

## **Chapter-I**

# **Introduction to Population and Settlement Geography**

### **Definition**

“**Population geography** is a division of human **geography**. It is the study of the ways in which spatial variations in the distribution, composition, migration, and growth of **populations** are related to the nature of places. **Population geography** involves demography in a **geographical** perspective”.

**G. T. Trewartha**- “Population geography studies the characteristics of various human groups, found in different geographical regions”

**Clarke**- “Population geography studies the characteristics of various human groups, found in different geographical regions and their relationship with physical, cultural and economic factors”.

**R.J. Proyer**- “Population geography deals with the analysis and explanation of interrelationship between population phenomena and the geographical character of places as they both vary over space and time”.

**Precise and Comprehensive Definition**- “Population geography studies the distribution of population over the surface of the earth along with its characteristics and its relation with geographical personality of the region”.

### **Nature of Population Geography**

- i. Quantitative Nature
  - ii. Geographical Nature
  - iii. Economic Nature
  - iv. Comparative Nature
  - v. Dynamic Nature
- The nature of population geography is very dynamic and variable.
  - The study of population is multidisciplinary in nature.
  - Involving economics, sociology, cultural anthropology, psychology, politics, geography, medicine, public health, ecology etc.
  - The multidisciplinary nature of population geography and its relationship with other sciences discussing the difference between ‘population studies and demography’ and then tracing the origin and development of population geography.

### **Scopes of population geography**

- A quantitative study of human distribution in a particular area or space.
- Variation in population density due to environmental or geographical condition.

- The demographic phenomenon like mortality, growth rate, birth rate, etc. is studied.
- Increase or decrease in population numbers in a place.
- Some phenomenon like immigration, emigration, migration etc. affecting the population, how they affect.

### **Development of Population Geography**

Population geography has had a prescientific stage as long as human history. First modern scientific treatise of population in geography was the F. Ratzels book *Anthropogeography* in 1882. During the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, French geographer Vidal de la Blanche gave a capital importance of population studies in his work *Principles de Geographie Humaine*. In interwar years, various aspects of population were studied. After the Second World War started the renovating movement of geography and new tendencies appear in human geography and, consequently in population geography. Attempts were made to define population geography as a separate sub-discipline. The worldwide trend of treating population geography as separate discipline was expressed by publishing monographs, bibliographies and textbooks. The most significant authors who worked on defining population geography were French geographers P. George (1951, 1959), Beaujeu-Garnier (1965, 1966); North-American geographers: G. Trewartha (1953, 1969), W. Bunge (1962), J. Clance (1965, 1971), W. Zalinski (1966); in Great Britain: J.L. Clarke (1965); in USSR: Ju.G. Sauškin i D.N. Anučin (1950), V.V. Pokšiševskij (1966), D.I. Valentej (1973); in Poland V. Ormotski (1931), L. Kosinski (1967) A. Jagelski (1980). Those authors and their works had the significant influence on the development of population science in the world and also in Serbia.

Although the development of population geography was different in different countries and scientific research centers, we can clearly define four stages. **First stage lasted until 1960s** and was characterized by works of Trewartha, H. Doerres Ju.G. Sauškin, D.N. Anučin, J. Beaujeu-Gariner. G. Trewartha argued that the population is the point of reference from which all other elements are observed and from which all derive significance and meaning. This view was adopted and shared by authors dealing with population items, explicitly or implicitly.

**Second stage lasted from 1960s till 1970s** and the most significant authors dealing with population problems were W. Zalinski, W. Bunge; H. Bobek, W. Hartke, K. Ruppert, F. Schaffer; D.I. Valentej, K. Korčak. This phase was characterized by the application of quantitative methods and efforts for understanding the spatial structure of the population. Many scientists see this development phase as a particularly prosperous period, because it carried more intensive relations of geography and demography through the introduction of statistical, mathematical and demographic methods and techniques in studies of population geography.

