Is Cord trying to create its own 'tyranny of numbers' with voter recruitment drive?

By Prashant Jadhav

One constant in the governance of democratic countries is the manipulative use of political patronage, which helps candidates to organize voters and make them do things that suit their own agenda. In the case of Cord, the ruling coalition, the perceived strategy by the leadership to manipulate voters is of concern.

In Kenya, for the first time in the multiparty era, there is a scenario where political sentiment is being influenced by organized voter recruitment. This is a worrying trend that needs to be addressed.

Cord, through its various arms, is actively recruiting voters in different parts of the country. This trend has raised concerns among opposition parties, who fear it could lead to a situation where the political landscape is distorted, giving an unfair advantage to Cord and its allies.

The issue is not just about numbers. The quality of the voters being targeted and how the recruitment process is being conducted is a matter of concern. If the recruitment is done unfairly, it could lead to a situation where the electoral process is compromised.

The trend is not without its risks. If Cord's voter recruitment drive continues, it could lead to a situation where the integrity of the electoral process is compromised. This could result in a situation where the results of elections do not reflect the will of the people.

The opposition parties are calling for a halt to Cord's voter recruitment drive. They argue that such practices are a violation of the principles of a free and fair election. The opposition is also calling for a robust mechanism to check and monitor the voter recruitment process.

The government, on the other hand, is defending Cord's actions, arguing that they are within the bounds of law and are a way of ensuring political participation. However, the opposition remains unconvinced and is calling for an independent inquiry into the matter.

The situation is a test of the democratic ethos in Kenya. It is a reminder of the importance of free and fair elections and the need to protect them from any form of manipulation.

In conclusion, Cord's voter recruitment drive raises serious concerns about the integrity of the electoral process. It is a matter that needs urgent attention from the relevant authorities.

It was this reality that led political analyst Putura Njuguna to speak of 'tyranny of numbers' and to point out that 'Kampala had slept through the revolution because its supposed supporters did not register.'

With this in mind, the questions remain whether Cord's actions are justified and whether they are in line with the principles of democracy. The answers to these questions will undoubtedly determine the future of the electoral process in Kenya.