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Rule of law

Rule of law:- is a political and legal concept which is closely related to democratic governance.

- It is a legal concept which dictates that all people are equal before the law.

Source of rule of law

a) Constitution
b) Domestic laws
c) International laws

Varieties of laws

1. Natural law:- Supported by scientific discoveries. Believe that natural is the source of every law. Eg. The law of gravity.
2. Divine law:- considered to be the outcome of the divine power. Believed that every is emanates from God/Allah. Eg. The Then commandment.
3. Common law:- comprises t6he body of those principles and rules of action relating to the existence of gov't, security of person and property. The customary practice of the society used as a law.
4. Statute law:- is a formal written laws enacted by the legislature.
5. International law:- are those internationally agreed treaties and conversions by states which have binding effect.

Constitution as a source of rule of law

Constitution:- is a final or fundamental law of a nation.

- It is a document which states about the power & function of gov't rights and responsibilities of citizens, etc
- Establishes the r/ship b/n the state & society.
- Provides basic organs of gov't and admn

Constitutional experience of Ethiopia

1. The 1931 constitution

- It was the first written constitution.
- Was drafted by Emperor H/sillassie
- Was a direct copy of Meiji constitution of Japan.
- The constitution provided the three organ of gov't.

a) Legislature

Create bi-camerl parliament

- Bupper House (composed of nobilities)
- Lower House (composed of individuals elected by nobilities)

b) Executives:- established ministerial executives

c) Judiciary:- established Emperial court (Zufan Chilot) as the last appellate court.

2. **The 1955 constitution**:- gave more attention to strengthening the absolute power of the emperor.
   - The second constitution
   - This constitution granted an absolute power of the king over the executive, the legislature and judiciary.
   - Gave some additional rights for the people like
     - Freedom of mov't
     - Freedom of speech
     - Right to vote.

3. The 1987 constitution

- It was the 3rd written constitution
- Drafted by the regime of Dergue
- Based on sociality ideology
- Give special attention for group right

- Established uni0cameral parliament (the national sheng)
- Allowed sighe party system (WPP)

4. The 1995 constitution
   - Established bi-cameral parliament
     - HPR
     - HF
   - Introduced federal system gov't.
   - Recognize both human and democratic rights of citizens.
   - Allowed multi-party system
   - States power and functions of gov't.

Breakdown of rule of law

What happened if rule of law is breakdown

- Civil war
- Lawlessness
- Disorder
- Illegal trade
- Contraband
- Dispute
- Conflict

Corruption

Corruption:- is the act of using a gov't position for one's own or other advantages.

Embezzlement:- using public or gov't property and money for personal gain.

Bribery:- giving r receiving money to get advantage over the other.

Nepotism:- giving special favour for once friend or relatives.

Abuse of power:- wrong use of power.