GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN AFRICA

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1. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course is intended to:

- Enlighten the students to the rise of African Nationalism;
- The Identification of numerous ideologies/systems and Nation building processes;
- The evaluation of theoretical and practical knowledge;
- Bring to knowledge various issues pertaining to Government and politics in the African continent.

2. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the rise of a modern state in Africa. Introduction to Government and Politics discusses the scramble for Africa, creation of modern states, and the Rise of African Nationalism. The student will appreciate political ideologies and Nation building processes. The students will also analyze critical issues in Africa international relations and regional cooperation.

3. The rise of African nationalism

Nationalist thoughts in Sub-Saharan Africa developed amid the mid-19th century among the developing black middle classes in West Africa. Early patriots trusted to overcome ethnic fracture by making nation-states. In its most punctual period, it was propelled by African-American and Afro-Caribbean intellectuals from the Back-to-Africa movement who imported patriot standards current in Europe and the Americas during that time. The early African patriots were elitist and accepted within the amazingness of Western culture but looked for a more prominent part for themselves in political decision-making. They rejected African conventional religions and tribalism as "primitive" and grasped western thoughts of Christianity, advancement, and the nation-state. In any case, one of the challenges confronted by patriots in binding together their country after European run the show was the divisions of tribes and the arrangement of ethnicism.

African patriotism to begin with rose as a mass development for a long time after World War II as a result of wartime changes within the nature of colonial rule together with social change in Africa itself. Patriot political parties were set up in nearly all African colonies amid the 1950s, and their rise was

a vital reason for the decolonization of Africa between the early 1957 and 1966. In any case, African patriotism was never a single movement, and political bunches considered to be African patriots shifted by financial orientation and degrees of radicalism and violence. Patriots pioneers battled to discover their claim social and national personality taking after the European impact that controlled the political scene amid the colonial occupation.

African patriotism within the colonial time was frequently surrounded absolutely by resistance to colonial rule and was subsequently as often as possible vague or conflicting around its other objectives. Concurring to history specialist Robert I. Rotberg, African patriotism would not have developed without colonialism. Its connection to Pan-Africanism was moreover equivocal, with numerous patriot pioneers declaring Pan-African loyalties but still denying to commit to supranational unions. African patriots of the period have moreover been criticized for their proceeded utilization of thoughts and approaches related to colonial states. In specific, nationalists more often than not endeavored to protect national wildernesses made self-assertively beneath colonial rule after freedom and make a national sense of national character or identity among the heterogeneous populaces inside them.

4. Nation-State building process in Africa

Within the current era, nation-building alluded to the endeavors of newly independent countries, to set up trusted institutions of the national government, education, military defense, races, land registry, import customs, foreign exchange, foreign diplomacy, banking, fund, tax collection, company enlistment, police, law, courts, healthcare, citizenship, civil rights and freedoms, marriage registry, birth registry, immigration, transport infrastructure and/or civil administration charters. Nation-building can moreover incorporate endeavors to rethink the masses of domains that had been carved out by colonial powers or domains without respect to ethnic, devout, or other boundaries, as in Africa and the Balkans. These transformed states might at that point end up as reasonable and coherent national entities.

Nation-building incorporates as well the creation of national gear such as banners, coats of arms, anthems, national days, national stadiums, national carriers, national dialects, and national

myths. At a more profound level, national identity may be intentionally developed by molding diverse ethnic bunches into a country, particularly since in numerous recently built-up states colonial hones of separation and rule had brought about ethnically heterogeneous populations.

In a useful understanding of nation-building, both financial and social variables are seen as influential. The improvement of nation-states in numerous times and places is affected by varying conditions. It has been recommended that elites and masses in Great Britain, France, and the United States gradually developed to distinguish from each other as those states were built up and patriotism developed as more individuals were able to take an interest politically and to get open products in trade for charges. The later improvement of nation-states in geologically assorted, postcolonial ranges may not be comparable due to contrasts in fundamental conditions.

