



# VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE: RE- IMAGINING THE VOTE AS MORE THAN A VOICE

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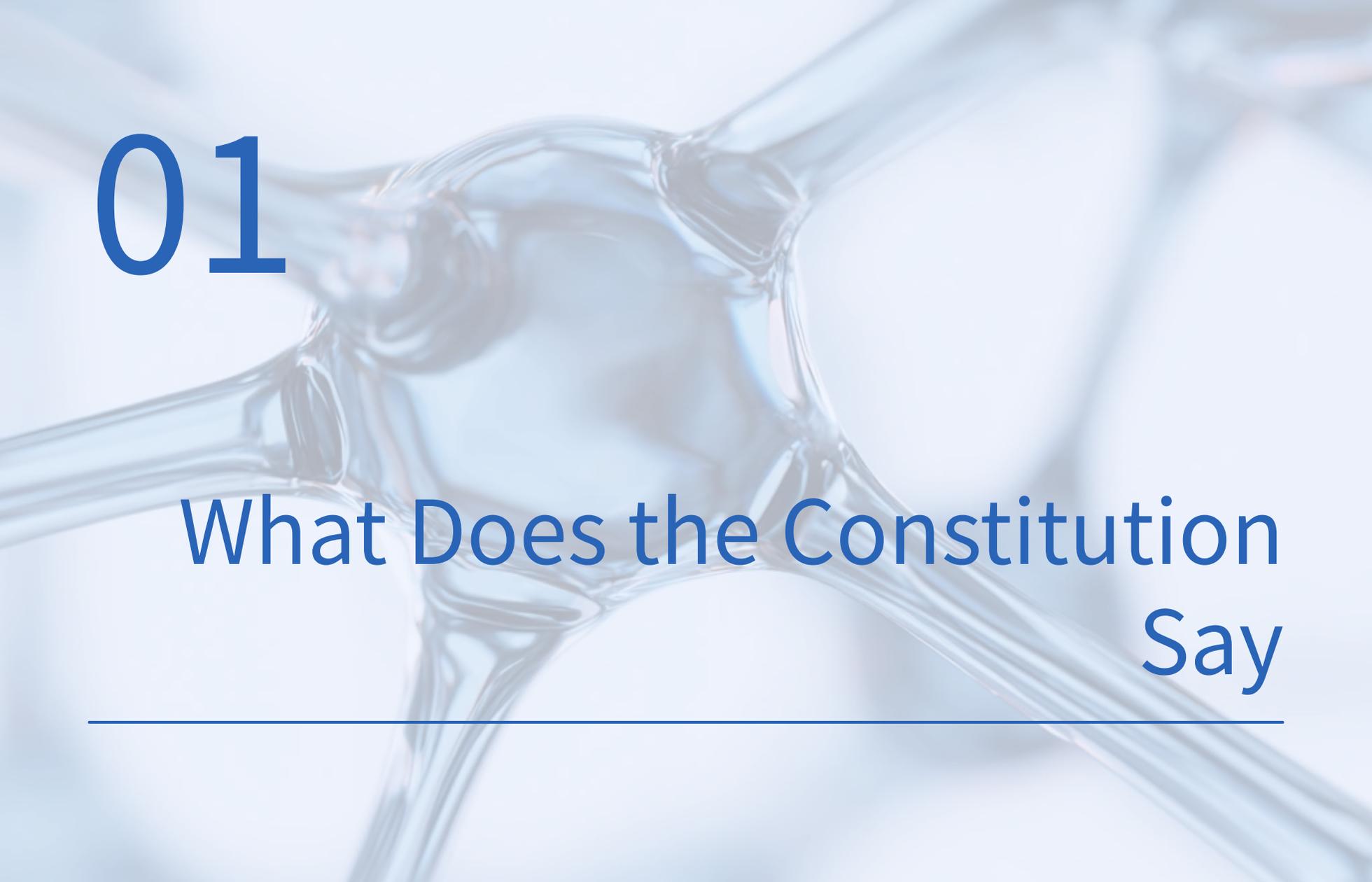
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The background of the slide features a close-up, artistic shot of water flowing through a clear glass structure, possibly a fountain or a decorative architectural element. The water is captured in motion, creating soft, blurred trails and highlights that give a sense of fluidity and movement. The overall color palette is a cool, light blue, which complements the text.

