



Recent Trends in Carrier and Scope of Geography subject: An Quintessence

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Abstract:

Geography is one of the most popular subjects taught in schools as well as in colleges. However, geography is not just about maps and planets. The geography subject is dealing with to know the space, to understand the planet earth, knowing the various cultures etc. Geography is all about connections of humans with space and places. The main task of geographer is to study the areal differentiation or spatial variation of the earth surface and analysis with cause and effect phenomena. This paper is an attempt to examine the growth and development of geography subject, to highlight the recent carrier and scope of geography subjects and to examine the future prospects of geography subjects. The entire study is based on secondary sources of data. Geography is an interdisciplinary field that bridges the gap between the natural and social sciences, which provides valuable insights into the complexities of our world. According to QS ranking reports 2024 University of Oxford ranks first position in worldwide in geography teaching and research and according NIRF raking 2024 Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) ranks first position in India in geography teaching and research. There are various courses offered by various universities and colleges such as bachelor, master and doctor of philosophy, PG Diploma etc. In geography subjects lots of carrier opportunities such as geographer, teacher, professors and many professional experts. In contemporary era Geography plays a most important role in addressing the challenges of the present and shaping a sustainable future.

Key Words: Geography, Geographer, Areal Differentiation, Cause-effect Analysis, Physical Geography, Human Geography, Maps,

Introduction:

Geography is the study of earth as the home of man. Geography is very fascinating, realistic, and important subjects in arts and humanities. It is also called mother of all sciences. Geography is a popular subject in the arts and social science streams. Geography is the study of Earth's landscapes features, environments, and inhabitants. Those who are studies geography subject they are called geographer. As a geographer, we should try to gain the hidden knowledge from the depth of Mariana Trench (11,033 Meter) to the peak of Mount Everest (8,850 Meter). The main task of geographer to study the areal differentiation or spatial variation of the earth surface and analysis with cause and affect phenomena. Every year 27th January National Geographic Day is celebrated all over the country. Geographer raises the various issues of society and their



solution. A well-trained geographer can perform many vital roles in the politics and socio-economic sector of society.

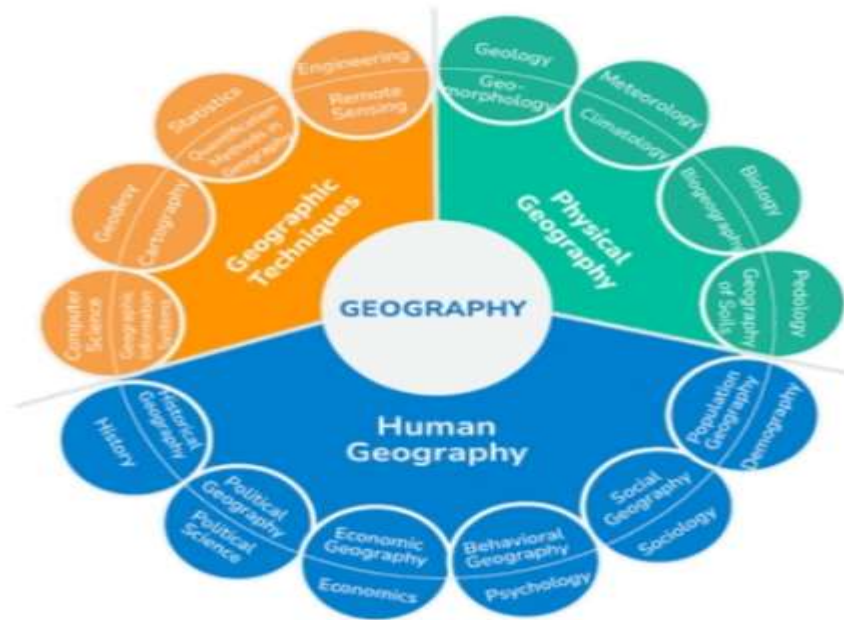
In the ancient times Hecattius was written a book named Ges-Periodous (description of the earth), so he was considered Father of Geography. But the word Geography was first time coined and used by Greek scholar Eratosthenes and it is derived from two Greek words “**GEO**”+ “**GRAPHIE**” in which “**Geo**” means “**Earth**” and “**Graphie**” means “**to description**”. Then Eratosthenes was considered “Father of Geography”. In simple language Geography deals with description of various phenomena of the earth surface. Alexander Von Humboldt and Carl Ritter are known as founders of modern Geography.