Numerous modern states were tormented by cronyism (the prohibition of all but companions); the corruption which disintegrates belief; and tribalism (competition between ethnic bunches inside the country). This now and then come about in their near-disintegration, such as the endeavor by Biafra to withdraw from Nigeria in 1970, or the proceeding request of the Somali individuals within the Ogaden locale of Ethiopia for total freedom. The Rwandan genocide, as well as the repetitive issues experienced by Sudan, can further be related to a need for ethnic, devout, or racial cohesion inside the country. It has frequently demonstrated troublesome to join together states with comparable ethnic but diverse colonial backgrounds.

Differences in dialect may be particularly hard to overcome within the preparation for nation-building. While a few consider Cameroon to be a case of victory, breaks are developing within the frame of the Anglophone issue. Disappointments like Senegambia Confederation illustrate the issues of joining together Francophone and Anglophone regions.

The figure below portrays the type of political government implementation per country within the African continent, as postcolonial systems.

N°	COUNTRY	GOUVERNMENT	HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
- **North Africa**			
1.	Algeria	Parliamentary unitarry Republic	Prime minister
2.	Egypt	Semi-Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
3.	Libya	Parliamentary Republic	Prime minister
4.	Morocco	Parliamentary unitary constitutional monarchy	Prime minister
5.	Sudan	Presidential federal Republic	President
6.	Tunisia	Parliamentary unitarry Republic	Prime minister
7.	Western Sahara	Semi-Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
West Africa			
8.	Burkina Faso	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
9.	Benin	Presidential unitary Republic	President
10.	Togo	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
11.	Ghana	Presidential unitary Republic	President
12.	Ivory Coast	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
13.	Liberia	Presidential unitary Republic	President
14.	Guinea	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
15.	Guinea-Bissau	Semi-Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
16.	Cape Verde	Parliamentary unitarry Republic	Prime minister
17.	Mauritania	Presidential Republic	Prime minister
18.	Mali	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
19.	Nigeria	Presidential unitary Federation	President
20.	Niger	Semi-presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
21.	Gambia	Presidential unitary Republic	President
22.	Sierra Leone	Presidential unitary Republic	President
23.	Senegal	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
Eastern Africa			
24.	Burundi	Presidential unitary Republic	President
25.	Djibouti	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
26.	Eritrea	Presidential unitary Republic	President
27.	Ethiopia	Semi-Presidential Federal Republic	Prime minister

28.	Kenya	Presidential unitary Republic	President
29.	Rwanda	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
30.	Somalia	Semi-presidential federal Republic	Prime minister
31.	Comoros	Presidential unitary Republic	President
32.	Madagascar	Semi-presidential devolved Republic	Prime minister
33.	Mauritius	Semi-presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
34.	South Sudan	Presidential Federal Republic	President
35.	Seychelles	Presidential unitary Republic	President
36.	Somalia	Semi-Presidential Federal Republic	Prime minister
37.	Uganda	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
38.	Tanzania	Presidential Federal Republic	Prime minister
Southern Africa			
39.	Angola	Presidential unitary Republic	President
40.	Botswana	Parliamentary Unitary Republic	president
41.	Lesotho	Parliamentary unitary constitutional monarchy	Prime minister
42.	Malawi	Presidential unitary Republic	President
43.	Mozambique	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
44.	Namibia	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
45.	South Africa	Semi-presidential unitary Republic	President
46.	Eswatini	Unitary Absolute monarchy	King
47.	Zambia	Presidential unitary Republic	President
48.	Zimbabwe	Presidential unitary Republic	President
Central Africa			
49.	Cameroon	Presidential unitary Republic	President
50.	Chad	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
51.	Rep. of Congo	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
52.	Democratic Rep. Of Congo	Semi-Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
53.	Gabon	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
54.	Sao Tomé and Principe	Semi-Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister
55.	Equatorial Guinea	Presidential unitary Republic	Prime minister

(FIGURE 1)

In the African politics, there are numerous types of government frameworks which are composed as shown in figure 1:

5. Absolute monarchy:

The monarch is both the Head of State and Head of the Government, his power is characterised with unlimited legal authority.

Absolute monarchy (or Absolutism as a tenet) could be a shape of government in which the ruler rules in their claimed right. In this kind of government, the King is in some cases restricted by a constitution (until present-day times). Be that as it may, in a few Absolute governments, the ruler is by no implies constrained and has supreme power. These are frequently genetic governments. On the other hand, in constitutional governments in which the authority of the head of state is additionally bound or restricted by the constitution, a lawmaker, or unwritten traditions, the King isn't the only one to make decisions, and his surrounding as well exercises power, primarily the prime minister.

