

# I meant the Rule of Law!

By Otunba 'Dele Ajayi-Smith

Culture is a measurable level of development of man and its society. No two men are equal in their development, development varies from person to person, society to society and tribe to tribe, even in a family, development will clearly show disparity and this is based on different experiences which exposes individual to different ways of a living standard.

The commonly called tribe is a natural phenomenon of bringing people of a kind, of the same level of growth and characteristic together in the same location for them to jointly experience each other through their strength and weaknesses with praises and condemnation with such experiences becoming driving force to make some of the tribal men and women grow out of the tribal limitations. The phenomenon of natural tribes is meant for reformation and development and it is based on this that nations have borrowed leave from, in creating prison systems in different categories mainly for reformation of degenerated citizens so as to bring them back to the society with ideal and acceptable behavior that will not undermine the peaceful existence of other citizens. Hence, in a normal society where rule of law permeates everything, criminals of same degree or level are removed from the public glaring and place together for adequate attention. Our school systems are equally a formation or moulding centers for growing children as future products of the society. These children are placed in classes according to their growing level of formation and development. They must be allowed to grow step-by-stem without unnecessary influences that could corrupt their development such as: cheating during examinations, bribing teachers to offer them marks and pampering by undisciplined parents. Again the phenomenon of growth shows that children harbours great deal of negativity from childhood, formation and moulding (discipline) processes are those necessary actions that must be bestowed by parents and teachers to guide the growing children to become good products of the society, a pride of the parents and of the nation.

Here come the effects of the rule of law, it is expected to guide and sustain adult citizens to disallowed them from deterioration and as they practice positive things it will remain permanent culture and an integral part of their nature and over time they will not know how to doing things differently and this also is hereditary as they pass these positive culture from generation to generation with constant refinement.

The Rule of Law is the most essential tool to bring citizens close to God! If you challenge this statement, I will then ask you to look at those societies where the rule of law has been made to stunted and reduced to a zero level and religious practice have assumed a tsunamis dimension, what effect do you notice, how much peace did exist in such society, what is the level of security to man and its property in such societies? How frequent is such society prone and experienced disasters on individual and national level? This you must brace up to compare with those other society that upholds high level of rule of law. In such society rule of law is not considered at level of necessary morality but as important as life itself, ensuring that all citizens adjust to the existing laws as a matter of course and the outcome is

generally that of peace, bringing about egalitarian society with developed culture by all human standard.

A society where the standard of rule of law is high and sustained will produce active citizens that recognises and demands for their rights as consequences of having discharged their own responsibilities. Obedience to rule of law will develop the mind of the people to accept development and prepare their receptivity to various inventions that can facilitate human development. Development come from or through the mind and sustained by it, the intellect is just a tool of execution that must take instructions from the mind which is a part of our soul. Hence development must be understood as product of the mind and not an intellectual process. It is that centre where the law touches and works to reorientate and reform. Interestingly, that is what is referred to in the spiritual works as the “Temple of the Lord” inside man, not the intellect which is part of the flesh and which died along with the flesh and sometime it dies even before physical death in a situation where a disaster occurred and causes damage to the brain, all memories can be lost and that person will not even remember his/her name, because all the sensing ability of that tool (the material black box) may have been lost and man’s body will become useless having lost those guides that the intellect usually provides. So, everything material is transients but the mind (Soul/Spirit) is eternal.

Intellect, even though is a very important tool that manifest the wishes of the mind, will run riot if not constantly under the control and guides of a disciplined (activated) mind the only original source of maintenance of both materials and spiritual development. That is why much society lacks the culture of maintenance, from the culture of maintaining relationship with fellow citizens, to maintenance of properties, which includes: our roads, our houses, our cars, our clothing, etc.

Adults who expectedly have been moulded properly well while as youth before being turned into the larger society as products will have equal responsibility to impart the demands of the rule of laws on their growing children and ensure that they do not turn bad products into the larger society.

In summary, while the adults gave parental guidance and adequate regulation to their children between zero ages to eighteen in much society, the responsibility is turned to the nation to use the machinery of state to formulate, promote and sustain effective laws to continue to guidance and strengthening the adult citizens. Good, well bred citizens activated by effective rule of law will be good religious persons, good civil servants, good artisans, good leaders, etc. Such citizens will stand always at their duty posts with absolute consciousness as responsible citizens and remains the pride to their nation home or abroad and will be an outstanding person at its duty post, considering first the national issues most important than personal successes.

It is this Rule of Law that is lacking in Africa which has caused total dislocation in development of the continent with criminals emerging in most cases as leaders with total disregards to laws and order. Africans are not lacking when it comes to academics valor, might and heroism. The world acknowledges

this with applause. Then, we say Africa is unfortunate with bad leaders! But the question is whence these bad leaders come? Are they not the products of bad citizens who often are in majority?

In conclusion, let me make it clear here that an active citizen is not the same as being a criminal citizen, active citizenship is synonymous to an enabled and cultured mind, whereas, criminality is a product of disability (disabled and defective mind), a disabled person, not refined and without inner strength, will always indolently prefer short-cuts, doing negative things that weighed down heavily his or her spirit and must stand below the refinement level of a normal person in the society even when such person is seeing to be rich financially or very religious but absolutely poor in refinement which only the rule of law can achieve.

Otunba 'Dele Ajayi-Smith

President

African Citizens Development Foundation

Email: [president@acdf.org.ng](mailto:president@acdf.org.ng)

[www.acdf.org.ng](http://www.acdf.org.ng)

[www.acdf.org.uk](http://www.acdf.org.uk)

[www.acdf.bbnw.org](http://www.acdf.bbnw.org)