

Geography as a Discipline
 (भूगोल एक विषय के रूप में)

⇒ Why should we study Geography? → See previous page
 (Geographical Thought) no - 05 in Lecture 02
 (only 2 points write)

⇒ What is Geography?
 In very simple words, it can be said that GEOGRAPHY is the description of the Earth. The term "Geography" was first coined by Eratosthenese, a greek scholar (276-194 BC). The word has been derived from two roots from Greek language GEO (Earth) and GRAPHOS (Description). Put together, they mean "Description of the Earth". The earth has always been seen as the abode (निवास) of Human beings & thus, scholars defined Geography as,

② "the description of the earth as the abode of human beings".
 (मनुष्यों के निवास के रूप में पृथ्वी का वर्णन)

③ As we aware of the fact that the Earth is Multi-dimensional, that is why many disciplines from Natural Sciences (Geology, Zoology, meteorology etc.) and a number of sister discipline in social sciences (Economics, History, Political science etc.) study different aspects of the Earth's surface. Thus, "Geography studies all those phenomena over the Earth's surface which vary over space. It also study the associations with the other factors which causes variation". ~~Thus Alfred Hettner define stated that~~
~~"Geography studies the differences of phenomena usually related in different parts of the Earth's surface"~~

UNIT-ONE

TOPIC

Geography & It's Relation to other Sciences

⇒ Geography as a Discipline → Geography has undergone changes in it's approach. The earlier Geographers were descriptive geographers. Later, Geography came to be developed as Analytical Science. Today, Geography is not only concerned with discriptions but also with analysis as well as prediction. Therefore, a pertinent question is that Why should we study Geography?

→ The Earth's surface is ever changing. The natural phenomena like Mountains, rivers etc change slowly while the cultural elements like buildings, roads, crops change fast. All this is because the continuous interaction between the environment in which we live in & the way we use it. The Study of Geography is about observing such patterns.

→ There are variations in the Natural Resource base, Technological Development, adaptation with the modification of physical environment, Social organisations & cultural development. As a student, Geography

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equips you to appreciate diversity & investigate into the cause responsible for creating such variations over time & space.

→ Geography is often thought of as the Art of making & Studying Maps. you will develop skills to understand the Globe Converted into maps and have a visual sense of the Earth's Surface. The understanding & skill obtained in Modern scientific techniques such as GIS, Remote Sensing, Aerial Photography and other Computer Cartography equip you to meaningfully contribute to the national endeavours for development as a Environmental scientists, city planners, engineers etc.

→ Geography, not only investigates what is where on the Earth, but also why it is there (the factors or reasons behind this location) i.e. Areal Differentiation. These areas are then described based on the distribution of landforms, population, house type & agriculture. They discover the linkages and movements between places & are able to infer the spatial processes that are working in an area. It also discovered how do social, cultural, economic & demographic factors change our physical landscape & create New or Altered landscapes by Human Interventions. For example → Human Settlements are transformation of forest & barren lands for living purpose by Human being.

→ Today, all over the world there are problems related to the providing Food Security, Health, Effective energy use and environmental Conservation. Equally important are the

Equality issues and the Sustainable Development. All these can be achieved by using our resources in Sustainable ways. Study of Geography is therefore, necessary to learn more about environmental processes & to understand how landuse planning can help us to overcome problems.

→ Geographical thinking and concepts affects our daily decisions in a number of ways. For example → ① When Urban Master plans are made or Rural development strategies are considered, it is important to understand the physical structures, climatic conditions and availabilities of resources in the area. ② The decision to shift industries from city areas would require the extension of Industrial Landuse into farming areas. This would displace farmers and their sources of income. ③ Similarly the construction of a railway line or highway causes ribbon development. Many economic activities concentrate along such corridors. ④ Now a days, to provide relief materials to all affected persons after a flood or an Earthquake requires a good understanding of the geographical area and the distribution of relief is functional and related to the needs of people, according to climate or terrain.

Thus, the Scope of Geography is in various disciplines like, armed service, Environmental management, meteorology & planning etc. Apart from that a geographer can help in day to day life like, Tourism, Commuting, Housing & Health related activities.