

Lecture-1  
On  
**Introduction to Geography**



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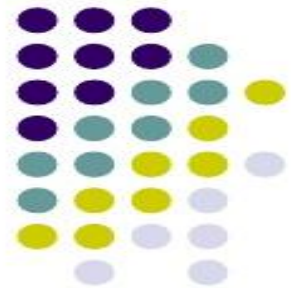
*Good question!*

# WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?

- \*Geography derive from the Greek word ‘**Geographein**’ . Geography is the combination of two word i.e. ‘**Geo**’ means Earth and ‘**Graphy**’ means description.
- \*According to **Eratosthenes** Geography is “the study of the earth description as a home of man”.
- \*The term ‘Geography’ was first used by **Eratosthenes** who was Greek scholar.
- \*The term Geography was first used in India by **Aryabhatta** who is one of the most important philosopher or geographer in Indian school of geography.

## What is Geography?

*'Geography is all about the world in which we live and on which we depend. Landscapes, peoples, places and the fragile environment are all interwoven. Its unique combination of knowledge gives rise to a clear and incisive understanding of the interconnections of our world including the human impact on our environment. Learning through geography is a magnificent way of fostering environmental responsibility, sustainable development and cultural awareness.'*



# Branches of Geography

## Physical geography



*Climatology*  
*Hydrology*  
*Geomorphology*  
*Bio-geography*  
*soil geography*  
*oceanography*  
*Glaciology*  
*Coastal geography*  
*Environmental geography*  
*Paleogeography*  
*Astronomical geography*

## Advance geography



*Geographic  
information system  
(GIS)*

## Human geography



*Urban geography*  
*Economic geography*  
*Political geography*  
*Cultural geography*  
*Population geography*  
*medical geography*  
*Historical geography*  
*Transpotation geography*  
*Industrial geography*  
*Agricultural or land use*  
*Regional development  
and\_planning*  
*Behavioral geography*



# The Branches of Geography

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## Physical

➤ Focus on Earth's natural environment

- ✓ Landforms
- ✓ Water features
- ✓ Plants
- ✓ Animals

➤ Studies the processes that shape the physical environment

## Human

➤ Study of distribution and characteristics of the world's people (where people live and what they do)

➤ Examines how people make and trade things that they need to survive

➤ Study where people live and work

interaction  
between  
people and  
the  
environment

## **Content of Geography**

1. Place
2. People
3. Environment
4. Landform
5. Interaction between man and environment
6. Society
7. Culture
8. Resources
9. Economic activities
10. Transport and communication technologies

## **Main Characteristics of Geography**

1. Location
2. Regional differentiation
3. Man-environment relationship

# Scope of Geography

The major sectors where a Geographer can prove his talents and efficiency include the following,

**Urban Planner/Community Development** : City planners work on zoning, land use, and new developments, from a gas station renovation to the development of whole new sections of urban area.

**GIS Specialist** : Urban governments, county agencies, other government agencies, private agencies are often in need of experienced GIS professionals. Computer programming or engineering skills are very helpful in this arena .

**Cartographer** : For those with cartography and strong mathematical base may enjoy work as a cartographer. The news media, book publishers, atlas publishers, government agencies and others are looking for cartographers to help produce maps.

**Climatologist** : Agencies like the National Weather Service, News Media, the Weather Channel, and Meteorological Departments other government entities occasionally need Climatologist. Admittedly, these jobs usually go to those with Meteorology degrees, a Geographer with experience in Meteorology and Climatology would definitely be an asset.

**Transportation Management** : Shipping, Logistics, and Transportation companies look for someone with Transportation Geography with good computer and analytical skills.

**Environmental Management** : A Geographer brings excellent skills for project management and the development of reports like environmental impact .

**Writer/Researcher** : Writer or a Travel Writer for a magazine or newspaper.

**Emergency Management** : They understand the interactions between humans and the environment, know about hazards, Calamities and earth processes, and can understand maps.

**Teaching/Faculty** : Geography instructor requires additional education beyond undergraduate degree

**Demographer** : The Population Geographer who loves demographic data, can work for state or federal agencies to help developing population estimates.

**National Park Service Ranger** : Physical Geographer may get career in the National Park Service.

**Librarian/Information Scientist** : Your research skills as a Geographer apply particularly well to work as a librarian. If you want to help people navigate the world of information, this is a potential career for you.

**Real Estate Appraiser** : Real Estate Appraisers develop an opinion of value for a specific piece of property.

## **Research Centres/Institutions**

There are many institutions, where one can build one's career and/or continue the study/research work. Few of them are given below:

- \*National Centre for Earth Science Studies, Thiruvananthapuram
- \*National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research, Goa
- \*National Centre for Seismology (NCS), MoES
- \*Indian National Center for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad.
- \*National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Noida
- \*National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai
- \*Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management Project Directorate (ICMAM PD), Chennai
- \*Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun
- \*National Centre for Seismology, NOIDA
- \*National Institute of Oceanography, Goa
- \*Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology (CMLRE), Kochi
- \*India Meteorological Department (IMD), New Delhi
- \*Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune
- \*Department of Earth Science, IIT, Roorkee
- \*Centre for Earth Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore
- \*School of Earth, Ocean and Climate Sciences, IIT Bhubaneswar



# Branches of Geography and Profounder

- Father of Geography: Hecateous.
- Father of Modern Geography: Carl Ritter
- Father of Indian Geography: S.P. Chatterjee
- Father of Geomorphology: Albrecht Penck.
- Father of Mathematical Geography: Anaximander and Thales.
- Father of Phyto Geography: Theophrastus.
- Father of Cartography: Anaximander.
- Father of Climatology: Trewartha.
- Father of Population Geography: Trewartha
- Father of Bio-Geography: Alfred Russel Wallace
- Father of History: Herodotus.
- Father of Geopolitics: Carl Haushofer.
- Father of Human Geography: Vidal-De-La-Blache

**Thank You for your  
kind attention**