Unit -3

Population and Settlement

Learning Objectives

- ❖ To know about human races and their classification
- ❖ To learn about the different religions
- ❖ To know about the major languages
- ❖ To know about the favourable conditions for settlements
- ❖ To understand the rural and urban settlements
- ❖ To learn the classification of settlements

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Introduction

Population Geography is a study of demographic phenomena which includes natality, morality, growth rates etc., through both space and time. Increase or decrease in population indicates population distribution and growth. The study of movements and mobility of population is called migration.

The Races

Race has been defined as a biological grouping within the human species. The race is a group of people with more or less permanent distinguishing characteristics that are inherited. The most widely found human racial types are based on visual traits such as head shape, facial features nose shape, eye shape and colour, skin colour, stature, blood groups etc.,
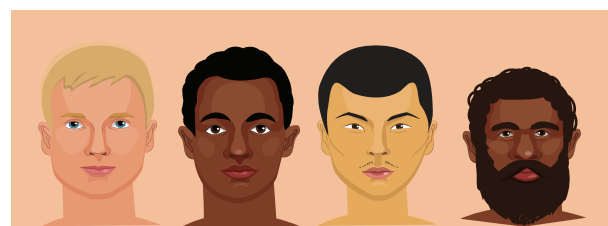
The major world Human races are

- Caucasoid
- Negroid
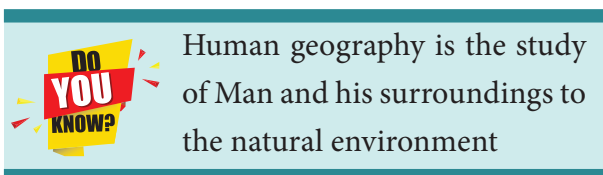- Mongoloid
- Australoid

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Caucasoid

The Caucasoid is known as European race. This group is the one with fair skin and dark brown eyes, wavy hair and narrow nose. The Caucasoid are also found in Eurasia.

CAUCASOID   NEGROID   MONGLOID   AUSTRALOID

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Negroid

Negroid have the dark eyes, black skin, black wooly hair, wide nose, long head, and thick lips. They are living in different parts of Africa.

Mongoloids

The mongoloid race is commonly known as the Asian-American race. The mongoloid have the light yellow to brown skin, straight hair, flat face, broad head and medium nose. Such people are found in Asia and Arctic region

Australoids

Australoids have wide nose, curly hair dark skin, and short in height. They are living in Australia and Asia.

Races of India

India is said to be one of the cradle lands of human civilization. The ancient Indus valley civilization in India is believed to have been of Dravidian origin in northern India. The Dravidian people were pushed south when the Indo-Aryan came in later. South India was dominated by the three Dravidian kingdoms of the Chera, the Cholas, and the Pandyas. The Dravidian languages are Tamil, Telugu, kannada, Malayalam and Tulu almost all the Dravidians live in southern part of India.

Religion

Religion means a particular system of faith and worship, which brings human being with human society. Religion, is a symbol of group identity and a cultural rallying point.

Classification of Religion

a) Universalizing Religions

Christianity, Islam and Buddhism.

b) Ethnic Religions

Judaism, Hinduism and Shintoism.

c) Tribal or Traditional Religions

Animism, Shamanism and Shaman.

Religion	Place of worship
Buddhism	Vihara
Christianity	Church
Hinduism	Temple
Islam	Mosque
Jainism	Basadi
Judaism	Synagogue
Zorostrianism	Agiyari

Language

Language is a great force of socialization. Language, either in the written or oral form, is the most common type of communication. Language promotes the transmission of ideas and the functioning of political, economic, social and religious systems.

Major Languages in the world

- Tamil
- Hindi
- Chinese (Mandarin)
- English
- Spanish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Arabic
- German

Languages of India

India has many languages and culture. Each state has its own language. 22 major languages were recognised by Indian Constitution. Kashmiri, Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, Rajasthani, Gujarati, Bengali and Assamese are spoken in North India.

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The main languages of the Dravidian family are Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam etc., These languages are mainly spoken in southern India.

Date	Event
11th July	World population day
21st February	International mother language day
Third Sunday in January every year	World Religious day
21st May	The World cultural diversity day

Today usage of language has changed. It is often used as communicational skill. With the different means of communication and fast moving world advancement in technology helps in understanding the different languages very easily. These technologies have really brought the world closer.

Settlement

Settlement is a place where people live and interact through activities such as agriculture, trading and entertainment. A rural settlement is a community, involved predominantly in primary activities such as agriculture, lumbering, fishing and mining. An urban settlement engages in predominantly in secondary and tertiary activities, such as industries, trade and banking. A rural settlement tends to have a small population and low population density. Urban settlement often has a large population size and high population density.

Site and situation refers to the location of the actual settlement. The initial choice of a site for a settlement depends on how it is useful for meeting our daily needs, like water supply, availability of farmland, building material and fuel etc.,

Old House Types

In the early periods of human settlement, houses were built using local materials. The form of the house was closely related to the environment. In the agricultural regions, houses were built with mud walls and the roof was made of stalks of paddy (or) other crops of grass (or) thatch. Local wood was used to provide frame for the roof. Such old houses had wide verandahs and an open air circulation. The size of the house depended on the economic status of its inhabitants.