01

# What Does the Constitution Say

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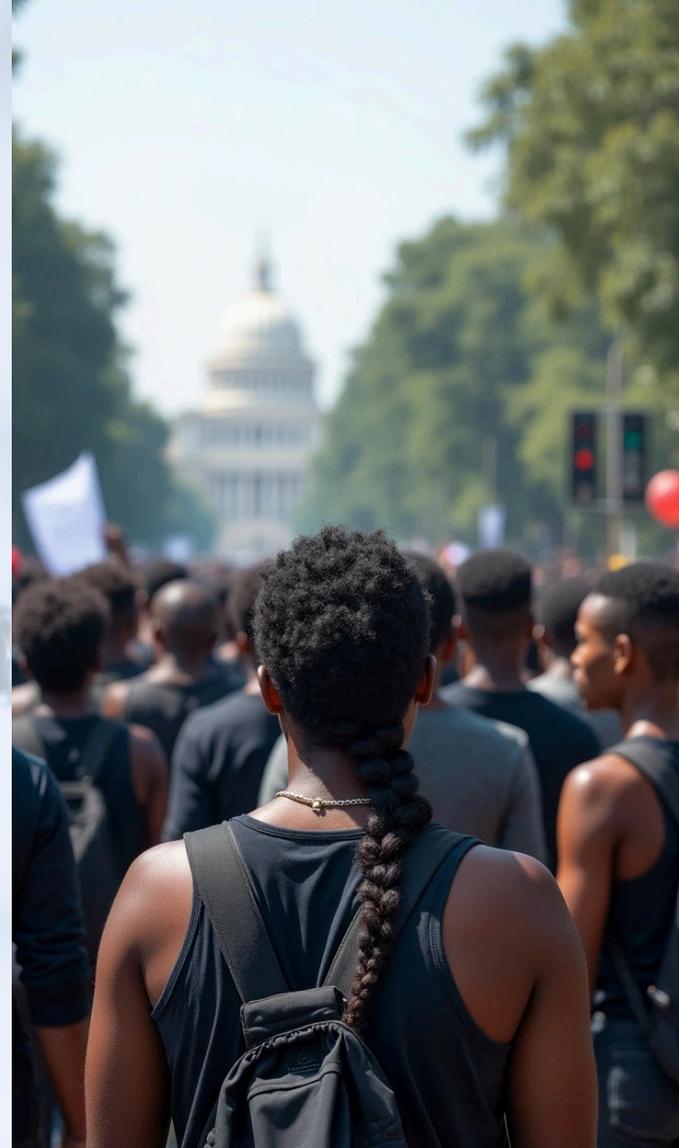
## Article 1. Sovereignty of the People

All sovereign power belongs to the people of Kenya and shall be exercised only in accordance with this Constitution. This is not just me saying; this is the Constitution of Kenya, the Supreme Law of our country speaking. What does this mean? It means that you and I, the people, are the sovereign; we are the powerful. Our leaders are only trustees of our power. The moment we realize this, we flip the dynamic and take our power back.

# Article 1 (2) The Direct and Indirect Exercise of Sovereign Power

The vote is so important that it features in the first article of the Constitution. It illustrates how POWERFUL your vote is. We saw the direct exercise of democracy in 2024 when young Kenyans demonstrated against the oppressive Finance Bill and it was struck down. Young Kenyans marched to parliament; that was direct exercise of sovereign power.

- Indirect Exercise: This involves democratically elected representatives. When you look at it from this point of view, you begin to understand that the vote is not just a voice; it is a tool of POWER. It is a way for you, the sovereign, to participate in the formation of government.



# Article 1 (3) Delegation of Sovereign Power

Sovereign power under this Constitution is delegated to the following State organs, which shall perform their functions in accordance with this Constitution:

- Parliament and the legislative assemblies in the county governments.
- The national executive and the executive structures in the county governments.
- The Judiciary and independent tribunals. You elect your members of parliament including the Members of National Assembly and members of the Senate. You also elect members of the County Assembly. These are a class of representatives called legislators. Their work is to make and unmake laws on your behalf; to represent you and your interests and oversee the Executive and the Judiciary to ensure they are exercising their mandate constitutionally.