In Hindi language Geography is called “**Bhugol**” where “**Bhu**” mean “**Earth**” and “**Gol**” means “**round**” that is study of round Earth. The two word Bhugol is derived from Sanskrit words. The subject matter of Geography is very dynamic. The scope of geography subject is very broad and wide. The first geography department was open to study at graduate level at college during the year 1920 in Punjab University, in 1924 Aligarh Muslim University and in 1927 in Patna University. This was followed by a very slow spread of Geography teaching and learning till 1950s. Department of Geography was opened in Calcutta University in 1941, in Banaras Hindu University in 1946, University of Allahabad in 1947, University of Madras in 1948. Moreover, first Post Graduate department in Geography was opened in Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) in 1931. The Late Professor Sir L. Dudley Stamp, a famous geographer, remarked on his visit to India that, Aligarh is the “**Mecca of the Indian Geography**” for greatly contribution in the field of teaching and research.

According to Richard Hartshorne Geography is concerned to provide an accurate, orderly and rational description and interpretation of the variable character of the earth surface. Geography is the study of earth’s landscapes, peoples, places and environment. Geography is an education for life and for living. Geography is the study of past, present and future phenomena of the earth surface. Thus we can say that geography is the study of the human and physical landscapes of the earth’s surface. It considers many factors such as human culture, language, climate and weather, vegetation, landforms, transportation and cities. The nature of geography is not static but highly dynamic. A Geography students has develop various skills such as problem solving, analytical skills, technical skills, personal observation skills, communication skills, organization skills, time management, reports writing, data presentation etc. Map is the essential segment of geographer.



Branches of Geography



There are various approaches to study the geography. Such as

- (i) Human Vs. Physical Geography
- (ii) Environmental Determinism Vs. Possibilism Approach
- (iii) Systematic Vs. Regional Geography
- (iv) Quantitative Vs. Behavioral Geography
- (v) Ideographic Vs. Nomothetic
- (vi) Inductive Vs. Deductive Approach
- (vii) Modernism Vs. Post Modernism

There are various sub-branches of regional geography such as

Regional Studies (Macro [Large Area], Meso [Medium] and Micro [Small] regions)
Regional Analysis
Regional Planning and Development

There are four methods and techniques in geography subjects

Cartography including computer cartography

Quantitative Techniques / Statistical Techniques

Field Survey Methods

Geo-Informatics comprising techniques such as Remote Sensing and GIS, GPS.

Objectives of Research:



1. To examine the growth and development of geography subjects in with the context to worlds and India.
2. To highlight the recent carrier and scope of geography subjects.
3. To examine the future prospect of geography subjects.

Database and Research Methodology: The entire study is based on secondary sources of data. The data has been collected from website from various geography department, NIRF Ranking Reports, QS World Ranking Report, Times Higher Education World University Ranking Reports, Ministry of Higher Education Report, Research Journals, Edited book, Researchagate, Google scholar etc.

Result and Analysis:

Table 1.1 Different Periods in Geography subject and famous Geographer

Periods	Timings	Famous Geographer
Greek Periods	5 th to 4 th Century BCE (200 Years)	Hecatius, Homer, Plato, Aristotle, Thales, Anaximander, Hipparchus, Eratosthenes, Herodotus, Pythagoras
Roman Periods	625 BC – 476 AD	Strabo, Ptolemy
Dark Age in Geography	476 CE- 800 CE	Galilio, Copernicus,
Arab Periods	801 AD – 1300 A.D.	Al-Masudi, Al-Biruni, Al-Idrisi, Iban Khaldun, Ibn-Battuta
Early Modern Periods	1400 AD -1900 AD.	Wladimir Koppen, Walter Christaller, Von Thunnen, Weber, W.W. Rostow, Malthus, Ellen Churchill Semple, F. Ratzel, Alexander Von Humbolt, Carl Ritter, Vidal Di la Blache, Hungtington, Carl O Sauer, L.D. Stamp, William Morris Davis, Walther Penck, A.J. Herbertson,
Modern Periods	1901 To Present day	I.Burton, R.J. Peet, P.L. Knox, David Harvey, D.M. Smith, William Kirk, P. Gould, R.White, Lynch, Gillian Rose, Richard Hartshorne, Yi-Fu Tuan, Griffith Taylor,

Source: Evolution of Geographical Thought Book, Majid Hussian, Rawat Publication, New Delhi

