

Political Participation in Africa: A Comparative Analysis in Ghana and South Africa

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Abstract

The pertinence of political participation is unarguable in democratic setting as it remains a potent tool to strengthening the legitimacy of political authority and promotion of stability and order. However, it is appalling to say that despite its relevance globally, political participation is questionable in African states, as citizens are less interested in their national politics because of violent-laden electoral processes, bribery and corruption in government, lack of transparency and accountability, patriarchal orientation, aged-politics, ill-governance, etc. Despite these facts, the level of participation in these states varies. Therefore, this paper was established to comparatively analyse the level of participation in Ghana and South Africa. The paper adopted a desk research method and employed general incentive theory as a theoretical framework. The paper discovered that despite the dense population in South Africa compared to Ghana, Ghana is more politically active than South Africa in electoral activities. It was also discovered that both countries have low level of popular participation compared to other countries due to some common factors which implications are graven on the political, social and economic structure of the countries. Thus, the paper recommends that both countries should provide a legal framework that aims to increase the representation of youth and women, the marginalized groups and citizens in the rural areas in the affairs of the state, stringent policies and regulations that shun corruption and embezzlement of public funds should be implemented.

Keywords: African politics, electoral process, political participation, political representation, under-participation.

Introduction

Participation in politics is an essential component of every political system globally. The ability of a political system to remain stable and advanced depends on how engaged and informed its populace is with civic and political issues. Therefore, Halder and Campbell-Phillips (2020) assert that involving a large number of people in governmental affairs strengthens the legitimacy of political authority and promotes stability and order. Thus, Appadorai (2004, cited in Falade, 2014) was of the view that when a particular level of intelligence and virtue from an average person including sane behaviour and active engagement in politics is in place in either governmental or private area, democracy is therefore enhanced and embraced.

In global contemporary world, popular participation in politics is apparently increasing due to some push and pull factors ranging from vast global acceptance of the tenets and principles of democracy, a shift in particularistic orientation to that of collective orientation and global developmental approach that fosters government-citizens partnership, international treaty and law, decolonisation and the impetus of globalisation etc. (Otero, 2019; Helen, 2018; Ajayi & Ojo, 2014; Fox, 1992). However, despite the increase in participation as a result of these factors,

the level of political participation in every country varies. That is to say, the level of political participation in a society where government is responsive and responsible, corruption is minimal, development is actively pursued, human rights are adequately guaranteed, etc. will be high in contrast to a society which is conflict-ridden, where violence is perpetual, electoral process is synonymous to Acel dama, election is a do or die affair due to power-drunken syndrome, daily news headline of civil unrest, assassination and mass killings of people, bribery and corruption in government, lack of transparency and accountability, patriarchal orientation, ill-governance etc. (Ajayi & Ojo, 2014), popular participation in political affairs in such a society will be asymmetrically low and apathy and illegitimate government mostly become the order of the day. A clear picture of the above is the distinction between the level of political participation between European and African states, more reason the kind of governance found in the later states are primitive and not citizen-centred,

Africa is obviously regarded as one of the most populous continents in the world, inhabiting about 54 countries according to United Nation (2022), with each country having several cultural behaviour and beliefs, languages and political norms, however, one of the major similarities between them is colonisation. Most of the African countries were colonised by Britain, France or Portugal with different policies adopted by each colonialist. However, colonisation came to an end due to its scourge on the colonies, the rise of nationalism consciousness coupled with other reasons. Therefore, Clapham (2013) asserts that political mobilization that the decolonization movement sparked has given African cultures awareness of political involvement. Since that time, Africans have always participated actively in politics. Nevertheless, citizens' participation in the post-colonial era in national politics in many African states is taken for granted, as there are/were increasing lack of faith in most political institutions.

Biney and Amoateng (2019) stated that the primary factor contributing to the decline in trust in governmental institutions in Africa society and consequential decline in popular participation is corruption and bad leadership. According to Milan (2020), corruption erodes political participation because it weakens the voice of citizens by transferring authority and resources from the public to the private sphere which fosters individualism and a desire for profit. As a result, the electorate typically receives subpar and ineffective services. Due to citizens' exclusion from political decision-making, democratic legitimacy is consequently compromised. More so, the non-democratic and unethical attitude of the political parties in ensuring a smooth transition in democracy is also a factor. In particular, the ruling parties have become accustomed to sabotaging the rightful will of the African electorates by influencing electoral commissions in charge of conducting elections, and the tribunal. Today many democratic transitions have failed right before the eyes of the electorates during an election period (Armingeon & Schädel, 2015).

