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SOCIAL-CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY

Sociology is mainly concerned with the institutional aspects of the society. A number of investigations including social behavior, movement of people between rural-urban areas, spatial interactions between social groups, the relations between innovation and tradition in rural and urban areas etc., have been jointly undertaken by sociologists and geographers in different countries of the world.

Social geography is the logical expression of the interaction between sociology and geography as it studies social phenomena in spatial context.

Human Settlements:

A human settlement is defined as a place inhabited more or less permanently. It includes building in which they live or use and the streets through which they travel. It also includes the temporary camps of the hunters and herders. It may consist of only a few dwelling units called hamlets or big cluster of building called urban cities.

Settlements can broadly be divided into two types – rural and urban.

Let us know some differences between rural and urban areas in general.

1. The major difference between rural and urban areas is the function. Rural areas have predominantly primary activities such as agriculture, whereas urban areas have domination of secondary and tertiary activities such as manufacturing industries and service sectors.
2. Generally, the rural areas have low density of population than urban areas.
3. Urban settlements are defined by their advanced civic amenities, opportunities for education, and facilities for transport, business and social interaction and overall better standard of living whereas rural areas lack of such amenities.
4. Rural areas do not have pollution or traffic problems that beset regular urban areas.
5. In the rural society there was very little scope for occupational mobility. In cities there are many occupations, so occupational mobility is frequent.

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6. Rural people are less mobile and therefore the social relations among them are intimate. In urban areas, the way of life is complex and fast, hence, the social relations are formal.

Pattern of Rural Settlement:

- On the basis of forms or shapes of the settlements, rural settlements are classified as Linear, Rectangular, Circular, Star like, T-shaped village, Y-shaped village, Compact, Disperse, Planned, etc. The settlement in which houses are constructed along a road, railway line, river, canal edge of a valley, or along a levee is known as **Linear Pattern**.
- The settlements constructed in a rectangular shape are known as **Rectangular Pattern**. Such kind of settlements is found in plain areas and in wide inter-montane valley.
- The settlements constructed in a circular shape are known as **Circular Pattern**. Such kind of settlement is found around lakes, tanks, or a planned village.
- The settlements constructed in a star shape are known as Star like Pattern. Such kind of settlement is found around the points where several roads cross each other (making star shape).
- The settlements in which houses are constructed at the tri-junctions of the roads are known as **T-shaped Pattern**. Such kind of settlement is found along the road, which meets with another road at the dead end (the straight going road ends) and bifurcates left and right (T-Shape).

The settlement, in which houses are constructed along the straight road, is known as **Y-Shape pattern**. It is further bifurcated into two roads (similar to Y shape).

Classification of Rural Settlement

Based on shape, the settlements are classified as

1. Compact or Nucleated Settlements:

In the nucleated settlements, the houses are built very close to each other. Normally, fertile plain regions have such compact or nucleated settlements.



2. Dispersed Settlements:

In such kind of settlements, houses are spaced far apart and often interspersed with fields, however, their market and some other activities are centralized where they participate together.

Urban settlement:

The census of India, 1991 defines urban settlements as “All places which have municipality, corporation, cantonment board or notified town area committee and have a minimum population of 5000 persons, at least 75 per cent of male workers are engaged in nonagricultural pursuits and a density of population of at least 400 persons per square kilometers are urban settlements.

Evolution of Urban Settlement:

The first urban settlement to reach a population of one million was the city of London by around C.E. 1810. By 1982 approximately 175 cities in the world had crossed the one million population mark. Presently 48 per cent of the world's population lives in urban settlements compared to only 3 per cent in the year 1800.

Stages of Urban Settlement

Depending on the size and the services available and functions rendered, urban centers are designated as town, city, million cities, conurbation, Megalopolis. **Town (Population more than 5000 people)** The concept of ‘town’ can best be understood with reference to ‘village’. Population size is not the only criterion. Functional contrasts between towns and villages may not always be clear cut, but specific functions such as, manufacturing, retail and wholesale trade, and professional services exist in towns. **City (Population more than 100,000)** A city may be regarded as a leading town. Cities are much larger than towns and have a greater number of economic functions. They tend to have transport terminals, major financial institutions and regional administrative offices. When the population crosses the one million mark it is designated as a million city.

Conurbation (Population of 2 or more cities combined) The term conurbation was coined by Patrick Geddes in 1915 and applied to a large area of urban development that resulted from the merging of originally separated towns or cities. Greater London,

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Manchester, Chicago and Tokyo are examples. In India, Hyderabad and Cochin are the examples of conurbation cities.