Table 1. 2: Father of All Geography Subjects and Papers



Father of Geography	Eratosthenes
Father of Physical Geography	Alexander Von Humbolt
Father of Human Geography	Friedrich Ratzel
Father of Geomorphology	William Morris Davis
Father of Modern Geomorphology	James Hutton
Father of Climatology	Glenn Thomas Trewartha
Father of Biogeography	A.R. Wallace
Father of Oceanography	Posidonius and Mathew Maury
Father of Urban Geography	Karl Massert
Father of Population Geography	Glenn Thomas Trewartha
Father of Agricultural Geography	Johann Heinrich Von Thunen
Father of Political Geography	Friedrich Ratzel
Father of Political Geography	George Chisholm
Father of Electoral Geography	Andre Siegfried and Richard Muir
Father of Settlement Geography	Otto Schluter
Father of Mathematical Geography	Thales and Anaximander
Father of Soil Geography	V.V. Dokuchev
Father of Cultural Geography	Carl O Sauer
Father of Social Geography	Vallaux
Father of Geo-Politics	Karl Houshofer
Father of Regional Geography	Richard Hartshorne
Father of Regional Planning and Development	Patrick Geddes
Father of Indian Geography	James Rennell
Father of Cartography	Anaximander
Father of Medical Geography	Hippocrates
Father of Cartography	Anaximander and Gerardus Mercator
Father of Statistical Geography	I. Burton
Father of Remote Sensing and GIS	Roger F. Tomlinson

Source: Various Geography Book

Table 1.3: World Top 10 University for Geography Subject According to QS World University Ranking 2024

Name of the University	QS World University Ranking in Geography Subject
University of Oxford	01
The London of Economics and Political Science (LSE)	02
University of Cambridge	03
Harvard University	04
University of California, Berkeley	05
National University of Singapore (NUS)	06
University College London (UCL)	07



Stanford University	08
University of British Columbia	09
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)	10

Source: Qs World Ranking Report, 2024

Table 1. 4: Top 10 Famous Universities in India for Geography subject NIRF Ranking 2024

Name of the University	NIRF Ranking
Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU, New Delhi)	01
Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI, New Delhi)	02
Banaras Hindu University (BHU, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh)	03
University of Delhi (DU, Delhi)	04
Aligarh Muslim University (AMU, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh)	05
Jadavpur University (JU, Kolkata, West Bengal)	06
Anna University	07
University of Hyderabad, Telengana	08
Calcutta University (CU, Kolkata)	09
Chandigarh University (CU, Chandigarh)	10

Source: National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) Report, 2024

Table 1. 5: Famous Geography Organization & Societies in World

Sl. No.	Name of the Organization & Societies in World
1.	International Geographical Union (IGU)
2.	Royal Geographical Society, London
3.	European Geography Organization
4.	Canadian Association of Geographers
5.	Norwegian Geographical Society
6.	Saudi geographical Society
7.	American Geographical Society
8.	Association of American Geographers
9.	National Geographic Society
10.	Society of Women Geographers
11.	International Institute of Population Sciences (IIPS)

Source: Various Department of Geography Website

Table 1. 6: Famous Geography Organization and Society in India

Sl. No.	Name of Famous Geographical Organization / Association / Society
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1.	National Association of Geographers India (NAGI)
2.	Association of Punjab Geographers
3.	Indian National Cartographic Association (INCA)
4.	AMU Geographical Society
5.	Deccan Geographical Society
6.	The Association of Geographers Bihar and Jharkhand (AGBJ)
7.	Indian Institute of Geomorphology (IIG)
8.	Madras Geographical Society, Madras
9.	Patna College Geographical Society, Patna
10.	Calcutta Geographical Society, Calcutta
11.	Bombay Geographical Association, Bombay
12.	National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organization (NATMO), Kolkata
13.	Survey of India, Dehradun
14.	Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), Dehradun
15.	National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) , Hyderabad