The King MUSWATI lll, is the ruler of the Kingdom of Swaziland, renamed on the 50th anniversary of the Country as Eswatini.

A country once in the past with an outright government, such as Morocco, has moved toward a constitutional government. Be that as it may, in this case, the ruler still holds huge control, even to the degree that by a few measures, parliament's impact on political life is seen as insignificant.

6. **A democratic monarchy**, **constitutional monarchy, or parliamentary monarchy:**

May be a frame of monarchy in which the ruler works out their authority in understanding a constitution and isn't alone in deciding. Constitutional monarchies contrast with absolute monarchies (in which a ruler whether restricted by a constitution or not is the only one to make a decision) in that they are bound to work out powers and authorities inside limits endorsed by an set up lawful system. Constitutional monarchies run in a nation such as Morocco, where the constitution gifts significant discretionary powers to the imperial, and where the ruler holds altogether less individual caution within the exercise of their duty.

A constitutional monarchy may allude to a framework in which the ruler acts as a neutral political head of state beneath the constitution, whether composed or unwritten. Whereas most monarchs may retain formal authority and the government may legitimately work within the monarch's title.

7. **A presidential framework, or single executive framework:**

May be seen as a shape of government in which the head of government, regularly under the title of president, leads an official department that's partitioned from the legislative department in systems that utilize partition of powers. This head of government is in most cases moreover the head of state. In a presidential framework, the head of government is straightforwardly or indirectly chosen by the individuals and isn't mindful of the legislature, and the assembly cannot expel the president but in uncommon cases. A presidential framework contrasts with a parliamentary framework, where the head of government comes to control by picking up the certainty of an elected legislature.

Not all presidential frameworks utilize the title of president. Moreover, the title is now and then utilized by other frameworks. It started from a time when such an individual actually directed over the administering body. It can also be utilized by presidents in semi-presidential frameworks. Heads of state of parliamentary republics, generally ceremonial in most cases, are called presidents. Tyrants or pioneers of one-party states, whether prevalently chosen or not, are moreover regularly called presidents.

This framework is divided into 2 groups of countries composed as follow: Presidential framework without a prime minister, and a Presidential framework with a prime minister.

- **Presidential framework without a prime minister:** Angola, Benin, Comoros, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somaliland, South Sudan, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

- **Presidential framework with a prime minister:** Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Djibouti, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Ivory Coast, Rwanda, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda.

8. A semi-presidential framework, or double official framework:

Is a framework of government in which a president exists nearby a prime minister and a cabinet, with the last mentioned two reacting to the governing body of the state. It contrasts with a parliamentary republic in that it features a prevalently chosen head of state who is more than a ceremonial nonentity, and from the presidential framework in that, the cabinet, in spite of the fact that named by the president, reacts to the legislature, which may constrain the cabinet to leave through a motion of no confidence.

In a semi-presidential framework, there's continuously both a president and a head of government, normally but not only styled as a prime minister. In such frameworks, the president has veritable executive jurisdiction, but the part of a head of government may be worked out by the prime minister.

This framework is divided into 2 groups composed as follow: premier-presidential systems and premier-parliamentary systems.

- **Premier-presidential systems:** The president designates a prime minister and cabinet from the parliament with endorsement from the parliament, in any case, strictly the parliament may evacuate them from the office with what is called a vote of no confidence. The president has no right to expel the prime minister or the members of the cabinet.

The following countries located in the african region use the above mentioned framework: Algeria, Cape Verde, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Madagascar, Niger, São Tomé and Príncipe, Tunisia.

- **President-parliamentary systems:** The president is the head of state and the prime minister is the head of the government, in spite of the fact that the prime minister for the most part works beneath the tact of the former more so than in a premier-presidential framework. The president appoints the prime minister and the cabinet without a vote of confidence from the parliament but must have the bolster of a parliamentary larger part to select. In an effort to evacuate a prime minister or their cabinet from control, the president may expel them or the parliament can expel them

with simply a vote of no confidence.