# The President

The President:

- Serves as the head of government.
- Is the head of state and is supposed to be a symbol of national unity.
- Hires or fires cabinet ministers, the Attorney General, high commissioners, ambassadors, and some judges, although in a ceremonial capacity as recommended by independent bodies.
- Chairs cabinet meetings.
- Directs and coordinates ministries and government departments.
- Receives foreign diplomats and consular representatives.
- May declare a state of emergency.
- Declares war with the approval of parliament.



# County Executive

The County executive structure is headed by the Governor, who leads the County Executive Committee and is generally responsible for devolved functions within the specific county. The key duties of the County Governor include implementing County Legislation passed by the County Assemblies and absorbing County budgets to fund devolved functions.





# The Judiciary and Its Peculiar Mode of Creation

The other state organ to which you donate your sovereign power is the Judiciary. The independence of the Judiciary is one of the most important pillars of our Constitution. Prior to the 2010 Constitution, judges served at the pleasure of the president, lacking security of tenure. Now, judges are hired by the Judicial Service Commission, which must vet potential appointees for merit, competence, experience, and ethics. This ensures that judges are qualified professionals rather than merely politicians with popularity. In the Judicial Service Commission, composed of 11 commissioners and chaired by the Chief Justice, the president can nominate up to four members. This illustrates the president's involvement in the recruitment process.



## Article 1 (4) Levels of Sovereign Power

The sovereign power of the people is exercised at the national and county levels. Because Kenya is a devolved country, sovereign power is exercised at both levels. Your vote designs the architecture of governance, thereby granting you a greater understanding of your sovereignty.



02

# Sanctity and Integrity of the Vote

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# Sanctity and Integrity of the Vote

Due to the power of your vote, the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) is constitutionally commanded to ensure:





## Article 86. Voting Standards

At every election, the IEBC shall ensure that:

- The voting system is simple, accurate, verifiable, secure, accountable, and transparent.
- Votes cast are counted and results announced promptly at each polling station.
- Results from polling stations are accurately collated and promptly announced by the returning officer.
- Structures and mechanisms to eliminate electoral malpractice are established, including the safekeeping of election materials.

# Understanding Voting Terms

## Accurate

Conduct of elections should ensure correct counting and tabulation of votes.

## Verifiable

There must be an audit trail to confirm every vote is counted correctly.

## Secure

Election processes and materials must be protected from manipulation and damage.

## Accountable

Institutions involved must be responsible for their actions.

## Transparent

The process must be open to public scrutiny.



## Detailed Voting Criteria

1

### Simple

The electoral system must be easy to understand for all voters.

2

### Accurate

This refers to correctly tallying votes without errors or manipulation.

3

### Verifiable

Clear audit trails must exist for public confirmation of vote inclusion and counting.

4

### Secure

Protection against unauthorized access and interference is necessary.

5

### Transparent

Open processes right from registration to results announcement are crucial.