**Third phase lasted from 1970s to 1980s**, and was characterized by close relations between population geography and formal demography. Development and application of GIS and computer data, have made population studies more complex and applicable in practice, through population policy and population projections. The most significant authors in this period were L. Kosinski, A. Jagelski, Hågerstrand.

And at last, **fourth stage started in 1980s** and in many countries lasts until present days. In population geography appeared new tendencies associated with the critique of positivism, the establishment of humanistic approaches and modifications of general geographic concepts. In this period, spatial analysis and quantitative scientific methods were reaffirmed, and because of that some population studies were redefined in spatial demography, a time dimension advocated in historical demography. In this context, we emphasize the work of D. Plane and P. Rogerson. Population geography is viewed differently from one country to another. Its definition differs from too narrow to overly broad. But two research areas were of particular interest to geographers - population distribution and migration. Both items acquired an international dimension. Recently, eminent population geographers exchanged various viewpoints in an attempt to provoke new thinking on subject and define the answers of new fields research in population geography. Population geography in the XXI Century is no longer a field comprised of spatial applications of fertility, mortality and migration only. Contemporary population geography is theoretically sophisticated, integrating spatial analysis, GIS and geo-referenced data. Future progress in the field of population geography will derive from more research at the intersections of population processes and societal issues and concerns. Major themes of future empirical researches in population geography should be: global population growth, studies of migration, transnationalism, human security issues, population-health-environment nexus, human-environment sustainability, economic development and poverty issues.

## **Settlement Geography**

### **Definition:**

Jordan (1966) “Emphasizes that settlement geography not completely investigates the distributions, but even more the structures, processes and interactions between settlements and its environment (such as soil, geomorphology, economy or society), which produce them”.

“Settlement geography describes and explains the settlements,, location, substance, form and structure, as well as the functions and processes that produced them over time”.

“Settlement geography is the study of human land, water and resource use, population density patterns, and settlement growth”.

## **Significance & Scope of Settlement Geography**

- Geographers and archaeologists have both studied the ancient world.
- Geographers have applied those findings to today's challenges to make recommendations about land use, how to encourage or discourage settlement activity in a given region, and how to struggle the effects of unsustainable population growth.
- Very close interrelationship between the natural environment. (favorable condition of environment)
- A comprehensive study of settlement requires explanation:
  - Site & situation, building materials, forms, function, types & patterns, characteristics, morphology,
  - Study of urban hierarchy/ranking-spacing & morphology.
  - Regional variations & spatial patterns present significant subject matter
  - Also, for analyzing the sequence of change

## **Why is it important to study settlement?**

- Geography involves the study of landscapes. Landscapes can be physical landscapes such as (mountains and rivers) or human landscapes (landscapes made by people).
- Urban studies are studies of towns and cities. Towns and cities are one of the more striking ways in which people have changed and shaped the landscape.

## **Types of Settlements**

- Rural Settlements - agriculture as the predominant occupation.
- Urban settlements - principal industries are secondary and tertiary.

## **Rural Settlement: Characteristics**

- Primary activities- for subsistence /survival in rural settlement.
- Low population and density. □To simple standard of life.
- Absence of planning- houses, roads, shapes & structure etc.
- Low facilities of communication, transportation & other social facilities.

## **Urban Settlement: Characteristics**

- Urban settlements are differentiated from rural ones by economic, social, and population factors. Most urban settlements derive from a small village.

- As per Census of India 2001-
  - All statutory places with a municipality, corporation, cantonment board or notified town area committee, etc.
  - A place satisfying the following three criteria simultaneously:
    - A minimum population of 5,000;
    - At least 75 per cent of male working population engaged in non-agricultural pursuits;
    - Density of population of at least 400 per sq. km. (1,000 per sq. mile)

## **Approaches of the Settlement Geography**

### **Introduction:**

- Each subject has a need of systematic rules, methods, techniques & system for appropriate and scientific study
- Initial stage two popular methods of approaches in settlement geography Explained by Hartshorne are: - 1. Systematic 2. Regional
- Dickinson express the settlement geography in the terms of “Structure, Process and Stage Concept of Davis applied in geomorphology.....!!!