Megalopolis (Population more than 10 million) This Greek word “Megalopolis” meaning “great city”, was popularized by Jean Gottman (1957) and signifies ‘super-metropolitan’ region extending, as union of conurbations. The urban landscape which stretches from Boston in the north to south of Washington in the U.S.A is the best known example of a megalopolis.

Million City (Population more than 1million) A city with million or more people is termed as the million cities. The number of million cities in the world has been increasing as never before. London reached the million marks in 1800, followed by Paris in 1850, New York in 1860, and by 1950 there were around 80 such cities.

The rate of increase in the number of million cities has been three-fold in every three decades – around 160 in 1975 to around 438 in 2005.

Definition of Town:

In 2001, places were designated as urban or towns on the following principles.

- i. All places with Municipality, Corporation, Cantonment Board, Sanitary Board, Notified Area Committee etc.
- ii. All other places which satisfy the following criteria.
 - A minimum population of 5,000.
 - At least 75 per cent of the male working population being engaged in non agricultural (and allied) activity.
 - A density of population of at least 400 persons per sq.km (or one thousand persons per square mile).

The Urban Agglomeration:

- As per census 2001, it was decided that the core town or at least one of the constituent towns of an urban agglomeration should necessarily be a statutory town and the total population of all the constituents should not be less than 20,000 (as per 1991 census).

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- Urban agglomeration is a continuous urban spread constituting a town and its adjoining urban outgrowths (OGs), or two or more physical contiguous towns together and any adjoining urban outgrowths of such towns. Examples of Outgrowth are railway colonies, university campuses, port area, military camps etc. that may have come up near a statutory town or city but within the revenue limits of a village or villages contiguous to the town or city.

With these two basic criteria having been met, the following are the possible different situations in which urban agglomerations could be constituted.

1. A city or town with one or more contiguous outgrowths.
2. Two or more adjoining towns with or without their outgrowths.
3. A city and one or more adjoining towns with their outgrowths all of which form a continuous spread.

Standard urban area:

A new concept that had been developed for the 1971 Census for the tabulation of certain urban data was the Standard Urban Area. The essential of a Standard Urban Area are:

1. It should have a core town of a minimum population size of 50,000.
 2. The contiguous areas made up of other urban as well as rural administrative units should have close mutual socio economic links with the core town and
 3. The probabilities are that this entire area will get fully urbanized in a period of two to three decades.
- The idea is that it should be possible to provide comparable data for a definite area of urbanization continuously for three decades which would give a meaningful picture. This replaced the concepts of Town Group that was in vogue at the 1961 Census. The town groups were made up of independent urban units not necessarily contiguous to one another but were to some extent inter-dependent.
 - The data for such town groups became incomparable from census to census as the boundaries of the towns themselves changed and the intermediate areas

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were left out of account; this concept came for criticism at one of the symposium of the International Geographic Union in 1968 and the concept of Standard Urban Area came to be developed for adoption at the 1971 Census.

- If data for this Standard Area were to be made available in the next two or three successive censuses, it is likely to yield much more meaningful picture to study urbanization around large urban nuclei.

Basis for classification of urban settlements

The definition of urban areas varies from one country to another. Some of the common bases of classification are size of population, occupational structure and Administrative setup.

Population size

In India the size of population, density of 400 persons per sq.km and share of non-agricultural workers are taken into consideration.

Occupational structure

In India if more than 50 per cent of its economically productive population is engaged in non-agricultural pursuits.

Administration Setup

For example, in India, a settlement of any size is classified as urban, if it has a municipality, Cantonment Board or Notified Area Council.

Classification of Urban Settlement

- Depending upon the functionality of the urban settlement, towns are classified as Administrative Towns, Commercial Towns, Cultural Towns, Recreational Towns, and Industrial Towns.
- The settlements that established for the administrative purpose or having largely administrative function are known as **administrative towns**. For example, New Delhi, Chennai

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- The settlements that facilitate commercial opportunities are known as **trading and commercial towns**. For example, Agra, Lahore, Baghdad as an important transport node; Frankfurt and Amsterdam as banking and financial center's; etc.
 - The settlements established because of religious adherence are known as **cultural or religious towns**. For example, Jerusalem, Mecca, Jagannath, Puri, Madurai and Varanasi, etc.
 - The settlements established for the recreational purpose are known as **recreational towns**. For example, Miami (U.S.A), Panaji (India), etc.
 - The settlements established because of industrial development are known as **industrial towns**. For example, Pittsburgh (U.S.A), Jamshedpur (India), etc

Urbanization of the World and India:

