

The
Management
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UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

BDS 411: HUMAN RIGHTS AND ADVOCACY

DATE: 9TH APRIL 2026

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

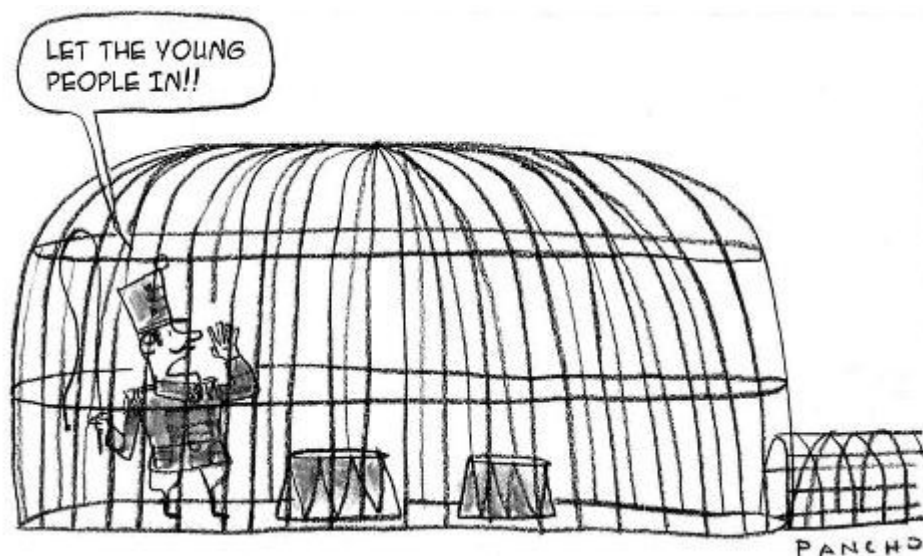
INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.**

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Citizenship and Participation



What is citizenship?

Traditions and approaches to citizenship vary throughout history and across the world according to different countries, histories, societies, cultures and ideologies, resulting in many different understandings of the concept of citizenship. It is not always the same thing to be a good man and a good citizen.

The origin of citizenship can be traced back to Ancient Greece, when "citizens" were those who had a legal right to participate in the affairs of the state. However, by no means was everyone a citizen: slaves, peasants, women or resident foreigners were mere subjects. For those who did have the privileged status of being citizens, the idea of "civic virtue" or being a "good" citizen was an important part of the concept, since participation was not considered only a right but also, and first of all, a duty. A citizen who did not meet his responsibilities was considered socially disruptive.

Citizenship is a complex and multi-dimensional reality which needs to be set in its political and historical context. Democratic citizenship, specifically, refers to the active participation by individuals in the system of rights and responsibilities which is the lot of citizens in democratic societies. This concept of citizenship is reflected in today's most common understanding of citizenship as well, which relates to a legal relationship between the individual and the state. Most people in the world are legal

citizens of one or another nation state, and this entitles them to certain privileges or rights. Being a citizen also imposes certain duties in terms of what the state expects from individuals under its jurisdiction. Thus, citizens fulfil certain obligations to their state and in return they may expect protection of their vital interests.

However, the concept of citizenship has far more layers of meaning than legal citizenship. Nowadays "citizenship" is much more than a legal construction and relates - amongst other things - to one's personal sense of belonging, for instance the sense of belonging to a community which you can shape and influence directly.

Such a community can be defined through a variety of elements, for example a shared moral code, an identical set of rights and obligations, loyalty to a commonly owned civilisation, or a sense of identity. In the geographical sense, "community" is usually defined at two main levels, differentiating between the local community, in which the person lives, and the state, to which the person belongs.

In the relationship between the individual and society we can distinguish four dimensions which correlate with the four subsystems which one may recognise in a society, and which are essential for its existence: the political / legal dimension, the social dimension, the cultural dimension and the economic dimension.

The political dimension of citizenship refers to political rights and responsibilities vis à vis the political system. The development of this dimension should come through knowledge of the political system and the promotion of democratic attitudes and participatory skills. The social dimension of citizenship has to do with the behaviour between individuals in a society and requires some measure of loyalty and solidarity. Social skills and the knowledge of social relations in society are necessary for the development of this dimension. The cultural dimension of citizenship refers to the consciousness of a common cultural heritage. This cultural dimension should be developed through the knowledge of cultural heritage, and of history and basic skills (language competence, reading and writing). The economic dimension of citizenship concerns the relationship between an individual and the labour and consumer market. It implies the right to work and to a minimum subsistence level. Economic skills (for job-related and other economic activities) and vocational training play a key role in the fulfilment of this economic dimension.

These four dimensions of citizenship are attained through socialisation processes which take place at school, in families, civic organisations, political parties, as well as

through associations, mass media, the neighbourhood and peer groups. As with the four legs of a chair, each person should be able to exercise the four dimensions in a balanced and equal manner, otherwise full citizenship will be unbalanced.

Required:

- a) From the case study discuss what senses of belonging do you recognise in yourself. **(9 Marks)**
- b) In relation to the case above would you consider yourself an active citizen? **(6 Marks)**
- c) Examine what forms of involvement or participation, other than voting in elections, are possible for the ordinary citizen. **(10 Marks)**

QUESTION TWO

- a) Expound on your understanding of human rights. **(8 Marks)**
- b) Discuss any seven articles of rights that you are familiar with. **(7 Marks)**

QUESTION THREE

- a) Identify any three classifications of human rights. **(3 Marks)**
- b) With example discuss what is activism **(12 Marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Describe any five of the conventions dealing with the production, use and stockpiling of certain weapons considered part of international humanitarian law. **(5 Marks)**
- b) Differentiate between International human rights law and international humanitarian law. **(10 Marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Analyze any four of current issues endangering human rights. **(8 Marks)**
- b) Examine the summary of the African charter. **(7 Marks)**

QUESTION SIX

- a) Expound on three forms of advocacy. **(3 Marks)**
- b) When can a group take action. Use the picture below to explain your answer. **(12 Marks)**

