty and lack of development
- Breakdown of law and order
- Break up of marriages
- Frustration, disunity and mistrust.

WAYS IN WHICH VIRTUES ARE DEVELOPED

- Constant and persistent practice
- Associating with people of good character
- Obeying rules and laws
- Seeking and following good pieces of advice from parents, elders and those in authority.

TOPIC 12: CIVIL SOCIETY

- It refers to various organizations and associations formed by citizens in order to give voice to various sectors of society and to enhance public participation.
- Civil society institutions are organizations and associations that make up civil society.
- Community Based Organizations are institutions of civil society in Malawi that operate at local level
- National civil Society Organizations (NCSOs) are those institutions that operate at national level.

1. Community based organizations: these are performed and run by people in the local area in order to address local problems: the following are the examples:

- a) Area Development Committees (ADCs)
- b) Village Development Committees (VDCs)
- c) parents-Teachers Association (PTA)
- d) Farmers' club
- e) Cooperatives
- f) Students clubs and associations.

2. National civil society organization: the following are the examples:

- a) Malawi Red Cross Society
- b) Consumers Association of Malawi (CAMA)
- c) Teachers association of Malawi ((TUM)
- d) Centre for social concern(CSCC)
- e) Public Affairs committee(PAC)
- f) Civil Society Education Coalition(CSEC)
- g) Catholic Commission for Justice and peace(CCJP)

FUNCTIONS OF CIVIL SOCIETY

- a) Limiting and controlling the power of the state by raising public concern about any abuse
- b) Lobbying for good governance
- c) Civic-educating people about their and responsibilities as democratic citizens and encouraging them to listen to election campaigns and to vote in elections
- d) Helping the poor and providing relief resistance to those affected by disasters
- e) To help in solving social problems such as inadequate housing, lack of portable water, inadequate classrooms and rising crimes
- f) Monitoring the conduct of elections
- g) Lobbying for the needs and concerns of their members, as women, students farmers, teachers etc.

WAYS IN WHICH CITIZENS CAN ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN CIVIL SOCIETY

- By taking part in public debate
- By becoming active members of civil society organizations
- By donating money or materials towards civil society activities
- By initiating the formation of civil society organizations.

IMPORTANCE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS (ROLES OF CIVIL SOCIETY)

- a) It helps to reduce citizens dependence on government for financing of local development projects
- b) It creates awareness among citizens about their rights and responsibilities
- c) It is an agent of peace through its involvement in conflict resolution
- d) It provides a training ground for future leaders
- e) It serves as a basic foundation for the consolidation of democracy by encouraging citizens participation
- f) It is an agent of change management through its involvement in civil education programmes
- g) It acts as a bridge(link) between people and the government and between workers and employers,

TOPIC 13: LABOUR LAWS

- These are laws that are used to maintain and safeguard the interest of the employees especially on legal rights and regulate labour-related issues in a country.

TYPES OF LABOUR LAWS:

- (a) **Individual labour laws:** This refers to a body of regulations that deals with employment relationship between the employer on one hand and the employees on the other.
- (b) **Collective labour laws:** the primary concern of collective labour law is to establish a affair relationship between the employees, employer and trade unions. The collective labour law allows trade

unions to organize strikes within a company if their needs and demands are not met.

IMPORTANCE OF LABOUR LAWS IN MALAWI

- Helps to maintain peace and harmony between the employer and employees
- Helps to increase the standard of living of workers and reduce poverty of the most vulnerable workers e,g the minimum wage law.
- Assist organizations or businesses to be more efficient and therefore increase productivity
- Give structure to organization and guidance to small business owners who otherwise might not incline to adhere to laws
- Give peace of mind to both union and non-union workers in terms of job security during collective activity

TOPIC 14: EMPLOYMENT

- Employment is the condition of having a regular work or the work in which one is engaged and to which one devote time.

TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT

- (a) **Formal employment:** This is where people work for an employer which may either be a company or an individual e.g. teaching, nursing, lawyers, medical officers and driving.
- (b) **Informal employment:** It involves jobs people have set up themselves and therefore work for themselves or their families e.g. shoe shining, vending, tailoring, brick laying, running taxi bicycles(kabaza)

CONTRIBUTION OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT TO THE ECONOMY OF THE COUNTRY

- **An economy** refers to an entire network or system of activities related to the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services in a local, regional and national community.
- **Employment has the following benefits:**

1. It leads to the production of goods that meet our wants and needs. So people work to create goods that everyone may need.
2. Employment produces goods which can be sold overseas which make it possible to import other goods which the country cannot produce on its own such as fuel, cars, computers and machines.
3. Employment leads to provision of services which everyone needs through such institutions as schools, banks, hotels, shops, hospitals and post offices
4. It provides money for the employed people to earn a living and support their families and thereby improving the living conditions of the people overtime
5. It promotes healthy state and local government budgets through tax revenue collected from employees.
6. Employment may also reduce social cost (evils) of unemployment such as drug abuse, family disruption, crime and destruction of the environment due to poverty.

CITIZENS' CONTRIBUTION TO THE ECONOMY OF THE COUNTRY

- a) Citizens can save more of their remunerations (rates of pay/salary) for work contribute to the economy by making more capital available to banks and leading institutions
- b) Citizens of a formal job provide tax revenue to local and central governments which is used to provide a wide range of services such as health care and education
- c) Some citizens create businesses that hire people, which help to stimulate the economy by providing consumer incomes
- d) Employed citizens are economically independent and reduce their dependence on government assistance
- e) Employed citizens earn money which assists them to support their families and relations.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

- **Conditions of service** are the rules which an employee must agree to abide by them and that they will apply to him or her whilst serving on a job.

EXAMPLES OF CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

- The duties and responsibilities of the job
- Remuneration and allowances
- Reasonable hours of work
- Leave
- Medical scheme and life insurance
- Chances of promotion and circumstances of termination

IMPORTANCE OF STUDYING CONDITIONS OF SERVICE BEFORE TAKING UP EMPLOYMENT

- It assists one to understand what employer expects from you
- It helps to understand what your remuneration and other benefits are expected to be
- It assists one in making the decision as whether to accept the job or not.
- It prevents the violations of rights if conditions of service are poor or are changed anyhow.

TOPIC 15: SOCIAL SKILLS

- a) **Social skills** are the abilities necessary to get along with others and to create and maintain satisfying interpersonal relationships.

IMPORTANT SOCIAL SKILLS

- b) **Cultural competence:** is the ability to interact effectively with people of different cultures. Lack of cultural competence can make it difficult for one to work or live in a multi-cultural environment.
- c) **Assertiveness:** means knowing what you want and why and being able to take necessary steps to achieve it. It involves being able to say what you are feeling without being aggressive or getting personal

- d) Self-esteem:** It is the way we value and feel about ourselves. A person with high self-esteem is confident, optimistic and determined to achieve what he/she wants.
- e) Decision making and problem solving:** Decision making is an important social skill that you need to learn as adolescents because of the various problems and challenges you face such as peer pressure, drugs and alcohol abuse.
- f) Empathy:** this means being able to put yourself into someone else's shoes and recognizing their feelings. Empathy is important as it help in building and strengthening relationships.
- g) Conflict resolution skills:** this involves being able to discuss a conflict calmly and rationally and come to an agreement about a solution. It helps put to avoid fighting and war and to preserve friendships.
- h) Stress and anxiety management:** Managing stress and anxiety is a very important social skill especially to adolescents who are likely to experience stress as they strive for identity in the society.
- i) Conversation skill:** Being able to make a conversation is an important social skill that enables one to make friends easily.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SOCIAL SKILLS:

- a) Social skills are goal directed
- b) Social skills are interrelated: one may use more than one social skill at the same time for the same goal
- c) Social skills are situational: use of social skills should be appropriate to the given situation
- d) Social skills can be taught, practiced and learned

ADAVTANGES OF HAVING WELL DEVELOPED SOCIAL SKILLS

- a) one has more and better relationships and friendships
- b) better communications
- c) greater efficiency
- d) one is able to make informed choices in life
- e) it is easier to land on a better job

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