- Urbanization refers to the population shift from rural to urban residency, the gradual increase in the proportion of people living in urban areas and the ways in which each society adapts to this change.
- It is predominantly the process by which towns and cities are formed and become larger as more people begin living and working in central areas. Although the two concepts are sometimes used interchangeably, urbanization should be distinguished from urban growth.
- Urbanization is "the proportion of the total national population living in areas classed as urban," while urban growth refers to "the absolute number of people living in areas classed as urban".
- The United Nations projected that half of the world's population would live in urban areas at the end of 2008. It is predicted that by 2050 about 64% of the developing world and 86% of the developed world will be urbanized.
- That is equivalent to approximately 3 billion urbanites by 2050, much of which will occur in Africa and Asia. Notably, the United Nations has also recently projected that nearly all global population growth from 2017 to 2030 will be absorbed by cities, about 1.1 billion new urbanites over the next 13 years.

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- Urbanization in India began to accelerate after independence, due to the country's adoption of a mixed economy, which gave rise to the development of the private sector. Urbanization is taking place at a faster rate in India. Population residing in urban areas in India, according to 1901 census, was 11.4%.
 - This count increased to 28.53% according to 2001 census, and crossing 30% as per 2011 census, standing at 31.16%. According to a survey by UN State of the World Population report in 2007, by 2030, 40.76% of country's population is expected to reside in urban areas.
 - As per World Bank, India, along with China, Indonesia, Nigeria, and the United States, will lead the world's urban population surge by 2050. Mumbai saw large scale rural-urban migration in the 20th century. Mumbai, in 2018, accommodates 22.1 million people, and is the largest metropolis by population in India, followed by Delhi with 18.6 million inhabitants.
 - Witnessing the fastest rate of urbanisation in the world, as per 2011 census, Delhi's population rises by 4.1%, Mumbai's by 3.1% and Kolkata's by 2% as per 2011 census compared to 2001 census.

Urban fringe:

- Urban fringe is an area of transition between well recognized urban land uses and the area devoted to agriculture. It is an area where there is a mixture of rural and urban land uses and where a process of change from rural to urban land use is taking place.
- The urban fringe has the appearances of a proper city with residential and commercial centers, but it often lacks proper city services such as piped water supply, sewage and garbage disposal facilities.
- It may include the municipal towns and fully urbanized revenue villages contiguous to the main city.

Urban sprawl or suburban sprawl:

- Urban sprawl or suburban sprawl describes the expansion of human population away from central urban areas into low-density, monofunctional and usually car-dependent communities, in a process called suburbanization.

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- In addition to describing a particular form of urbanization, the term also relates to the social and environmental consequences associated with this development.
 - In Continental Europe the term "peri-urbanisation" is often used to denote similar dynamics and phenomena, although the term urban sprawl is currently being used by the European Environment Agency.
 - There is widespread disagreement about what constitutes sprawl and how to quantify it. For example, some commentators measure sprawl only with the average number of residential units per acre in a given area. But others associate it with decentralization (spread of population without a well-defined centre), discontinuity (leap frog development), segregation of uses, and so forth.

Causes of Urban Sprawl: Urban sprawl can be caused by many factors. They are:

Lower Land Rates: Lower cost land and houses in the outer suburbs of the cities, because the centers of urban development have really made people want to stop settling in these areas and want to venture further out.

Rise in Standard of Living: There are also increases in standards of living and average family incomes, which means that people have the ability to pay more to travel and commute longer distances to work and back home.

Lack of Urban Planning: People love to find areas that are less trafficked and more calm, which leads them to sprawl out to other sections of the town. Unprecedented development, cutting of trees, loss of green cover, long traffic jams and poor infrastructure force the people to move out to new areas.

Lower House Tax Rates: Cities will usually have high property taxes, and you can usually avoid these taxes by living in the outer suburbs because the taxes are usually lower than they are in other situations.

Rise in Population Growth: Another factor that contributes towards urban sprawl is rise in population growth. As number of people in a city grows beyond capacity, the local communities continue to spread farther and farther from city centers.

Consumer Preferences: People in high income groups have stronger preferences toward larger homes, more bedrooms, bigger balconies and bigger lawns. This also

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causes urban sprawl as this option is not available in crowded cities. People generally look out for low-density residential areas where they can get home according to their preference.

Problems of Urbanization:

India has the second largest urban population in the world only after China. India's urban population (about 28% of the total population) is almost equal to the total population of USA. The rate of urban growth is on the upswing. People in large number are arriving in the mega and metropolitan cities, swelling urban India by more than five per cent annually.