Patterns of Settlements

Settlements are classified into Compact settlements and Dispersed settlement

Compact settlements

Compact settlement is also known as nucleated settlement. In this type large number of houses are built very close to each other such settlement develop along the river valleys and fertile plains. In India compact settlements are
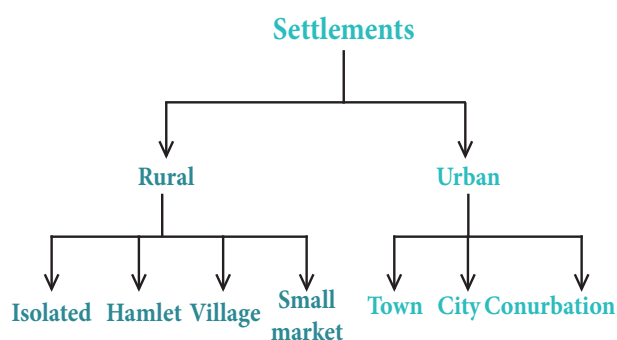
found in the northern plains and the coastal plains of peninsular India.

Dispersed Settlements

Dispersed settlements are generally found in the areas of extreme climate, hilly tracts, thick forests, grasslands, areas of extensive cultivation. In these settlements, houses are spaced far apart and after interspersed with fields. In India this type of human settlement is found in the northern kosi tract, the Ganga delta ,the Thar Desert of Rajasthan and the foot hills of Himalayas and the Niligris.

A hierarchy of settlements

Rural settlement

Rural settlements are predominantly located near water bodies such as rivers, lakes, and springs where water can be easily available. People choose to settle near fertile lands suitable for agriculture, along with the provision of other basic needs. Hence, they prefer to live near low lying river valleys and coastal plains suited for cultivation. The availability of building materials like wood, stone and clay near settlements is another advantage, for settlements to be built.

Factors Influencing Rural Settlement

- Nature of topography
- Local weather Condition
- Soil and water resources
- Social organisation
- Economic condition

Pattern of Rural Settlement

The pattern of settlement has been defined as the relationship between a house or building to another. A rural settlement pattern is a function of relief, climate, water supply and socio-economic factor. It is broadly classified under the following patterns, such as Linear, Rectangular, Circular, Star like pattern etc.,

In a **Linear settlement,** houses are arranged along the either side of roadways, railways line, river (or) canal,the edge of a valley, etc.,

Linear settlement

e.g. settlements found in the Himalayas, the Alps, the Rockies.

The **rectangular settlements** are almost straight, meeting each other at right angles. Such a settlement is found in plain areas (or) inter montane plain. E.g., settlements found in Sutlej. Houses built around a central area are known as **Circular pattern of settlements.** Such settlement develop around lakes and tanks. The **Star like pattern of settlement** develops on the sites and places where several roads converge and houses spread out along the sides of roads in all directions. e.g. The Namakkal urban settlements

Star like pattern   **Circular pattern**

Pilgrim settlement may come up around a place of worship(or) any spot with a religious significance. E.g. settlements in Palani Hills, Tamil Nadu.

Wet Point Settlement

A wet point settlement is located near water sources in arid regions.

Dry Point Settlement

A dry Point settlement is located in low-lying areas in the regions of excessive dampness. Dry point settlements are not affected by flood or any other source of water. Such settlements are found in the coastal plains of Kerala and deltas along the east coast of India.

Urban Settlements

The settlements in which most of the people one engaged in secondary and tertiary activities are known as urban settlements. Town, cities, and the areas of large cities are referred to as urban areas.

Classification of Urban Settlements

The definition of urban area varies from are country to another. Some of the common basis of classification are

- Size of population
- Occupational structure
- Administration

Town

Town is a general name for an urban place, usually a settlement meeting a prescribed minimum population threshold. The settlement with a population more than 5000 people is called a town. Basis on the function cities can be classified into towns, such as administrative, cantonment, academic etc.,

City

The term City is generally applied to large urban places with a central business district. In India an urban place with more than one lakh population is considered as a city .

Mega city

A mega city is a very large city typically with a population of more than 10 million people.

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A mega city can be a single metropolitan area. E.g. Canton, Tokyo, Delhi, Mumbai are some of the examples of megacities.

> World Health Organization (WHO) suggests that among other things a healthy city must have
> - A Clean" and "Safe" environment
> - Meets the basic needs of "All" its inhabitants
> - Involves the "Community" in local government
> - Provides easily accessible "Health service.

Megalopolis

The word megalopolis is given to a large settlement which is formed by the combination of two or more large cities whose total population exceeds ten million. The region made up of cities between Boston and Washington D.C is a well-known megalopolis. In India, Kolkata is the largest urban area which is a megalopolis. Gandhinagar, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot in Gujarat are the important megalopolis cities in India.