### **Three important approaches are:**

#### **1. Genetic Approaches:**

- According on the basis of historical processes
- Supported and influence by historical perspective, archaeological and geographers and commonly applied in the study of settlement geography.
- Proper investigation of documents, place names etc.
- Comprehensive understanding of individual characteristics in relation to the surrounding subsystem.
- Deals with genetic progression that is past, present, and future of the settlement this approach is:

#### **1.1. Retrogressive: - By Bloch**

- Focuses on or upon the past evidences & are also concern with present pattern of settlement.

#### **1.2. Retrospective: -**

- Focuses upon the present the past conditions regarding settlements being considered for better understanding of the existing state.

#### **1.3. Prospective: -**

- It concerns with future but the past and present are considered as a relict feature for future probability need.

**2. Spatial / Regional Approaches:** This approach introduces by Ratzels

- This approach is basically related to patterns and processes by considering man environmental relationship.
- This approach having system and sub systems, analysis through which several aspects of settlement Like: - types, pattern, classification, functional integration & rank local identity, planning & rationalization, site, situation....
- This approach the interrelationship of man-nature-society – is better expressed in any cultural landscape.
- Analysis of patterns and process they express the spatial organizations in environmental space.
- Consideration for the spatial analysis several techniques Like- nearest neighbor analysis method of dispersion concentration, land model, functional analysis method etc.
- From place to place of region to region all over the world such differences in settlement are due to spatial differences of their environment.

**3. Ecological / Environmental Approach: -**

- From ecological which applied to explain the processes of change in human behavior & settlement over time.
- Hudson, has expected this approach form understanding and describing the setting process in human settlement having three phases.
- Behavioral differences show regional variation.
- The approach is very fundamental in understanding man environmental inter-relationship. e.g. the trial settlement has a proper adoption of available environment several traditions, festivals, functions etc.
- Nearest neighbor analysis has been widely used for studying the concentration and dispersion of settlement
- Therefore, this approach explains the man environment adaptation over the region.

**4. Recent Changes in Approaches:**

1. Mathematical and Statistical Approach
2. Quantitative / Inductive Approach
3. Interdisciplinary Approach
4. System and Sub-System
5. Principle Approach
- 6 Sample Approach.

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Population and settlement – iGCSE Geography. Introduction to population. It is important to be aware of a number of key concepts and geographical terms that will be used throughout this unit. Below are some of these key geographical terms and their definitions. Low-income countries (LICs) – Countries with a low level of economic development are known as LICs. Use the images below to explore related GeoTopics. Topic Home. World Population Increase. iGCSE Units. Population and Settlement. The Natural Environment. Economic Development. Population geography, with intellectual roots that go back to the mid-nineteenth century, studies the way in which spatial variations in the distribution, composition, migration, and growth of population are related to the nature of places. A concern with spatial variation has been the geographer's distinctive contribution to population studies, in comparison to the demographer, who is much more interested in patterns of birth, marriage, and death, and less interested in the influence of migration and spatial variations in general. In this topic, we look at the location, growth and nature of settlements. They compare settlements from different locations around the world and then identify the patterns you can find in settlements. There are some wonderful ideas for geography models to make with the theme of settlements. We have also collected some thought provoking images and ideas to help you understand more about the Geography topic of settlements. Earthquakes. Weather. Introduction To Population Geography. 11,902 views. Share. 12. 1½ At the state level, geographers with training in settlement theory – monitor the growth and decline of small towns – undertake economic and environmental impact analyses – investigate changes in local, regional, and statewide economic bases by using spatially sensitive input-output models. – analysis of population growth or decline-- particularly via intrastate, interstate, and international migration Source: Golledge, July.