However, in the 21st century, the existence of emerging economy in African states, the race for development and the stretching hand of globalisation, coupled with the agitations of youth and women political representation prompted increasing political involvement of populace in their national politics. Thus, it is on this basis this paper is established to make a comparative study on the level of political participation between Ghana and South Africa.

Conceptual Clarification

Concept of Political Participation

Political participation remains an indispensable feature of democracy. Although, political participation can be roughly described as citizens' activities that influence politics, it has been offered several definitions by different scholars. To Weiner, political participation refers to the voluntary efforts shared by members of a society in determining their rulers and either directly or indirectly influencing the formulation of public policy (Awofeso and Odeyemi, 2014). This reflects that, political participation is not a forceful activity by citizens due to the pressures of the ruling elites, but a voluntary activity by the citizens in order to influence the decisions that affect them. Also, political participation is characterized by Akamare as a component of political behaviour that focuses on how people engage in politics (Falade, 2014). Thus, to Deth (2016), the various types of political behaviour that could be regarded as political participation include voting, signing a petition, or registering an objection. Comprehensively, Fayomi and Adebayo (2018) assert that one of the primary prerequisites for democratic administration is political participation. Thus, they defined political participation as the participation of the people in the political process, a way of carrying out one's civic duty in political systems, and the general advancement of the country. Therefore, Eremenko (2014) is of the view that actions such as voting, participating in and making financial contributions to electoral campaigns and organizations, contacting government officials, attending protests, marches, or demonstrations, informal problem-solving with others, serving unpaid on local elected and appointed boards, being politically engaged through the use of non-profit organisations, and making financial contributions to political organisations etc. are examples of political participation.

In addition, variants of political participants have been identified in literature, to Verba and Nie (1972 cited in Johann, Steinbrecher & Thomas, 2020) there are three typologies of political participants which include, activists or active participants, voting specialists, inactive participants. While some identified political participants base on specialization- all-round activists, high-voting engaged, mainstream and disengaged participants (Oser, 2017; Hooghe, Oser & Marien, 2016). However, the salient point in the various typologies advanced in literature is to explain the various level at which each participant involves in politics, that is, the level of activeness.

Conclusively, it can be deduced that political participation simply means influencing politics, and common features are evident and beyond debate in all definitions offered. Firstly, participation is understood as an activity (or action); merely watching television or having an interest in politics does not qualify. Secondly, political engagement is entirely up to the individual and is neither mandated by the ruling class nor required by law. Thirdly, participation does not mean acting in the capacity of a politician, civil servant, or lobbyist but rather involves people acting in their capacity as amateurs or non-professionals. Fourth, political participation is not limited to specific levels or areas (such as national elections or interactions with party officials) or to specific phases (such as parliamentary decision-making processes or enforcing laws). Political participation concerns government, politics, or the state in broad senses.

Therefore, political participation can be defined as any unpaid, volunteer action that has to do with the state, politics, or government (Deth, 2016).

Theoretical Framework

This paper adopts the general incentive theory as a framework to analyse why a particular society has high-level of political participation to others. The theory was adopted because it exposes the *raison d'être* behind peoples' participation in politics. The general incentive theory by Seyd and Whiteley was an advancement of the incentive theory of motivation by B. F. Skinner, which espoused that people are motivated to act in ways that they believe will lead to positive outcomes (rewards) or prevent negative outcomes (punishments) (Kendry, 2025).

Seyd and Whiteley however, founded the general incentive theory to explain the differences in degrees of activism among political party members developed in the 1990s, asserting that individual members of a party or electorates estimates the pros and cons, benefits and losses, privileges and dangers in participating in politics before they take any decision (Gallagher, Liston, Marsh, & Weeks, 2002). This theory is mostly linked with the rational choice theory, which states that individual decides to participate in politics after taking consideration of alternatives and choosing the most favourable. The fundamental tenet of the general incentive theory is that people must have incentives to engage in politics, whether they are individual or communal. That is, people may only be motivated to participate in politics if they believe that their goal or ambition will be achieved.