This stupendous growth of population is the cause of numerous socio-economic and environmental problems. Some of the important problems of urban India have been briefly presented below:

1. Problem of space and scarcity of residential accommodation

- The growing population demands more space which is not easily available because of physical and geographical constraints. The scarcity of space leads to high price of land and high rents for offices and residential accommodations. Since people cannot afford high rents, it is the main cause of unwanted growth of slums.
- According to one estimate, there is an annual shortage of about two million houses in Indian cities. This has forced low income group people to live in slums or occupy foot paths and road pavements. The number of such slums and pavement dwellers is rising in the metropolitan cities of India.

2. Inadequacy of Social Amenities:

- In most of the cities of India, there is growth and not urbanization. In fact, the number of people is increasing in the cities while the infrastructural facilities and civic amenities are quite inadequate. With greater concentration of people in urban places, the social amenities like housing, electricity, drinking water, transport, sanitation, sewage disposal, educational institutions, hospitals, parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities are quite under great stress.



3. Unemployment

- Unemployment is the state of being involuntarily out of work. In India, the rate of urban unemployment which is more than 3 per cent annually is increasing progressively.
- According to one estimate, about 25 per cent of the workers in the urban centres are unemployed. The high rate of unemployment and underemployment often leads to high rate of crime.

4. Problem of Transport

- Transport bottle necks and traffic congestion are the major problems of most of the Indian cities. The larger a town grows the more important its functions become. The workers and commuters need more transport facilities. Unfortunately, the roads in most of the cities, especially in the old towns (down-towns) are narrow which cannot cope with the growing pressure of passengers, travellers, and commuters.
- The number of private vehicles is rising steeply. It leads to traffic congestion, delays, irritation, and tension. If the number of vehicles is allowed to increase at the present rate without widening and upgrading the roads, the whole transport system of the major cities may collapse.

5. The Energy Crisis

- The shortage of energy reduces the industrial production of goods and their distribution. In fact, energy depends on the industrial growth, efficiency of the transport and human comfort. The peak power demand in the metropolises, million and class one cities is increasing day by day and power situation is not geared to meet it.

6. Inadequacy of Water Supply

- Water is the first and foremost necessity of human life. In fact, water is life, and man cannot survive without it. The average per capita consumption of water in

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Kolkata is 250 litres, in Mumbai 175 litres and only 80 litres in Delhi as against 1200 litres in Los Angeles and 1100 litres in Chicago.

- The acute scarcity of water in the urban places of India may be appreciated from the fact that in Chennai, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Nagpur, Shimla, Solan, Surat, Udaipur, Vadodara, etc., only one to two hours of water supply in a day is permitted. The National Capital (New Delhi) also regulates water supply to only about four hours a day.

7. Environmental Pollution

- Environmental pollution is the other serious problem of all the million and mega-cities. It is not only air-pollution caused by smoke emitted from vehicles, factories and houses, water and noise pollutions are equally serious.
- The scarcity of dumping grounds makes the rural urban fringe unhygienic and less conducive for human health. The problem of garbage disposal (hazardous plastics, metal and package) is thus quite serious in most of the Indian cities and urban places. Unfortunately, most of the garbage is dumped into the rivers or along their banks. The cities like Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai continue to discharge a major part of their garbage into the sea.

8. Increase in Crimes

- Increasing urban crimes are disturbing the peace of modern cities. According to sociologists, unemployment is the main cause of crimes in urban areas. The unemployed youths indulge in crime like abduction, extortion, kidnapping, murder, pick-pocketing, rape, robbery, snatching, and theft.
- The slums are especially infested with unemployed criminals who, in due course of time, become habitual offenders. Material culture, growing consumerism, selfishness, stiff competition, lavishness, increasing socio-economic disparities, rising unemployment and loneliness are some of the main reasons of this menace.



Cultural Geography:

- Cultural Geography gives emphasis on the location and diffusion of customs and cultural traits such as food habits, skills, clothing and beliefs and social organisations and their developments in different parts of the earth.
- Culture is the total way of life that characterizes a group of people. There are thousands of cultures existing today and each contributes to global diversity. There are so many ways that people can be culturally different.
- Specifically, a culture consists of numerous cultural components that vary from one culture group to the other. Some of the cultural parameters are religion, language, architecture, cuisine, technology, music, dress, gender roles, law, education, government, agriculture, economy, sport, values, and many more.