Source: Various Geography Department Website, 2024

Table 1. 7: Famous Geography Research Journal in India

Sl. No.	Name of the Geography Research Journal	Published by Department of Geography / University
1.	Annals of National Association of Geographers	Department of Geography, University of Delhi,
2.	Hill Geographers	Department of Geography, North Eastern Hill University,
3.	National Geographical Journal of India	Department of Geography, Banaras Hindu University,
4.	The Geographer	Department of Geography, Aligarh Muslim University,
5.	Deccan Geographer	Department of Geography, Osmania University
6.	Punjab Geographer	Department of Geography, Punjabi University, Patiala
7.	Journal of Transactions	Department of Geography, Savitribai Phule Pune University
8.	Geographical Review of India	Department of Geography, Calcutta University
9.	Indian Journal of Regional Sciences	Department of Geography, Jadavpur University
10.	Indian Geographical Journals	Department of Geography, Madras University
11.	Transaction of the Indian Geographers	Department of Geography, Patna



		University
12.	Geographical Outlook	Department of Geography, Ranchi University
13.	Indian Journal of Geography	Department of Geography, Jai Narayan Vyas University, Jodhpur
14.	Geographical Knowledge	Department of Geography, CSJMU, Kanpur
15.	Geographical View Point	Department of Geography, Dr B. R. Ambedkara University, Agra
16.	Uttar Bharat Bhugol Patrika	Department of Geography, Deen Dayal Upadhaya University, Gorakhpur
17.	Bhoodarshan	Department of Geography, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur

Source: Various Geography Department Website, India 2024

Table 1. 7: Academic Curriculum in Geography Subject

Curriculum	Class / Qualification Requirement
Social Science (Geography Subject)	Class 6 th – 10 th (Secondary)
Geography Subject	Class 11 th - 12 th (Higher Secondary)
B.A. Hons Geography	10+2+3 (Graduation)
Master Degree in Geography	Post Graduation
Doctor of Philosophy in Geography	Ph. D.
D. Litt. / D.Sc. / Post Doctorate in Geography	After Ph.D. Degree
P.G. Diploma in Remote Sensing and GIS	After Graduation in Geography
P.G. Diploma in Cartography and Digital Mapping	After Graduation in Geography
P.G. Diploma in Geo-Informatics	After Graduation in Geography
P. G. Diploma in Disaster Management	After Graduation in Geography
M.Sc. / M.Tech. in Remote Sensing and GIS	After Master in Geography
M.A./ M.Sc. in Disaster Management Studies	After Master in Geography
M.A./ M.Sc. in Population Studies	After Graduation in Geography

Source: Various Geography Department Website, India, 2024

Table 1. 8: Carrier and Scope in Geography Subject

Sl. No.	Name of the Post / Examination
1.	Trained Graduate Teacher (TGT, Assistant Teacher)
2.	Post Graduate Teacher (PGT, Teacher)
3.	Junior Research Fellow (JRF) through UGC/ CSIR NET Examination



4.	Assistant Professor / Associate Professor / Professor / Emeritus Professor at University or College level
5.	Geographer / Senior Geographer through Staff Selection Commission (SSC)
6.	Lab Assistant / Technical Assistant at University or College level
7.	Cartographer
8.	Town Planner / Urban Planner
9.	Travel and Tourism Consultant
10.	Environment and Disaster Management Consultant
11.	Research Associates in Social Sciences
12.	Demographer
13.	Remote Sensing and GIS Consultant / Analyst / Expert
14.	Surveyors
15.	Climate Change Analyst
16.	Climatologist / Meteorologist

Source: Various Geography Department Website, 2024

Table 1. 9: Famous Indian Geographer

Name of Famous Indian Geographers and Professors
Varahamihir, Aryabhatta, Bhaskara, Prof. Ibadur Rahman Khan, Prof. Enayat Ahmed, Prof. Aijazuddin Ahmed, Prof. Mohammad Shafi, Prof. S.M. Rafiullah, Prof. B.N. Sinha, Prof. Mohammad Anas, Prof. Savinder Singh, Prof. Majid Hussian, Prof. Shiba Prasada. Chatterjee, Prof. R. N. Dubey, Prof. S.M. Ali, Prof. M.M. Pithawalla, Prof. G. Kuriyan, Prof. N.K. Bose, Prof. R.C. Chandana, Prof. Moonis Raza, Prof. C.D. Deshpande, Prof. O.H.K Spate, Prof. Rais Akhtar, Prpf. Jayati Hazra, Prof. Jayashree De, Prof. R.C. Tiwari, Prof. G.S. Gosla, Prof. M. Ishtiaque, Prof. Kashi Nath Singh, Ptof. A.B. Mukherji, Prof. Vaibhav Kaul, Prof. N. Subrahmanyam, Prof. Ram Babu Singh, Prof. L.R. Singh, Prof. R.L. Singh, Prof. V.L.S. Prakasa Rao, Prof. R.P. Mishra, Prof. P. Dayal, Prof. S.M. Alam, Prof. S.P. Dasgupta, Prof. Jasbir Singh, Prof. D. R. Khullar, Prof. M.H. Qureshi, Prof. Aslam Mehmod, Prof. Abha Lakshmi Singh, Prof. Sudipta Adhikari, Prof. R. Ramachandaran, Prof. M.S. Gill, Prof. Gopal Krishan,