According to Whiteley (1994), there are three different kinds of incentives that can motivate people to participate. These include process, outcome, and ideology. That is, for people to participate in an electoral process, they must ascertain that the process is free from violent and will be free and fair. Secondly, people will participate in election if there are benefits to be derived after participation, it may be collective but mostly a private interests. Lastly, ideological foundation of the contesting political parties determines the number of members, which also indicates the type of trend and issue that exists at a certain moment

Therefore, level of participation in any country, especially African countries is determined by the motives of the people who are participating. An election which is to kick out a despotic leader, or an election which is to oust a leadership perceived to be incapable of solving a political issue causing a drastic and dire situation in country, will motivate a large amount of people especially if an alternative candidate is perceived to be credible enough by the populace to arrest such situation, compared to an election where there is an imposition of candidate on the masses. Take for instance, the 2015 General Election in Nigeria. The APC candidate, former President Buhari, got the majority vote because the people perceived he is capable to bring a change to the country. That is, to end the run of corruption that bedevilled the political system and to put a stop to the insurgency of Boko Haram that has taken root in the Northern part of the country (Ndege, 2015).

More so, level of participation may increase if the populace perceives opportunities of employment, recruitment, appointment into public offices, contracts etc. may open to them just by voting for a candidate. The theory which also assumes that the process of participation itself

may be an incentive for people participating in an election could be justified on the ground that, campaigns, political meetings etc. are avenue for some people to mingle, relate and fulfil their potentials.

Therefore, the level of participation in two different countries may vary at a particular time depending on the incentives or motives that motivates the people to participate in politics at a given time. The clause of this is that, when people see no interest, or incentive to participate in politics at a given time, the level of participation may be low and therefore may snowball into degrading the legitimacy of the government. Although the theory is relevant in explaining the reason people engage in politics, and its significance in explaining why the level of participation is high in some places at a given time, the theory fails to account for citizens who vote just because they want to exercise their political duties without no motives or goal(s) to achieve. The theory is also is faulty on being too tautological.

Degree of Participation in Ghana and South Africa

The level of political participation in various countries differs, as each country is shaped by its cultural and historical background and political antecedents. Mostly, African states' politics are predicated on elitism or system of oligarchy, where power rotates among the few, under-representation or marginalisation of some segment of the society, sit-tight syndrome etc. (Ajayi & Ojo, 2014). Although most African states may have similarities in nature of politics, each state still maintains some level of political participation however in different variation. Therefore, a proper examination will be carried to check the level of youth and women political participation in Ghana and South Africa.

Political Participation in Ghana from 2000-2020

Ghana remains one of the African states with high level of political participation, although with fewer populations to some African states. According to the preliminary report of the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) (2021) report, the de facto population of Ghana was 30,792,608 people, composed of 15,610,149 females and 15,182,459 males as of the 2021 Population and Housing Census (PHC). The national sex ratio is 97 males for every 100 females, with men constituting 50.7% of the population overall and women 49.3%. However, political participation in Ghana has evolved significantly since the country gained independence in 1957. Over the years, Ghanaians have become more politically engaged, and the country has seen a rise in political awareness, activism, and participation. The overview of the level of political participation in Ghana, the factors that have contributed to the growth of political participation in the country will be examined.

One of the most significant factors contributing to political participation in Ghana is the country's democratic system. Since the adoption of a multi-party system in 1992, Ghana has held several successful elections, which have been praised for their transparency and fairness (Adjei, 2012). The country has also witnessed a peaceful transfer of power from one government to another, further consolidating its democratic credentials. This has encouraged more Ghanaians to engage in the political process, as they believe their votes can make a difference. Another factor that has contributed to the growth of political participation in Ghana is the role of civil society organizations. Civil society organizations, such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs),

community-based organizations (CBOs), and faith-based organizations (FBOs), have played a critical role in mobilizing citizens to participate in the political process.

These organizations have organized voter education programs, political debates, and other forms of civic education, which have helped to raise political awareness and encourage more Ghanaians to participate in the political process. For instance, the Strengthening Transparency Accountability and Responsiveness (STAR-Ghana) an empowerment programme established in 2015 was an empowerment managed by religious bodies, civil societies, parliaments and academia to promote and increase accountability and responsiveness of the Ghanaian government to the citizens and have carried out several political educations to Ghanaians (Christian Aid, 2018). The media has also played a significant role in promoting political participation in Ghana. The media, both traditional and new, has provided a platform for citizens to express their views on political issues and hold their leaders accountable. The media has also helped to expose corruption and other forms of malfeasance by public officials, further encouraging citizens to participate in the political process. Dampsey and Akparep (2014) observed that the 2016 Presidential Election in Ghana could be so tough and shaky due to the immense impact of media, as the politicians used both the conventional media and social media to capture the minds of the people towards voting in the election.