Culture Region:

- A culture region is a portion of Earth that has common cultural elements and has distinct cultural authority from other regions. Any number of cultural components may be used to define culture regions. A map of world religions, for example, includes a shaded area in South Asia where Hinduism is dominant.
- Culture regions differ greatly in size. Some are exceedingly large, like the Islamic culture region that encompasses millions of sq.km of North Africa and Southwest Asia. Some are very small, like Spanish Harlem, which encompasses about three sq.km of Manhattan.
- Many others are of intermediate size, like the Corn Belt, which occupies a portion of the mid-western United States.

Cultural Diffusion:

- Cultural diffusion is the spread of cultural beliefs and social activities from out group of people to another. Mixing of world culture through different ethnicities, religions and nationalities has only increases with advanced communication, transport and technology.



Cultural Landscape:

- Cultural Landscapes have been defined by the World Heritage Committee as “cultural properties representing the combined works of nature and of man”. The World Heritage Committee has identified and adopted three categories of cultural landscape.
- The three categories extracted from the Committee’s Operational Guidelines, are as follows:
 - i. “A landscape designed and created intentionally by man”.
 - ii. An “organically evolved landscape” which may be a “relict (or fossil) landscape” or a “continuing landscape”;
 - iii. An “associative cultural landscape” which may be valued because of the “religious, artistic or cultural associations of the natural element”.

Cultural Interaction:

- Cultural interaction focuses on the relationships that often exist between cultural components that characterize a given community. Different factors interact with each other and give rise to prevalent trait. What language do you speak? What dress do you wear? What food do you like? What is the structure of the house you live in? For the above question by searching the answer we can learn the culture of a human society. Culture shapes our identity and influences our behaviours. Culture refers to the sharing language, beliefs, values, norms, behaviours and material objects, which are passed from one generation to the next generation.
- Cultural geography is the branch of human geography which deals about the areal organization of various cultural aspects in relation to total environment. Some of the cultural aspects are as follows: **Language:** Language plays great force in socialization and historical transmission, which is the primary instrument for transmitting culture. Human can bind any group of people through the network of interaction.
- Languages are in written or oral form. India (780) has the world's second highest number of languages, after Papua New Guinea (839).



Customs

- Custom in law is the established pattern of behaviour that can be objectively verified within a particular social setting. A claim can be carried out in defense of what has always been done and accepted by law. It becomes characteristic of the group of people performing the act.
- Habit is a similar word which is adopted by an individual and it has been adopted by most of the people of the ethnic group or society.

Norms

Norms refers to attitude and behaviors that are considered normal, typical or average within the group. Cultural norms are the standards we live by. They are the shared expectations and rules that guide behavior of people within social groups. Cultural norms are learned and reinforced from parents, friends, teachers and others while growing up in a society. Norms often differ across cultures, contributing to cross-cultural misunderstandings.

Values

- Values refer to intangible quality or beliefs accepted and endorsed by a society. A culture's values are its ideas about what is good, right, fair, and Sociologists disagree, however, on how to conceptualize values.
- Conflict theory focuses on how values differ between groups within a culture, while functionalism focuses on the shared values within a culture.

Cultural Heritage

- Cultural Heritage is an expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation, including customs, practices, places, objects, artistic expressions and values.
- Cultural Heritage is often expressed as either Intangible or Tangible Cultural Heritage. As part of human activity Cultural Heritage produces tangible representations of the value systems, beliefs, traditions and lifestyles. As an essential part of culture as a whole, Cultural Heritage, contains these visible and tangible traces from antiquity to the recent past.

◆.....◆ **Cultural Heritage types**

Cultural Heritage can be distinguished in: Built Environment (Buildings, Townscapes, and Archaeological remains), Natural Environment (Rural landscapes, Coasts and shorelines, agricultural heritage) and Artefacts (Books & Documents, Objects, and Pictures).

Cultural diversity

Cultural diversity refers to having different cultures, respect to each other differences. Cultural diversity is important; because of work place and show increasingly consist of various cultural, racial and ethnic groups. We can learn from one another but first we must have a level of understanding. Cultural diversity exists in many countries around the world, but it can be challenging and, at times, problematic. Through this lesson, you will learn how to define cultural diversity and explore some of the ways in which it influences society.

Cultural Traits

1. A cultural trait is a characteristic of human action that's acquired by people socially and transmitted via various modes of communication. Cultural traits are things that allow for a part of one culture to be transmitted to another.
2. There are millions of culture traits, a trait can be an object, a technique, a belief or an attitude. Culture traits are interrelated with each other, their collective function forms culture complex.

Cultural realm

Cultural realm refers to a type of cultural region. Cultural region is a continuous geographical area characterized by cultural homogeneity.

