



A. DEVELOPMENT OF GEOGRAPHY/ HISTORY OF GEOGRAPHICAL THOUGHT

1. Dasgupta S.P., "The Riddle of Development", *Geographical Review of India*, 72 (3), 2010; 221-238.

Proper development is always welcome as a useful and an essential activity in any area. Development should necessarily involve all people and encompass the three traditional sectors of economy namely primary, secondary and tertiary. This paper is based on the presidential address delivered on 2nd Feb. 2010 by author as president of The Geographical Society of India. Author relates every activity regarding production and consumption works with defined geographical frame and territorial spread over a region. He describes all compositions of development at very micro-analytical level of wealth, resources and their characteristics.

The paper is purely secondary data based study. The author assumes that the study of development can be made through five themes, which are habitat or territorial development, agricultural development, industrial development and economic development and development of society and culture. He assumes that development is concerned with raising levels of life sustenance, human dignity and freedom, regional self-sufficiency, ecological sustainability, cultural maintenance, democracy, communality, equality, social justice and equity. The objective of socio-economic planning is to support overall development of the community by enhancing the capacity of people not only to act as full participants in the process but also to formulate plans for themselves independently and to ensure that such development plans are executed on the ground. The paper also mentions the principles laid down by the United Nations International Conference on Human Environment at Stockholm (Sweden) in 1972. In concluding the address author has emphasised that the best way of human development would be to pursue the ancient Indian

twin principle of holistic or overall development leading to attainment of excellence and value additive process along with rigorous conservation of wealth.

2. Dikshit K. R., "Reorienting Geography at the University Level", *Hill Geographer*, XXVI (1&2), 2010; 1-12.

The concurrent development in the economic and political sphere has led to the emergence of the new equations in the international power structure, as well in the pattern of trade, flow of currency and international trade. With the effect of these changes occurred, Geography as a subject also geared to reorient in their teaching and research at university level. Author is saying that despite of revision of geography from time to time the structure and content are remain same as before seventy five years ago. In this present paper, author has uncovered the flaws in approach of teaching and our reluctance to the problematic area of the geography as a subject. He focused on the lacking of understanding the behaviour of geography, its place among other subjects. The importance of NCERT books, calibration of its syllabus of different branches of geography also are main theme of this paper. Author assumes that there are some basics of the geography as a discipline which cannot and should not be replaced and the changes, if any, should be restricted to only in specialized fields because there are certainly important basic principles and laws in geography which must be treated as foundation of geography. This paper aims to suggest the relevant context of study and teaching of geography at university level in India.

Author is using an exclusive way of analytical evaluation of geography as a discipline from every corner. It is basically the work of introspection of geography as a subject from secondary source of data and author's personal ideology regarding its evolution in other different branches, affiliation with other subjects of humanities and its pattern of study at university level.

This present paper finds that study should be contextualized to a specific physical, economic or cultural situation, region, society, landscape or even an emergency situation. The courses designed should be specific and related to real world situation. This article is basically focused on the recent problematic areas of study and teaching of geography and its recognition as an absolute subject.

3. Talukder Suren, "Geography: The Changing Faces" *North Eastern Geographer*, 36 (1&2) 2009-10; 3-7.

This article is written for presidential address to give focus on current changing trends in methodology and inherent problems before the Geography as a subject with brief introduction about earlier developments in the geography. Author initiated to discuss about the inception of geography with work of the Sumerians and the pioneering Greeks upto the recent period of post-modernism. On the basis of this phenomenon of inception and changes, author confirms that the very nature of the study of geography has been found undergoing drastic changes right from the observation made in respect of position and movement of celestial bodies and carrying more relevance to astronomy. Author tries to explain how changing patterns occupied in gradual time span in thoughts, approaches, paradigms and dichotomies and dualism in geography.

Changing pattern in geographic-thoughts from Era of Seventies of Kant in which he emphasised the geography as an approach to empirical knowledge as geography has traversed a long march with changing attitudes and objectives. It blessed with pioneering scholars named, Humboldt with his 'Cosmos' and 'a unity of multiplicity' concept and Ritter's 'Erdkunde' and teleological explanations in respect of unity in diversity. He also mentioned the German school of Ratzel's 'anthropogeographie' and other eminent scholars like Vidal de la Blache and Lucien Febvre's possibilism contrary to determinism furthermore, author focused on the American School of Thought and the British School of Thought for the introduction of 'Davisian concept' with noted work of Churchill Semple and 'Heartland Concept' of H J Mackinder respectively. Author tries to analyse the approaches of said scholars and their thoughts like the dualism and different dichotomies with holistic comparison with Modernism of 20th Century alongwith changes occurred in methodology in light of inherent problems, precisely. This article is based on secondary data and Author's personal views.

In conclusion Author wants to establish a very holistic approach to recognize the changes occurred in geography and their contribution in other sub-section of sciences related with geography and wants to raise the thought-provoking question on the development of geography in absolute sense along with

emphasis on making 'geography for service of common man' to make David Harvey's dream come true.

4. Qureshi M.H., "Presidential Address: Environment, Culture and Development", *Annals of the National Association of Geographers, India*", 30 (1), June 2010; 1-12.

Change is a common characteristic of environment, culture and development which is the main theme of the present presidential address given by author. In this presidential address author emphasised that these three characteristics are so interrelated and intertwined that any change in one influences other. Any developmental activity immediately affects the environment at large and the consequent changes into cultural parameters. This paper analysed the variability in the environment as a parameter of economic and socio-cultural development and its changes in scale from micro to macro level through induction of scientific and technological tools. The grave attention of geographers to understand the interactive relationship between the concepts of possibilism and neo-determinism and interdependence of our understanding in real world is main issue of the discussion in this paper. The author have been also analyzing the environment and development segment in relation to India through putting lights on the scarcity of natural resources as water being the main basic resource for development, impact of global warming and climatic changes and the environmental basis of the culture with interrelation with the literature and the architecture.

This paper as being presidential address is exclusively based on secondary source of data. Author finds that the development is unidirectional and can't be reversed. The space will get organized on the basis of changing parameters of the development. In India, urbanization is coming fast with all its attendant advantages and disadvantages for which environment would respond the development efforts. The major problematic question which this paper raises is what type of society in different levels of development and cultural backgrounds will develop in the coming future. Whether the world would be going to live in an environment friendly and culturally conducive atmosphere with development geared towards taking human welfare measures through cooperation, or it is going to be destroyed by greed, throat-cut competition and desire to dominate us.