Despite the significant progress made in promoting political participation in Ghana, there are still some challenges that need to be addressed. One of the main challenges is low voter turnout and representation, particularly among the youth and women. According to the Ghana Electoral Commission, voter turnout in the 2020 general elections was 79%, which is relatively low compared to some other African countries. Additionally, youth and women participation and representation in politics remains low, with many feelings disillusioned with the political process and believing that their voices are not being heard due to the domination by the old statesmen and patriarchal nature of their politics.

The table below reflects the level of youth and women representation in the parliament of Ghana within the Year 2000-2020

Year	Youth Representation (by No.)	Female Representation (%)
2000	18	10%
2004	18	11%
2008	20	9%
2012	44	11%
2016	44	13%
2020	44	14.5%

Source: Ghana Parliamentary Register (2013–2020); Van-Gyampo (2015).

According to estimates from the 2010 Ghana population census, the youth made up about 35% of Ghana's population and are regarded as a valuable human resource with the potential to make a significant contribution to national development by all stakeholders, including government officials, state institutions, civil society organizations, and development partners. Nevertheless, the youth have rarely been involved in the management of the country. It could be observed from the above table that between 2000 and 2012 there was low level of youth representation in Ghana parliament, a tremendous change in their representation was seen from 2012 election, where the youth were massively appointed into the parliaments, having the total of 44 MPs within the age bracket of 32-40yrs. However, Hounkpe and Bucyana (2013) argued that young people make up the majority of eligible voters, accounting for 58.45% of all registered voters in 2012 and 76% of all voters in 2000, respectively. As a result, they noted that there has been a high level of youth participation in politics in Ghana, as young people play several key roles in relation to electoral processes and their management, such as acting as agents representing parties to monitor all the steps vis-à-vis the candidates.

On the part of women representation, despite the fact that the female gender makes the majority of the total population, in the table above it could be seen that there has been low representation of women in principal government positions- the lowest percentage of women since the eve of the Fourth Republic in 1992 is 9% of 2008 and the highest is the 14.5% in the last election in 2020, same wise no female has even been the president of Ghana, only just an attempt by Nana Konadu (Ofori, 2019). However, there has been large women participation in politics such as attending party meetings, campaigns and rallies, community-based service and active participation in civil society organisations.

In conclusion, political participation in Ghana has improved significantly over the years, with citizens becoming more politically engaged and active. The country's democratic system, civil society organizations, and the media have played a critical role in promoting political participation in Ghana. However, there is still more work to be done to address some of the challenges, such as low voter turnout and youth participation, in order to strengthen Ghana's democracy and ensure that every citizen's voice is heard.

Political Participation in South Africa from 2002-2020

South Africa is also one of the renowned states in Africa, having estimated in 2021 to be having about 60.14 million populations as at midyear. Males made up 48.9% of the population (or 29.39 million), while females made up 51.1% (or 30.75 million) (Statistics South Africa, 2022). Political participation in South Africa has been a major feature of the country's political landscape since the end of apartheid and the establishment of a democratic government in 1994. Over the years, South Africans have become more politically aware and engaged, and the country has seen a rise in political activism and participation. Political participation in South Africa has undergone significant changes over the years. Prior to 1994, during the apartheid era, only white citizens were allowed to participate in the political process. With the end of apartheid and the establishment of democracy, however, all citizens were granted the right to vote and participate in the political process (Pradhan, 2009).

One of the most significant ways in which South African citizens participate politically in South Africa is voting and protests (Khambule, 2021). Despite that the constitution of South Africa provides that every citizen over the age of 18 has the right to vote in local, provincial, and

national elections, yet voter turnout has remained relatively low since 1994, only in 2019 National Election could be regarded as a positive change seeing a turnout of over 65% (World Population Review, 2023). To Seanego & Magoboya, (2019) and Tracey, (2016) low voter turnout is attributed to the lack of alternative political parties, loyalty to the former liberation party, a lack of trust in political parties and several other factors. Also, apart from voting, South African citizens participate in the political process by joining political parties, attending rallies and protests, and engaging in public discourse on social media and other platforms. However, these forms of participation have become increasingly important in recent years in South Africa due to the corrupt driven government the country has, as there is annual increment in poverty and unemployment rate in South Africa, thus young people relied on the social media as a way to make their voices heard on issues such as climate change and economic inequality. Inconsonance, Stats SA, (2021) noted that even though the nation has had democracy for almost 27 years, socioeconomic situations are still becoming worse. As a result, the unemployment rate is now 32.6% and the poverty rate is 55.5%. These issues coupled with some factors, led to the apathetic and the inactive nature of the youth in political participation, particularly in electoral processes.