03

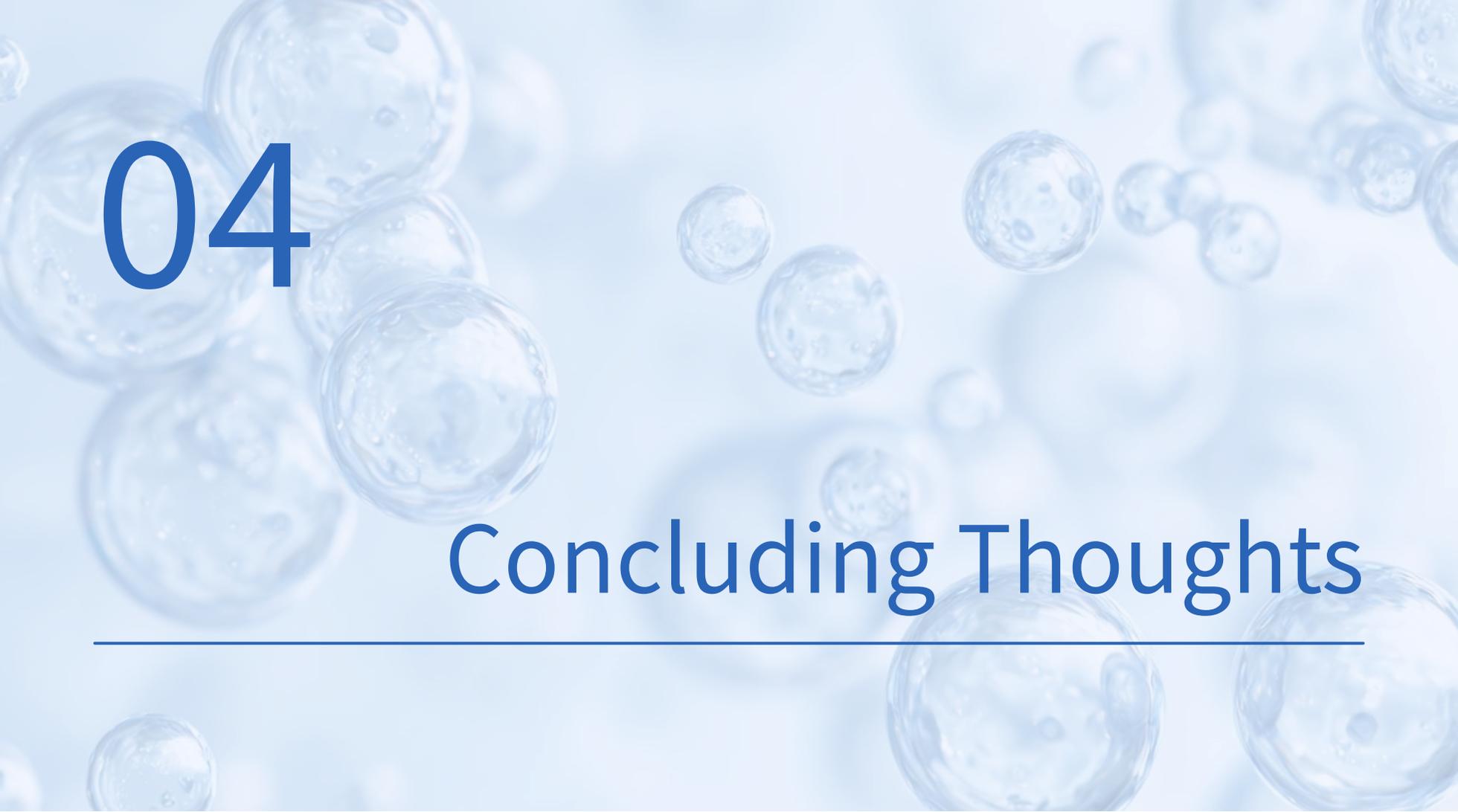
# The POWER of the Vote

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# The POWER of the Vote

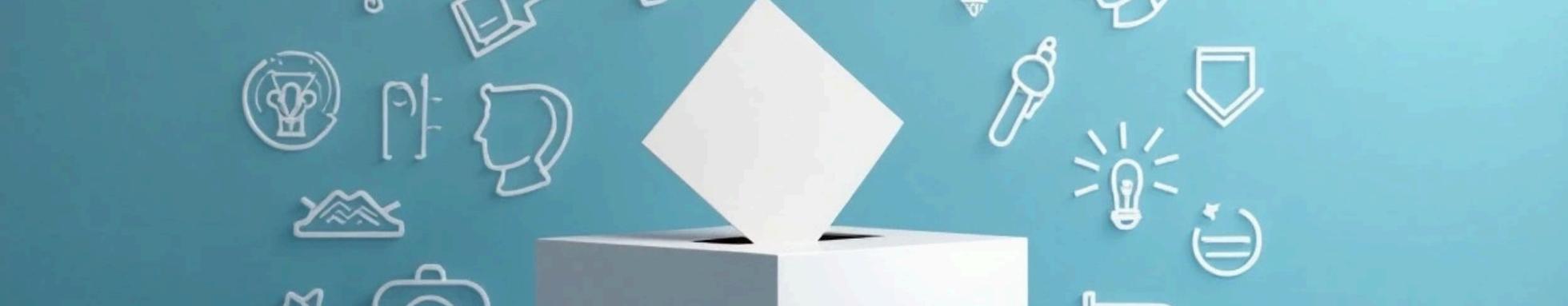
The mandate to protect the integrity of the vote showcases just how powerful your vote is! The Constitution is a charter, an agreement between us as sovereign and those who we entrust to exercise sovereign power on our behalf. The integrity of the vote underpins this entire contract.



04

# Concluding Thoughts

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# Concluding Thoughts

All rights stem from how we use the power of our vote. From public debt to the price of essentials like bread and unga, the vote is the power we have to design governance, hold representatives accountable, and ensure we elect responsible individuals.

We the people!



Thank You