

Geography Foundation

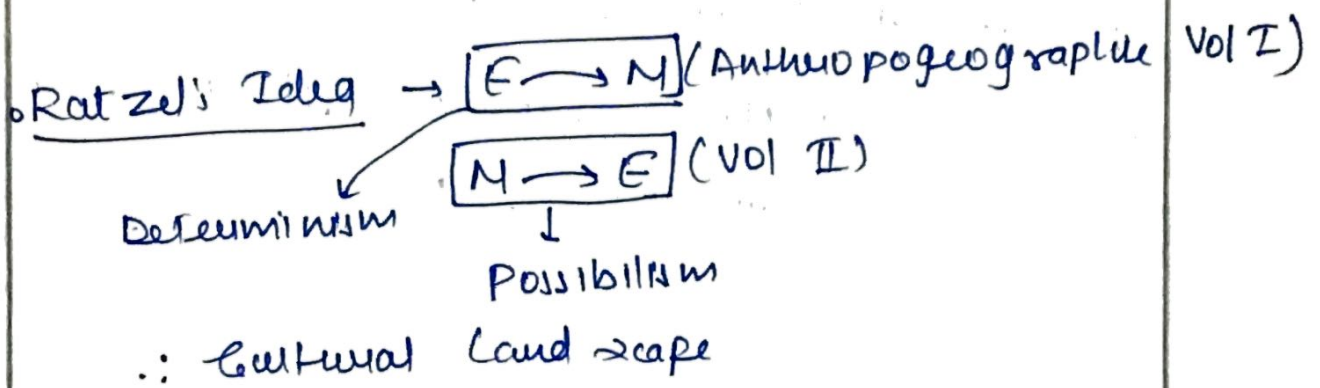
(27/May/24)

Geographical Thought

12:00-2:20 | Lec-6

Cultural Landscape

↳ Totality of Landscape
(Natural + Human factors)



◦ Carl Sauer - "Geo is study of Cultural Landscape alone"

Sequent Occupation

◦ Migration - Tribes & Culture moves in one after another & everytime a new culture comes in, envt. get reassessed & it is modified (depends on which tribe sequentially occupied & modified the envt.)

o Sequent Occupance - Interaction of various cultures within a shared space/location over time

Reconciliation between Determinism and Possibilism -

o Almost all Possibilist acknowledged that Envi. sets limits & choices available for man are within the limits.

Reference pg 92 (DIKWIT)

o Acc. to Vidal - "Nature sets limits & offers possibilities but the way man adjust is largely function of his tradition & mental structuring". †

o This idea was also for Jean Buihnes & Carl Sauer. Jean Buihnes had explicitly mentioned the price of crossing

environmental limits can be disastrous

Stop & Go Determinism - Griffith Taylor
(Reconciliation)

o Griffith Taylor (Australian geographer)

Reference pg 288 (Dikshit)
↳ works of Taylor

o Acc. to Taylor, man has choices but he cannot escape limits set by env. Man cannot make choices randomly or whimsically

"Man does not carry fertilisers to a barren land.... for 9/10th of Earth's surface, nature speaks out clearly"

o It is wise that man makes choices within limits set by the env. else man must face disaster. This approach where env. is seen as not cruelly

Deterministic is also called as Philosophy
of NEO DETERMINISM

Diff.
concepts

[Determinism - $E \rightarrow M$

New Determinism (Ratzel) - New geo.
of Germany inspired by Darwin

Neo Determinism - (Taylor)

↳ Envi sets limits & Man can choose
within those limits

↳ This idea is also Pragmatic
Possibilism

o This idea of Taylor is similar to School
of Pragmatism / Probabilism - Many things
are possible but some choices have
probability

o School of Probabilism establishes many
possibilities offered in nature some
choices are more probable & in nat

Cases choices are viable & beneficial & within limits set by Nature.