Although young people in South Africa show little interest in politics, women's involvement in politics has increased since the country's democratic process began in 1994 because of their desire to make a difference and the policies that give special protection to women and other marginalized groups.

Table depicting the level of female participation in South African parliament from 1994 to 2019

Year	Women Participation (%)
1994	27.7%
1999	30%
2004	33%
2009	43%
2014	40%
2019	46%

Source: Parliamentary Monitoring Group, 2021.

According to Statistics South Africa (2021) women make up 51.2% of South Africa's population, progressively, the nation has advanced and is now recognized as "one of the most gender-diverse parliaments" globally, coming in third in Africa and ninth overall. Nevertheless, according to Makgale and Chibwe (2019), gender equality has not yet been achieved in South Africa. However, despite the low level of women representation in South Africa National Assembly parliament since 1994, there was a progressive jig in 2019 as they recorded for the 46% women representation in the Parliament. This remarkable record, made South Africa stands

tall amongst all other African countries with the highest woman representation, also they were able to have an interim female president for the first time in 2005, Ivy Matsepe-Casaburri.

It is worth noting, however, that South Africa still faces significant challenges when it comes to political participation. Many citizens, particularly those living in rural or impoverished areas, do not have access to information about the political process or faces barriers to participating, such as lack of transportation or language barriers. Additionally, corruption and other forms of political unrest discourage citizens from participating in the process. Despite these challenges, however, political participation remains an important aspect of South Africa's democracy. By engaging in the political process and making their voices heard, citizens help shape the policies and decisions that affect their lives.

Comparison between the Level of Political Participation in Ghana and South Africa

The level of political participation in Ghana and South Africa is drastically different due to a variety of factors. Ghana has historically had a more active and engaged citizenry when it comes to politics, with a long history of political activism and a relatively high level of voter turnout. For instance, the voters turn out in 2020 Parliamentary election in Ghana was 78% while South Africa in 2019 was 66.05% (World Population Review, 2023). In contrast, South Africa has a more complicated political landscape, with a history of political corruption and other forms of unrest that have discouraged some citizens from participating in the process. However, not to say, Ghana doesn't have a fair share of corruption in their country, only fairer than South Africa.

One factor that contributes to these differences is the level of political education and awareness in each country. In Ghana, for instance, there is a strong culture of political engagement and discussion, with many citizens actively seeking out information about political candidates and issues. This level of awareness has led to the higher level of voter turnout and broader participation in the political process (Amenyeawu, 2021). In South Africa, citizens' education is rather shifted to solving their personal life problems independent on government or the political process.

Another factor is the degree of trust that citizens have in their political institutions and leaders. In Ghana, there is generally a greater degree of trust in the government and political system than in South Africa, where corruption and other forms of political instability have eroded public confidence in the process. This lack of trust has led to lower levels of participation, as citizens feel that their voices are not being heard or that the system is rigged against them. Likewise, there is higher participation and representation of Youths in Ghana than in South Africa. In contrary, there is higher participation and representation of women in South Africa than in Ghana, this is also evident as South Africa recorded a female president named Ivy Matsepe-Casaburri in 2005, although as an interim president, but revealed the level of women impacts in the country.

However, despite the discrepancy, both countries have some indices in common. South Africa and Ghana are two African countries that have experienced significant political changes in recent history. Both countries have made progress towards democracy and have established systems for political participation. South Africa's political participation has been shaped by its history of apartheid and the struggle for democracy. The country has a multi-party system, with

the African National Congress (ANC) being the dominant party. South Africans have the right to vote in national and provincial elections, and there are also local elections. The country also has a vibrant civil society, with many organizations advocating for various social and political issues.