Conurbation

A Conurbation is a region comprising of a number of cities, large town, and other urban areas that through population growth and physical expansion have merged to form one continuous urban (or) industrially developed area. Mumbai in Maharashtra, Gurgaon, Faridabad in Haryana, Noida in Uttar Pradesh are the conurbation cities of India.

Satellite Town

A satellite town is a town designed to house the over population of a major city, but is located well beyond the limits of that city. Satellite towns are generally located outside the rural urban fringe. In India most satellite towns are purely residential in character.

Smart City

In an urban region, a city which is very much advanced in terms of infrastructure, real estate, communication and market availability is called a Smart City. The first ten smart cities of India are Bhubaneshwar, Pune, Jaipur, Surat, Ludhiana, Kochi, Ahmedabad, Jabalpur, Vishakappattinam, Solapur and Davanagere. Tamil Nadu has 12 major cities to be transformed as smart cities. They are Chennai, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirappalli ,Thanjavur, Tiruppur, Salem, Vellore, Coimbatore, Thoothukudi, Dindigul and Erode.

Rural	Urban
Rural areas have predominantly primary activities (agriculture)	Urban areas have domination of secondary and tertiary activities (Industries)
Sparsely populated	Densely populated
Villages and hamlet	Cities and towns
Simple and relaxed life	Fast and complicated life

Summary

❖ Races has been defined as a biological grouping within the human species, distinguished or classified according to genetically transmitted differences.
❖ Caucasoid Negroid Mangoloid Australoid are the major races.
❖ Language is a cultural form of enduring value and a culture can survive with the presence of language only.
❖ Settlement may be classified on basis of occupation as rural (village) and Urban (town).
❖ Compact settlements develop along river valleys and fertile plains.
❖ Dispersed settlement are generally found in the areas of extreme climates, hill tracks, thick forest, grassland and in poor agricultural land.
❖ Smart city is a city which is very much advanced in terms of infrastructure.

Exercises

I. Choose the correct answer

1. Caucasoid race is also known as _____ race
   a) European
   b) Negroid
   c) Mangoloid
   d) Australoid

2. _____ Race is Known as Asian - American Race
   a) Caucasoid   b) Negroid
   c) Mongoloid   d) Australoid

3. World population day _____
   a) September 1   b) June 11
   c) July 11   d) December 2

4. Rural settlements are located near _____
   a) Water bodies   b) Hilly areas
   c) coastal areas   d) desert areas

5. Arrange the following in terms of size
   1) City   2) Megalopolis
   3) Metropolis   4) Conurbation
   a) 4,1,3,2   b) 1,3,4,2
   c) 2,1,3,4   d) 3,1,2,4

II. Fill in the blanks

1. The Bushmen is found mainly in _____ desert of South Africa
2. Linguistic stock is a group of _____ family sharing features and its origin
3. In _____ settlements, where most of the people are engaged in secondary and tertiary activities
4. _____ towns are generally located outside the rural Urban fringe.
5. _____ Settlement Come up around a place of Worship

III. A. Match the following

1. Caucasoid   –   Asian
2. Negroid   –   Australia
3. Mongoloid   –   European
4. Australoid –   African

B. Match the following

1. Sutlej-Ganga plain   –   Dispersed settlement
2. Nilgris   –   Star like pattern
3. South India   –   Rectangular pattern
4. Seacoast   –   Compact settlement
5. Haryana   –   Circular settlement

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IV. Consider the following statement and (√) Tick the appropriate answer

1. **Assertion** (A): There are numerous languages spoken in the world

   Reason (R): The linguistic diversity in the world is vast.

   a) A and R are correct and R explains A.

   b) A and R are correct but R does not explain A.

   c) A is incorrect but R is correct.

   d) Both A and R are incorrect.

2. **Assertion** A: Palani Hills in Tamil Nadu is an example for pilgrim settlement

   Reason (R): Iron and steel industry is located there

   a) R is the correct explanation of A

   b) R is not the correct explanation of A

   c) A is wrong and R is correct A

   d) A is correct R is wrong

V. Circle the odd one out

1. Fishing, lumbering, agriculture, banking

2. Himalayas, Alps, Rocky, Ganga

3. Chennai, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Kanchipuram

VI. Answer the following

1. What are the classification of Races?

2. What is language?

3. Define settlement

4. On what basis Urban settlements are classified?

5. Write a note on smart city

VII. Give reason

1. Mumbai is a mega city

2. Himalayas have dispersed settlement.

VIII. Distinguish between

1. Language and Religion

2. Negroid and Mangoloid

3. City and town

4. Urban settlement and rural settlement

IX. Answer the following in a paragraph

1. Write about the four major classification of races.

2. What are the factors influencing rural settlement?

3. What are types of rural settlement? Explain any three.

X. Activity

1	Where do you live?	Rural / Urban
2	Name the pattern of settlement	
3	Sources of water available in your area	
4	What is the important activity of your locality?	
5	Name the types of transport available in your locality?	

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2. R.Y. Singh (2007) *Geography of settlements,* Rawat publications, New Delhi

3. Majid Husain (2002) *Human Geography,* Rawat publications Jaipur and New Delhi.