India Cultural Realm

1. India Cultural Realm is the culture of the Indian sub-continent. Baker called it a subcontinental culture, while D. Stamp used the term paddy culture.
2. This cultural realm is well defined; it lies between Himalayas in the north, Indian Ocean in the south and Hindukush Mountains in the west.

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3. This cultural realm is characterized by joint family, village community, caste system, semi feudal land relations, subsistence agriculture, paddy farming, seasonal climate changes and agricultural season coming at the same time all over the region.
 4. The culture of this region is greatly influenced by Vedic values. Though the region is inhabited by various communities, the social system has the hidden impact of Vedic cultural values.

Races

1. The race is a group of people with more or less permanent distinguishing characteristics.
2. There are skin colour and hair colour to which persons concerned attach certain interpretations.
3. Objectives and scientific classification are the division of mankind in to racial groups should be done on the basis of measurable physical features and qualities inherited from a common ancestor.
4. The important features on the basis of which the races are identified and classified include skin colour, stature, shape of head, face, nose, eye, type of hair, and blood group.
5. Human races are classified in to four broad groups:
 1. Negroid, 2. Caucasoid, 3. Mongoloid and 4. Australoid.

1. The Negroid

They are usually called as "black race". They have the darkest skin tone than other races, and other common characteristics are the slopped forehead, thick lips, wide nose, and dark hairs. They are living in Sub-Sahara Africa.

2. The Mongoloid

They have the folding eye lids, almond shaped eyes, yellowish skin tone, and V shaped cheeks. Native Americans and Eskimo are also classified as Mongoloid. Compared to the other races, they have the least body hair, least body odour, and

smallest limb ratio. Their facial structure is likely to adapt cold mild wind. They are living in East Asia.

3. The Caucasoid

The Caucasoid is known as "white people" characterised by the pointy nose, vertical forehead, pinkish/orange skin tone, visible brow ridge, and colourful eyes/hair. Some believe that their light skin tone is meant to receive more sunlight due to Europe's climate. Some believe that their nose structure is meant to keep the nose moisture from getting dried by the wind. They are living in Europe and Middle East.

4. Australoid Race

They have visible eye ridge, wide nose, curly hair, dark skin tone, and short in height. Some believe that their visible ridge helps them to eat stiff foods. They are living in Australia and Papua New Guinea.

CHARACTERISTIC OF MAJOR RACES

Feature	Caucasoid	Mongoloid	Negroid
Skin colour	Pale reddish white to olive brown.	Saffron to Yellow Brown, reddish brown.	Brown to black brown yellow brown.
Stature	Medium to Tall.	Medium tall to Medium Short.	Tall to very Short.
Face	Narrow to medium broad, tends to high no prognathism	Medium broad to very broad molars high and fl at tends to medium high	Medium broad to narrow tends to medium high strong prognathism
Head Form	Long-broad and Short Medium, high-very high.	Medium height, predomi-nantly broad.	Predominantly long, Low height.
Hair color	Light blonde to Dark brown, straight to wavy.	Brown to brown black, Straight.	Brown black light curl and wooly.

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Body Build	Linear to lateral slender to refuge.	Tend to be lateral, some linearity evident.	Tend to be linear and muscular.
Nose	Usually high, narrow to medium board.	Low to medium form, medium broad.	Low, medium to very broad.
Blood Group	More A than B.	High in B.	High is Rh(D).
Eye	Colour: light blue to dark brown , lateral eye – fold occasional	Colour: brown to dark brown , medial epicanthic fold very common	Colour: brown to brown black, vertical eye – fold common

Ethnicity

1. Ethnicity is a concept referring to a shared culture and a way of life. This can be reflected in language, religion, material culture such as clothing and cuisine, and cultural products such as music and art. Ethnicity is often a major source of social cohesion and social conflict.
2. The world is home to thousands of different ethnic groups, from the Han Chinese (the largest ethnic group in the world) to the smallest indigenous groups, some of which include only a few dozen people.
3. Almost all of these groups possess a shared history, language, religion, and culture, which provide group members with a common identity. India is a unique country with great diversity in ethnicities, race, religion, language, culture, cuisine and in every other aspect of the human society.
4. Indian civilization is one of the oldest in the world and primarily consists of the Indo-Aryans of North India and the Dravidians of South India, the people of the Indus Valley Civilization while the former migrated to the country at about 1800 BC. As India has such a diverse cultural demographic, it makes sense that the country is also.

◆.....◆ **Religion**

Religion is not a vague fear or unknown powers not the child of terror, but rather a relation of all the members of a community to a power that has the good of the community at heart and protects its law and moral order. Religion produces a distinct attitude towards life which affects the further development of the society. Indeed, most cultural situations show the mutual interaction between religion and socio-economic and politico-cultural factors.