The following countries located in the african region use the above mentioned framework: Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia.

9. Parliamentary and related framework:

In a parliamentary republic, the head of government is chosen or assigned by the legislature and is additionally accountable to it. The head of state is commonly called a president and (in full parliamentary republics) is isolated from the head of government, serving a generally unopinionated, ceremonial role. In these frameworks, the head of government is ordinarily called the prime minister, chancellor, or premier. In mixed republican frameworks and directorial republican frameworks, the head of government moreover serves as head of state and is more often than not, titled president.

The following countries located in the african region use the above mentioned framework: Ethiopian, Mauritius, Morocco.

10. Democratic signs of progress and withdrawals:

Since the beginning of the decade, there have been fruitful or endeavored overthrows in Guinea, Mali, Sudan, Chad, and Niger. With a landmass of 54 nations, way better politics have contributed to financial development, such as the equitable progress in Niger and Zambia in 2021 and Malawi in 2020.

In spite of COVID-19 concerns, even elections in 2021 incorporated Cape Verde and the Gambia. The year 2022 will see an expanded level of domestic and worldwide weight for the termination of an absolute monarchy in eSwatini and critical parliamentary elections in Lesotho and strains on the monarchy to become more implicated in politics. Advance abroad, four key nations have elections – Libya, Senegal, Angola, and Kenya.

Libya's presidential and parliamentary race was due to happen in December 2021 but was put off. Most individuals trusted the election, once happened will offer assistance to stabilize the nation and handle the spillover effect into its neighbors, particularly the Sahel region.

On 23 January, the people of Senegal voted for mayors over the country's 550 districts. The result of these affirmed the electoral process's authenticity and acts as a choice on the ubiquity of President Macky Sall and his Benno Bokk Yakaar party consolidation. They moreover signal what to anticipate within the prospective legislative races afterward in 2022.

Next August, Angola will be going to the polls for legislative races. The administering MPLA affirmed in march, that João Lourenço will be the party's candidate for the Presidencial race for a second mandate in the event that the MPLA wins a larger part. As in Senegal, this race will be part of a referendum based on performance and the MPLA's parliamentary supreme lion's share is at hazard. An electoral charge requiring the checking of votes to be done centrally has raised concerns over discretionary transparency.

The result of Kenya's presidential race, organized in August as well, isn't conceivable to anticipate at this early arrange. Resistance pioneer Raila Odinga has propelled his fifth bid and presently appreciates the bolster of President Uhuru Kenyatta against who's known as Kenyatta's deputy president William Ruto.

Odinga has collapsed his Orange Democratic Movement into a huge One Kenya Collusion, drawing on the collusion of politicians and foundation interface, whereas Ruto has shaped his own party, the United Deputy Party, and is mobilizing the destitute and unemployed by using his humble roots. This will be a furiously challenged race with savagery and challenged polls likely.

Crackdowns against resistance in absolutisms proceed, such as for instance the sentencing of Benin presidential challengers to long imprisonment terms, and in December 2021 Ugandan resistance pioneer Bobi Wine was encompassed by police at his home and put beneath house capture ahead of an arranged campaign rally for a local by election.

11. Conclusion

To conclude, it should be said that the choice of a political and government system, does have an impact on any country

seeking developement at a local and/or global level.

This been said, it should be outlined that most countries pioniers or leaders, mostly rely on one or two political and goverment systems, thus a combination is possible with a set of systems, but normally one only in order to achieve their allocated goals as a nation.

Government systems that are most coveted are those of presidential, and parliamentary - as most leaders combine 2 to 3 models in such a way of getting the most out of each systems in search of conquering power or simply keeping it.

Although, there is one political system that welcomes all the other frameworks for an implimentation joined, that is presidential applyed with democracy. This type of gouvernace method has shown its positive values, and has seen to be gathered globaly in the 21st century. Not to exclude the fact that some regions in Africa, are governed by a autocrates who adhere to the democratic system and who uses the presidential type of governance, and yet find themselves on the road to developement.

Thus, it should be said, the choice of a political and government system to be implemented should take into consideration the cultural situation of the region it's planned to be grounded upon.

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