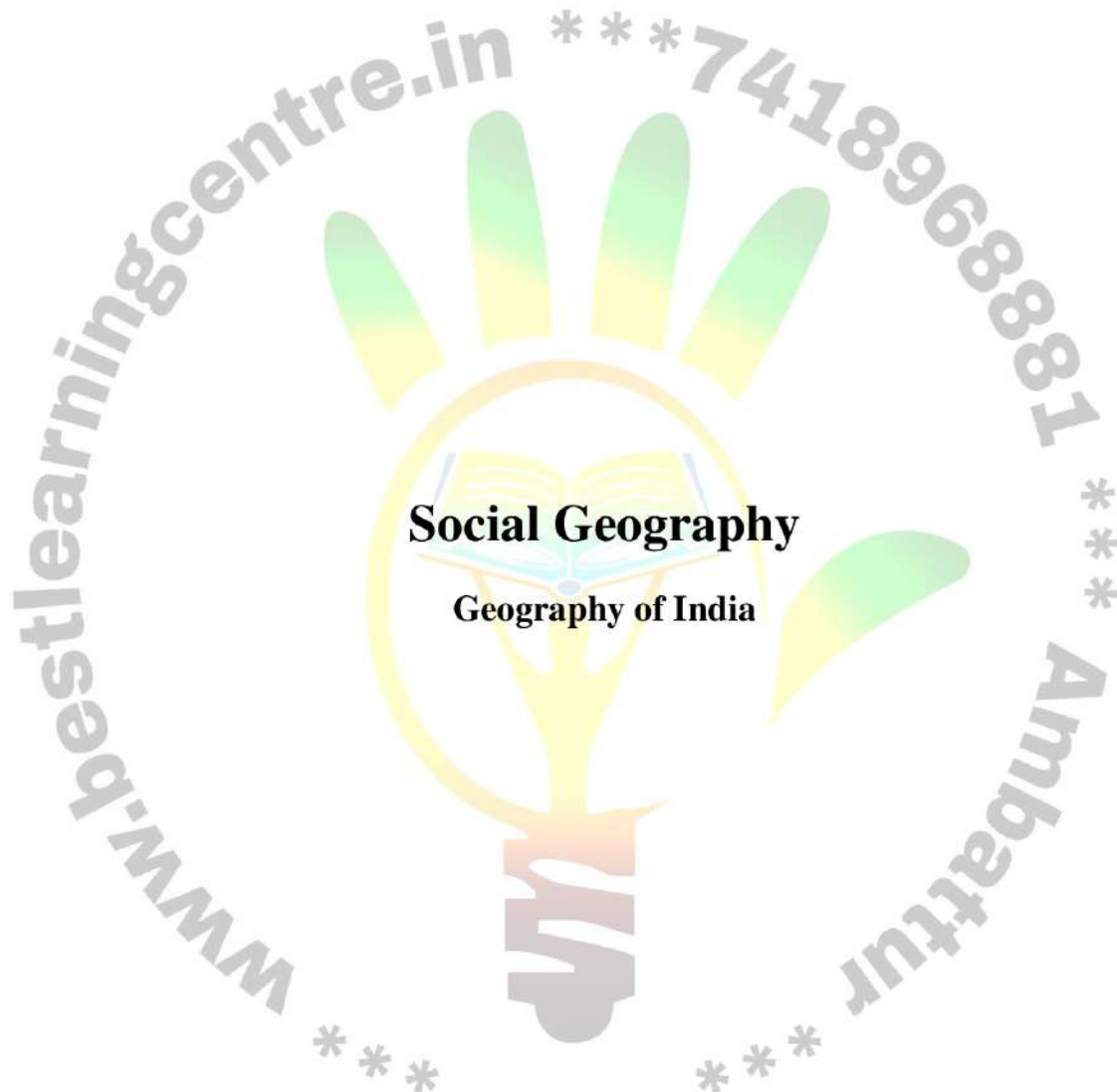




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Social Geography

Geography of India

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SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY

- ❖ Social geography is the study of **people and their effects** on, and movement around the earth.
- ❖ Social geography is the branch of human geography that is most closely related to social theory in general and sociology in particular, dealing with the relation of social phenomena and its spatial components.
- ❖ Social geography includes **Culture, Religion, Language, urbanization, migration** etc.

Culture

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ 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.

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.
 - “A landscape designed and created intentionally by man”.
 - An “**organically evolved landscape**” which may be a “**relict** (or fossil) **landscape**” or a “**continuing landscape**”;
 - An “**associative cultural landscape**” which may be valued because of the “religious, artistic or cultural associations of the natural element”.

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)**.

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

Major Languages of India

- India has a **rich Linguistic heritage** and has **heterogeneous ethnic and social groups**, which have their own languages and dialects.
- According to census of India **1961**, there were **187 languages** spoken by various sections of Indian society.
- **23 major languages** were spoken by about **97 percent** population of **the country**.
- **22 languages** excluding English are mentioned in the **eighth schedule** of the constitution of India.

MIGRATION

- **Migration** is defined as the **permanent or semi permanent change of residence** of an **individual or group of people over a significant distance**.
- So, the term migration refers to the movement of people from one place to another.

Types of Migration

- Migration can be classified in **several ways**.
- It is usually categorized as follows

1. Based on the movement associated with administrative limits

- **Internal migration**
- **International migration**

2. Based on the willingness of the migrants for migration

- **Voluntary migration**
- **Involuntary or forced migration**

3. Based on the duration of stay of migrants in the place of destination

- **Short term migration**
- **Long term migration**
- **Seasonal migration**

URBANISATION

- Urbanization refers to the process in which there is an **increase in the proportion of population living in towns and cities**.
- **Origin and Growth of World Urbanizations** The process of urbanization in the world has a long history.