

GEOGRAPHICAL THOUGHT & 3 SOUTHERN CONTINENT

(SECTION-A)

GEOGRAPHICAL THOUGHT

UNIT - ONE

Topic

Geography as an Integrated Discipline



Geography as an Integrated Discipline

The

present world is being perceived as a Global Village. The distances have been reduced by better means of Transportation increasing accessibility. The audio-visual media & information technology have enriched the database. Technology has provided better chances of monitoring natural phenomena as well as the economic & social parameters. In this sense we can see →

→ Geography as an integrating discipline has interference with numerous Natural & Social sciences. All the science both Natural & Social, have one basic objective → "the understanding the Reality". Geography attempts to comprehend the Associations of phenomena as related in sections of reality.

→ Every discipline, concerned with scientific knowledge is linked with Geography as many of their elements vary over space. Geography helps in understanding the "Reality in Totality" in its "spatial" perspective.

Geography, thus, not only takes note of the differences in the phenomena from place to place but integrates them Holistically which may be different at other places.

A Geographer is required to have a broad understanding of all the related fields, to be able to logically integrate

them. eg ^{In India,} → [^] Himalayas have acted as great barriers & provided protection but the Passes provided routes to the migrants and invaders from Central Asia. The sea coast has encouraged contact with people from East & Southeast Asia, Europe & Africa. Navigation technology helped European Countries to colonise a number of Countries of Asia, Africa through oceans. Thus, the Geographical factors have modified the Course of History in different parts of the World.

→ Every Geographical Phenomena undergoes change through Time and can be explained Temporally. Many geographical features (changes in landforms, climate, vegetation,

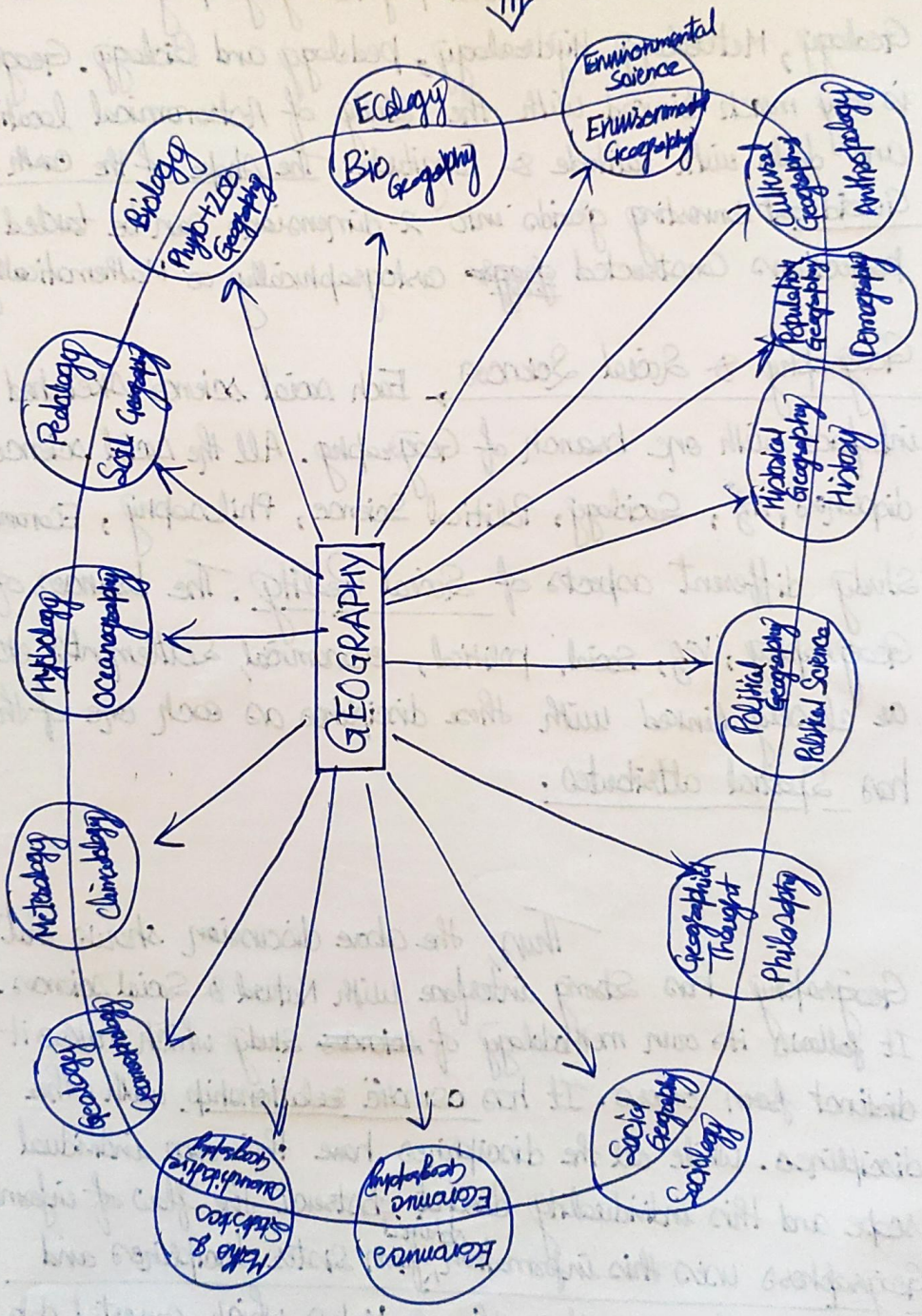
economic activities occupations and cultural developments etc result from the decision making process by different institutions at a particular point of time. It is possible to convert time in terms of space & space in terms of time.

For example → It can be said that place A is 1500 kms from place B @ it can also be said that place A is two hours away to place B. It is for this reason, TIME is an integral part of Geographical Studies as the Fourth Dimension.

Thus we can say that, Geography is a discipline of Synthesis. It attempts spatial synthesis, and history attempts Temporal synthesis. Its approach is Holistic in nature. It recognises the fact that the world is a System of Interdependencies. "Figure" in Next page amply depicts the linkages of Geography with different Natural and Social sciences. The linkage can be put under two segments →

- 1) Geography & Natural Sciences.
(Physical)
- 2) Geography & Social sciences.
(Human)

Note → This chart is change in accordance of Development of Geography in future



1) Geography & Natural Sciences → All the branches of Physical Geography have interface with Natural sciences. The traditional physical geography is linked with Geology, Meteorology, Hydrology, pedology and Biology. Geography is very much linked with the Study of Astronomical locations and deals with latitude & longitude. The shape of the earth is Geoid but converting geoids into 2-dimensions can be tackled by projections constructed ~~graphically~~ cartographically or Mathematically.

2) Geography & Social Sciences → Each social science sketched has interface with one branch of Geography. All the social science disciplines, viz, Sociology, Political Science, Philosophy, Economics etc study different aspects of Social Reality. The branches of Geography, viz, Social, political, economical, Settlements etc are closely linked with those disciplines as each one of them has Spatial attributes.

Thus, the above discussion shows that Geography has strong interface with Natural & Social sciences. It follows its own methodology of ~~science~~ study which makes it distinct from others. It has osmotic relationship with other disciplines. While all the disciplines have their own individual scope and this individuality does not obstruct the flow of information. Geographers uses this information ^{obtained} from various disciplines and attempt Synthesis over space through Maps which converted data into visual form to bring out the Spatial pattern.

