National Integratio n

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Definition of Terms

Nation:

A large community of people, sharing a common history, decent, language, culture, and living in a particular territory under one government.

National:

Refers to that which is of or belongs to a nation.

Integration: - bringing together of different parts to make a unified whole.

Unity:- state of being one/oneness or having harmony or in agreement

National integration: Bringing together of diverse communities to form a nation.

Importance of National Integration

- Integration

 1) Development of national unity by creating a state of being together inspite of the diversity of the communities
- 2) It fosters socio-economic development by creating an enabling environment, various ills e.g. tribalism, corruption, drug abuse, and the aids pandemic can be dealt with collectively
- 3) Promotes political stability
- 4) Promotes peaceful co-existence of different tribes and races/tolerance on one another

- 5) Promotes collective responsibility when tackling issues of national importance e.g. calamities such as floods, raising money for famine relief
- 6) It promotes nationalism, patriotism, loyalty and good citizenship
- 7) It facilitates efficient communication throughout the country
- 8) It gives the country a sense of national direction enabling citizens to develop national goals e.g. national mottos harambee, nyayoism
- 9) Reduces fear, suspicion and civil strife
- 10) Creates a conducive climate that attracts foreign investment.

Factors promoting National Unity

- 1. The constitution
 - Kenya has a unitary constitution that guarantees equal rights and opportunities to all Kenyans.

2. Education

- instills a feeling of belonging in pupils
- based on a common curriculum
- students are admitted from various parts of Kenya
- participation in inter-school drama, music and sports helps students appreciate their diverse cultures.

- 3. The presidency:-the apex of unity
- 4. National language
 - use of Kiswahili which was officially recognized as the national language in 1975
 - ✓ it helps overcome communication barriers and gives Kenyans a sense of identity and belonging
- 5. socio-economic interaction e.g.
 - intermarriages
 - Friendship
 - Games and sports
 - Trade
 - Common currency.

- 6. Equal distribution of resources
- 7. Political parties:- Kenya is a multi-party state
- 8. Equal employment opportunities:
- 9. Freedom to settle and own property
- 10. One government-Kenya has one government, comprising the legislature, executive and judiciary recognized by every Kenyan.
 - 11. Mass media- newspapers, magazines, radios, tv, etc. are used to disseminate information to all parts of the country.

- 12. symbols of national unity i.e.
 - a. national flag
 - b. national anthem
 - c. coat of arms
 - d. loyalty pledge
 - e. national awards

Kenyans identify with these symbols. They are thus symbols of nationhood.

- 13. Urbanization-people in urban areas live and work together irrespective of their background
- 14. National mottos-Harambee and Nyayoism; these rally Kenyans on issues of national importance.
- 15. religious organizations-Kenyans are allowed by the constitution to worship in any manner they choose
- 16. National holidays-these are national days that commemorate important events in Kenya's history

Factors limiting National Unity

- 1) Racism
- 2) Tribalism
- 3) Nepotism:
- 4) Corruption
- 5) Religious conflicts
- 6) Uneven economic development
- 7) Party membership
- 8) Poverty
- 9) Cultural diversity-cultural conflicts can undermine national unity
- 10) Ignorance-intolerance of other people's views and opinions undermines cohesion.

Meaning of the Term Conflict

- A state of disagreement where two people or groups have divergent interest
- II. Struggle/clash/fights between people

It manifests itself in:-

- 1. quarrels
- arguments
- anger
- 4. bitterness
- 5. rivalries
- 6. stress
- 7. differences in opinion and opposition
- 8. violence.

CAUSES OF CONFLICT

Economic issues

- 1) Corruption
- 2) Conflicts that involve Kenya with foreign donor agencies
- 3) Control of mineral resources and other am materials
- 4) Imbalances in resource allocation extreme poverty
- 5) Control of mineral resources and other raw materials
- 6) Contractual conflicts where a party fails to keep their part of the contract.
- 7) Industrial/trade disputes e.g. between employers and employees.
- 8) Land ownership/occupancy or tenure. this has led to clashes e.g. rift valley (enosupukia, burnt forest) Likoni in coast province
- Trading policies-whether bi-lateral or multilateral involving Kenya and other foreign countries based e.g. on imposition of tariffs, perceived to harm the country's trading interests

Social issues

- i. Incompatible goals
- ii. Family or clan disputes
- iii. Religious conflicts-within and between religions
- iv. Regional imbalances I provision of amenities e.g education

Political issues

- i. Influx of refugees into Kenya form neighbouring countries
- ii. Boundary disputes between Kenya & her neighbours
- Disputes arising due to the nature of Political power and Ethnic Diversity

Levels of conflict

- 1) Individual versus individual
- 2) Group versus group
- 3) Individual versus state
- 4) Group versus state
- 5) State versus state

Effects of Conflicts

- 1. Insecurity and fear arising due to lawlessness
- 2. Impoverishment of the people
- 3. Displacement of people
- 4. Death of people
- 5. Disruption and ruin of property
- 6. Economic decline
- 7. Famine due to disruption and neglect of economic activities

Methods of resolving conflicts

Conflict resolution

- 1. Creation of peace
- 2. Patching up differences
- 3. Restoring broken relations
- 4. Bringing together opposing parties
- 5. Relaxation or cessation of tension
- 6. Working out settlement to diffuse the conflict

Conflict resolution methods

Peaceful methods

- Mediation a person not involved in the conflict intervenes & assists the parties in conflict to arrive at an agreement
- 2. Litigation —resolving a dispute through a court system
- 3. Arbitration- resolution is done by a neutral person not involved in the conflict.
- 4. Negotiation/diplomacy-it involves a dialogue between the conflicting parties through fact finding.

- 5. Problem solving workshops applied where there is deep-rooted & disputes involving warring parties, who discuss in the presence of a facilitator to find a solution.
- 5. Use of peace keeping missions sent to war ton areas to ensure and effect ceasefire or truce.
- 5. Legislation parliament can enact laws that controls conflicts
- 6. Compromising method there is no winner or looser, it is based on bargaining by the parties involved in order to arrive at acceptable solutions.
- 5. International agreement used to settle disputes between countries; such include border disputes, resource utilization.

- 10. Policing involves maintenance of law and order.
 presence of police deters crimes, which are a source of disputes. used in areas where there are clashes
- 10. Collaboration:- disputing parties willingly resolve their disputes and arrive at suitable solutions.
- 10. Religious action:- religious leaders are called upon to resolve disputes of a religious, social or even political nature.
- 10. Council of elders:- use of elders/wise men in conflict resolution.

Negative methods

- 1. subjugation:- this involves war.
- Avoidance: avoiding responsibility and refusing to accept defeat. Involves withdrawal of one party and refusal to continue with the process of negotiating.

Processing of resolving conflicts

- 1) Recognize that a conflict exits
 - 2) State the conflict this entails drawing up a statement and defining the issues in dispute
 - 3) Give a diagnosis nature and root causes of the conflict
 - 4) Examine the grievances among the disputing parties. scrutinize in detail al relevant information
 - 5) Discuss the options available for solving the dispute by looking at all possible ways of reconciliation
 - 6) Look for a solution in doing so, consider all options and- settle for the best and most suitable, new ideas and exercise fairness
 - 7) Implement the solution to ensure that the solution is working out and that the problem will not recur
 - 8) Evaluate the solution to assess its effectiveness.