Reference 286 (Dikshit)

↳ Probabilism by Spate.

o Acc. to Taylor, the relationship of Man is similar to how a Traffic policeman deals with Traffic. The Policemen cannot wish away Traffic or remove it. He can pause Traffic & redirect it - STOP &

GO Principle

o Similarly the Env. is also like a adviser. Man can pause & choose how he wants to interact with env. on the basis of Development & Technology ∴ this approach is called as STOP & GO Determinism

Environmentalism -

Man-Env. Interactⁿ

Envir. ↓ problems

∴ solution

Deep Ecology

- Conservation
- Extreme conservation
- Gaianism

Reconciliation

- Sustainable Development
- Shallow Ecology

Technocentric view

- Exploitation
- Capitalism
- Destruction

◦ Environmentalism adds a very broad scope of discussion - study of Environment

◦ Geo. as the study of Man-Env. relation
 swp is essentially Environmentalism in its different forms & scope.

I ◦ The earliest Environmentalism was the "description of Earth & documentation of

varieties & dimensions of Earth's envt.
(In its earliest phase, Env't was fantasy description of Env't - Inventoriatⁿ) - Descriptive

II • With the Analytical approach, there was an attempt to explain how & why of Environmentalism (Reason & Analysis - Analytical Approach). This approach was school of Determinism & Possibilism. - Part of Analytical approach in Environmentalism.

III • Reconciliation b/w Determinism & Possibilism is the next phase of Environmentalism. This was in ideas of Stop & Go Determinism or Pragmatic Possibilism or school of Probabilism.

IV • With the realisation that Man's choices are best within limits of Env't, the shift in Environmentalism was studying - Adverse consequences of Man's activities

1 Finding solutions for envt. problems -
Applied Approach in Environmentalism.

There was 2 schools in Env. -

(a) Deep Ecology Approach - Env. \gg Man

- Env. is divine
- Env. is God
- Env. \equiv Gaia

(b)

- Philosophy of

Gaia

(Earth as God)

(b) Technocentric Approach - Man \gg Env

- Exploitative
- Capitalism & "Growth"
- All solution lies in Technology, Human Creativity

(* These 2 above approaches which are extreme, centered around how envt

is perceived in Eastern vs Western philosophies.

o Griffith Taylor's STOP & GO Defensiveness
is often seen as balanced b/w 2 extremes.
An approach that favours Technology as solution but not mindless destruction & exploitation of Earth. This is the philosophy of Shallow Ecology also called as New Environmentalism or Sustainable Development Philosophy.

(Refer to notes of Envi. Geo.)

#Reference - Chapter 11 (Geo. & Environmentalism)

↳ Read whole chapter

from pg 261

pg 274 - Capitalism

Areaal Differentiation (A.D) by

Richard Hartshorne

o Hartshorne's book - "Nature of Geography"
(1930's)

o Areaal Differentiation of Richard Hartshorne is defining & shaping geo as a subject.

o Acc. to Hartshorne - Geography is Areaal Differentiation.

o As Areaal Differentiatⁿ "Geo" is accurate, Objective, rational description of variable nature of Earth's surface"

o Based on the above definition of Geo- Hartshorne defined Geography as ÷

@ Study of variatⁿ of features on the Earth's surface
(variations in small scale i.e Regional + differences/ uniqueness)

② Geo. is Descriptive = cannot make laws & Geo. is not monothetic

③ Geo must be accurate & rational ∴
Geo is scientific & Geo is positivist

④ variable nature of earth's surface -
∴ include physical & human aspects
both

◦ The above attributes of Geography seems to be derived from Kant's idea of Geo as Chronology

↓

- Geog as Regional
- Geo as Descriptive
- Geo as physical & human aspects
- Geo cannot have Time studies.

These ideas was agreed upon by Richard Hartshorne as Nature of Kant's Geo.

∴ Hantshorne believed in 'Principle of
Exceptionalism of Kant i.e Geo is unlike
Logical sciences & "History"