Classification of religion

Religion may be classified based on the belief in god. Monotheistic: the followers of monotheism believe in a single god (Islam, Christianity). Polytheistic: the followers of polytheism believe in many gods (Hinduism). Another classification is on the basis of areas of origin such as Eastern religion, Western religion, far Eastern religion, African religion, Indian religion, etc. Geographers generally classify religions into following;

- Universalizing religions – Christianity, Islam, Buddhism.
- Ethnic religions – Hinduism, Shintoism (Japan), Chinese faiths, Judaism.
- Tribal or traditional religions – animism, shamanism, secular (non religious and atheists).

Religions in India:

Hinduism:

Hinduism is the oldest ethnic religion of the world which was founded about 3000 B.C (B.C.E) in India. Today it has over 8 million followers in the world but main concentration is in India and Nepal. Nearly 99 percent of the total Hindu population is concentrated in south Asia. Its sacred books include the Vedas, the Upanishads, the Epics, the Ramayana and Mahabharata, and the Bhagavad Gita.

Islam:

Islam is the second largest religion of the world. The largest concentration of the Islam is in the South West Asia, Central Asia, South Asia and South East Asia Followed by the North Africa. Shia and Sunni are its two main sects. Its sacred book is Kuran.

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Buddhism:

Buddhism is also one of the oldest religions of India which was founded by Lord Buddha around 525 B.C (B.C.E). Its spread in several Asian countries (China, Myanmar, India, Srilanka, Japan, Mangolia, korea and South East Asian countries) due to its liberal philosophy. Its two main sects are Hinayana and Mahayana.

Jainism:

Jainism is also born in India as a reaction to orthodox Hinduism. It was founded by Lord Mahavir who was a Contemporary of Lord Buddha. Its followers are mostly concentrated in India. It is an offshoot of Hinduism which was established in the 15th century by Guru Nanak. It remained confined to Punjab state and has accepted Gurumukhi as its language

Christianity:

Christianity is a universal religion which has the largest number of followers in the world. They are spread in Europe, Anglo America, Latin America, Africa, Asia and Oceania. Its sacred book is “Bible”.

Tribal Religions:

- Tribal religions are the special forms of ethnic religion. The tribal people are generally in the Neolithic stage of social development. Tribal people are strikingly different and diverse in their culture, social and economic life.
- They cherish their own distinct and have maintained a close relationship to the land and natural environment. Most of them live according to their traditions and are engaged in food gathering, hunting, fishing, primitive agriculture etc, there are about 300 million indigenous people worldwide, constituting about four percent of the total population of the world living in more than sixty countries.
- Sometimes the tribal people are being termed as the fourth world. The first – second and third world believed that “the land belongs to the people” whereas the fourth world believes that “the people belongs to the land”.



Tribal in India:

- India is the home to large number of indigenous people, who are still untouched by the lifestyle of the modern world. With more than 84.4 million, India has the largest population of the tribal people in the world. These tribal people also known as the adivasis are the poorest in the country, which are still dependent on hunting, agriculture and fishing.
- Some of the major tribal groups in India include Gonds, Santhals, Khasis, Angamis, Bhils, Bhutias and Great Andamanese. All these tribal people have their own culture, tradition, language and lifestyle. There are more than 50 tribal groups in India.
- Most of the tribal belong basically to the Negrito, Australoid and Mongoloid racial stocks.

Bhils:

Bhils are popularly known as the bow men of Rajasthan. They are the most widely distributed tribal groups in India. They form the largest tribe of the whole South Asia. Bhils are mainly divided into two main groups the central or pure bills and eastern or Rajput Bhils.

Gonds:

The Gonds are the tribal community mostly found in the Gond forests of the central India. They are one of the largest tribal groups in the world. Gonds have been largely influenced by the Hindus and for the long time have been practicing the Hindus culture and traditions.

Santhals:

Santhals are the third largest tribe in India. They are mostly found in the states of West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand and Assam. They belong to the pre- Aryan period and have been the great fighters from the time of the British.

Munda:

Munda tribe mainly inhabit in the region of Jharkhand, although they are well spread in the states of West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Bihar. Munda generally means headman of the village. Hunting is the main occupation of the Mundas tribe.

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Khasi:

Khasi tribe is mainly found in the Khasi Jaintia hills in Meghalaya and in the states of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir. They form the large part of the population in the state of Meghalaya.