Source: Various Geography Department Website, India



Main Branches and their Proponents in Indian Geography

Branches of Geography	Major Proponents
Regional Development and Planning	C. D. Deshpande; K. V. Sundaram; C.R. Pathak; R. P. Mishra;
Urban Geography	R L Singh; R.B. Singh; R. Ramachandran
Climatology	P Dayal
Regional Geography	O. H. K. Spate; L S Bhat
Administrative Geography	Gopal Krishan; Suryakant
Agricultural Geography	M.Shafi; Jasbir Singh; Majid Hussain
Geography of Health	Rais Akthar; Jayati Hazra; Jayashree De
Geomorphology	H.L.Chibber; S.P.Chatterjee; R.P.Singh; Enayat Ahmad; Savindra Singh; S. R. Basu; S.C.Mukhopadhyay; V.S.Kale; A. Kar; R.C.Tewari
Gender Geography	Saraswati Raju

Political Geography	R.D. Dikshit; C.P.Singh; R.L.Dwivedi; Swaranjeet Mehta; S.Adhikari; R.N.P.Sinha; Govind Saran Singh
Population Geography	G.S.Gosal; R.C.Chandana; Gopal Krishan; Swaranjeet Mehta; M.S.Gill
Social Geography	A.Ahmad, M.Ishtiaque
Cultural Geography	A.B.Mukherji; Kashi Nath Singh
Economic Geography	S.P.Chatterjee
Resource Geography	R.P.Mishra; B. Thakur
Transport Geography	H.Ramachandran
Cartography and Thematic Mapping	S.M.Alam; B.K.Roy; A.Ramesh; L.R.Singh; Ashish Sarkar;

Table 1. 10: Various Inter-disciplinary subjects of Geography

Sl. No.	Name of Subjects	Study
1.	Pedology	The scientific study of soil formation, morphology and classification of soil.
2.	Meteorology	The scientific study of atmosphere, atmospheric phenomena and effects on weather.
3.	Biogeography	The study of geographic distribution of plants, animals and



		others forms of life.
4.	Cosmology	The study of physics and metaphysics dealing with nature of the atmosphere.
5.	Astronomy	The study of objects and phenomena beyond earth.
6.	Selenology	The scientific study of moon.
7.	Petrology	The study of rocks, formation, composition and structure.
8.	Hydrology	The scientific study of water on earth.
9.	Geology	The scientific study of structure, evolution of earth.
10.	Seismology	The scientific study of earthquake.
11.	Cryosphere	The study of ice particularly glaciers and ice sheets.
12.	Nephology	The study of cloud.
13.	Gerontology	The study of ageing population.
14.	Floriculture	The study of study of flowering plants.
15.	Pomamculture	The study of cultivation of fruits.
16.	Horticulture	The study of cultivation of fruits and vegetables.
17.	Sericulture	The study of cultivation of silkworms rearing.
18.	Vermiculture	The study of cultivation of Earthworms.
19.	Viticulture	The study of cultivation of Grapes.
20.	Pisciculture	The study of Fish Farming.
21.	Apiculture	The study of bee keeping for honey collection

Source: Various Book of Geography

Conclusion:

Geography is one of the oldest and the fastest growing fields of knowledge. In many countries of the worlds such as USA, Russia, United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, geography is a very popular subject in schools, colleges and universities. In India though geography is taught as compulsory subjects in schools but it is not very popular in higher education due to misunderstanding and lacks of awareness. In the past many questions were raised regarding the carrier and scope of geography subject. People think with geography you can become only a teacher and reality is different. Now a day, there is a great demand for professionals with geographic qualifications especially in the fields related to urban development, sustainability, climate change, data analysis, remote sensing and GIS, Geospatial technology. Thus the significance of geography subjects can never be denied and so many people love to study this subject for a great career. Geography plays a most important role in addressing the challenges of the present and shaping a sustainable future.

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