In Ghana, political participation has also evolved over time. The country gained independence from British colonial rule in 1957 and has since had a multi-party system. Ghana has a president who is elected for a four-year term and a parliament with 275 members, while South Africa is 5-year term. In recent years, Ghana has made efforts to increase the participation of women in politics, with a quota system in place to ensure that women are represented in parliament. Overall, both South Africa and Ghana have made strides towards democracy and political participation. However, there are still challenges in both countries, including corruption, inequality, and limited access to political power for marginalized groups.

In conclusion, a multitude of factors influence political participation in Ghana and South Africa, including education, awareness, trust, and historical background. While both countries face challenges when it comes to engaging citizens in the political process, Ghana has historically had a more active and engaged citizenry, while South Africa continues to struggle with corruption and other forms of instability that can discourage participation.

Implications of Low Level of Political Participation on African States

Political participation is a fundamental aspect of any democratic society. It refers to the ways in which citizens engage with the political process, such as voting in elections, attending public meetings, and contacting elected representatives. When political participation is low, it can have significant implications for a country, affecting both the quality of democracy and the well-being of its citizens.

One of the primary implications of low political participation is political factors. Politically low level of political participation can undermine the legitimacy of the democratic process. When a significant portion of the population does not participate in elections or other political activities, it can call into question whether the government truly represents the will of the people (Mindzie, 2015). This can lead to cynicism and distrust towards the political system, which can erode the foundation of democracy itself. In addition, low political participation can lead to a lack of representation for certain groups within society. When people do not participate in the political process, their voices and perspectives may not be heard, and their interests may not be adequately represented. This can lead to policies that do not reflect the needs or desires of the entire population, which can contribute to social and economic inequality.

Furthermore, low political participation can contribute to a lack of accountability among elected officials. When citizens do not hold their representatives accountable through political participation, it can create an environment in which politicians feel less pressure to be responsive to the needs of their constituents (Ekman, Gherghina, & Podolian, 2016). This can lead to corruption and abuse of power, which can further erode trust in the political system. Finally, low political participation can have negative consequences for the well-being of citizens (Mindzie, 2015). When people do not participate in the political process, they may be less likely to be informed about important issues that affect their lives. This can lead to a lack of awareness and engagement with policies that affect their health, safety, and economic security.

By and large, low political participation can have significant implications for a country, affecting both the quality of democracy and the well-being of its citizens- its political, social and political structure. To ensure that democracy remains strong and effective, it is important to promote political participation through efforts such as voter education, outreach, and engagement. By doing so, we can help ensure that all citizens have a voice in shaping the policies that affect their lives, and that democracy remains responsive to the needs of the people it serves.

Conclusion

The paper focused on the comparative analysis of the level of participation in Ghana and South Africa. The study discovered that participation of citizens in the governmental affairs of a nation strengthens the legitimacy of political authority and promotes stability and order. Despite its potency and pertinence, some African states governmental institutions lack the full support of their citizens, particularly, the youth and women, due to some common factors. Thus, there exist a discrepancy between the citizens and the government resulting to low level of participation, so to say apathy. However, the level of participation between these countries varies. The paper finds out that despite the dense population in South Africa compared to Ghana, there is high level of voters turn out in elections in Ghana than in South Africa. Specifically, the level of participation in politics by the women and youth in both countries varies. Nevertheless, both countries have low level of popular participation compared to other countries due to high level of corruption, bad leadership, ineptitude attitude of government and negligence of the citizens, patriarchal political orientation, historical political antecedents etc. Thus, implication of this is that it affects the country's political structure; create social problems and stifles economic development. It can also lead to lack of awareness and engagement with policies that affect the health, safety, and economic security of the citizens.

Recommendation

Therefore, the paper recommends that for there to be stable and legitimize political settings through active political participation of all citizens, the government of the both Ghana and South Africa should:

- i. Provide a legal framework that aims to increase the representation of youth and women, the marginalized groups and citizens in the rural areas in the affairs of the state at both local, state and the national government, as these will foster equality and reduce the patriarchal and older statesmen orientation.
- ii. Formulate and implement some stringent policies and regulations that shun corruption and embezzlement of public funds as these have resulted into political apathy of youths due to increase in unemployment and poverty rate.
- iii. Organize viable economic projects and programmes that are citizens centred so as to alleviate the level of economic incapacities amongst the citizens and in turn boost the economy growth of the two countries.
- iv. Encourage freedom of speech of the media and respect for the fundamental human rights of the citizens, as this will enhance citizens to air their voices to the government so as to maintain government-citizen collaboration.

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