Angami:

Angami tribe belongs to the extreme north eastern part of the country, in the state of Nagaland. The total population of the Angamis is around 12 million. They are quite popular for their woodcraft and artwork. Sekrenyi is the main festival celebrated among the Angamis in Nagaland

Bhutia:

Bhutia tribes are of the Tibetan origin. They migrated to Sikkim around 16th century. In the northern part of the Sikkim they are known as the Lachenpas and Lachungpas. Bhutias forms 14% of the total population of Sikkim. Losar and Losoong are the main festivals celebrated among the Bhutia tribes

Chenchu:

Chenchu inhabit in the Nallamalai hills, which have been the part of the Nagarjuna Sagar Tiger Sanctuary for centuries in Andhra Pradesh, India. They are mainly found in the districts of Mahabubnagar, Nalgonda, Praksham, Guntur, and Kurnool.

Great Andamanese:

Great Andamanese is the Negrito tribe inhabitant in the Andaman group of Islands. They form the largest population among the other tribes found in these islands. According to the census the population of Great Andamanese is now limited to few individuals.

Sentinelese:

- The Sentinelese tribe, the most dangerous tribe in the world. Located far into Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the Bay of Bengal in the Indian Ocean, North Sentinel Island is one of the most isolated places on earth.
- This remote island is home to the Sentinelese tribe, the most dangerous tribe in the world. The Sentinelese are hunter gatherers, as agriculture is not known to

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them. Their diet consists mainly of coconuts and fish that can be found in the shallow waters around their shores.

- The Sentinelese would be described as Stone Age people. The women wear fibre strings tied around their waists, necks and heads. The men also wear necklaces and headbands, but with a thicker waist belt. The men carry spears, bows and arrows.
- Sometimes the Sentinelese appeared to make friendly gestures at others they would take the gift into the forest and then fire arrows at the contact party. The population of North Sentinel Island is estimated at 250 individuals. The Sentinelese do not want help from outsiders.

Tribals in Tamilnadu:

- Tribes of Tamil Nadu are concentrated mainly in the district of Nilgiris. Of all the distinct tribes, the Kodas, the Todas, the Irulas, the Kurumbas and the Badagas form the larger groups, who mainly had a pastoral existence. Other tribes include, Kattunayakan and Paliyan amongst others.
- According to census 2011, tribal population in Tamil Nadu is 7, 94,697. There are around 38 tribes and sub-tribes in Tamil Nadu. The tribal people are predominantly farmers and cultivators and they are much dependant on the forest lands.

Toda: Men from the family of the tribes are occupied in milking and grazing their large herds of buffaloes. Their settlements are known as 'Munds'. They do not worship any god and their consciousness is cosmic. They live in Nilgiris. Today, there are about a thousand Todas left.

Badaga: The Badagas belong to the backward class and are not classified as tribal. They are an agricultural community, dwelling in the higher plateau of the Nilgiris district in the state of Tamil Nadu. They are engaged in tea cultivation and potato growing. They form the largest group of tribes and boast a rich oral tradition of Folk tales, songs and poetry. These tribes are Hindu and belong to the shiva sect.

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Kota: The Kotas are mainly concentrated in the Tiruchigadi area in the Nilagiri hills. They are distinguished by their colourful Folk dances and are basically musicians, who play at Badaa funerals. They are mainly engaged in producing handicrafts. These tribes of Tamil Nadu are expert iron smiths, potters and carpenters. In order to maintain distance and status in society, the Kotas implement elaborate tattoos.

Kurumbas: The Kurumbas tribes of this state inhabit the intermediate valleys and forests in Villages and were known for their black magic and witchcraft in the past. Their way of living today has changed from their original gathering and hunting existence to working in Coffee and Tea plantations as labourers. Kurumbas are perhaps the only main caste in southern India that has a specialized and distinctive Kurumbas Language.

Irula: The Irula tribes of Tamil Nadu occupy the lower slopes and forests at the base of the Nilgiri Hills. They constitute the second largest group of tribes after the Badagas and are similar to the Kurumbas in many ways. This tribe produces honey, fruits, herbs, roots, gum, dyes etc., and trades them with the people in the plains. In the recent times the Irulas help in catching snakes and collect the snake venom.

Paliyan: They are of the food gathering communities of Tamil Nadu. It is believed that the Paliyan originally belonged to the Palani hills. They are distributed in the districts of Madurai, Thanjavur, Pudukkottai, Tirunelveli and Coimbatore.

Questions

1. What are the classification of urban & rural settlements in India?
2. Discuss about the problems of urbanization.
3. Mention some of the tribal in India. Give a short note on them