

LESSON NOTE 5

WORLD POPULATION: POPULATION GROWTH AND MIGRATION

Factors influencing Population growth



Reasons for Rapid Population Growth

- **Better Medical Care:** More people survive illnesses and live longer.
- **Improved Food Supply:** Better farming and storage means fewer people die of hunger.
- **Decline in Death Rates:** Due to better hygiene and health services.
- **High Birth Rates:** Common in many developing countries.
- **Cultural Beliefs:** In some cultures, having many children is encouraged.

MIGRATION



Migration is the movement of people from one place to another, often with the intent to settle.

• Forms of Migration:

- **Immigration:** Entering and settling in a new country (e.g., someone moving from Ghana to Nigeria).
- **Emigration:** Leaving one's country to live in another (e.g., someone leaving Nigeria for Canada).

Types of Migration:

- **Internal Migration:** Within a country (e.g., moving from village to city).
- **International Migration:** Moving to a different country (e.g., Nigeria to Canada).
- **Voluntary Migration:** People choose to move.

- **Involuntary Migration:** People are forced to move (e.g., war, disasters).
- **Temporary vs. Permanent:** Based on duration of stay.

Factors Responsible for Migration

- **Push Factors (reasons to leave):**
 - War
 - Unemployment
 - Famine or drought
 - Poor healthcare or education
 - **Pull Factors (reasons to go):**
 - Job opportunities
 - Peace and security
 - Good schools and hospitals
 - Better standard of living
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Merits and Demerits of Migration

Merits for Receiving Areas:

- Supply of workers
- Economic and cultural enrichment

Demerits for Receiving Areas:

- Overpopulation
- Increased demand on services

Merits for Source Areas:

- Less pressure on resources

Demerits for Source Areas:

- Loss of skilled workers (brain drain)
- Ageing population

LESSON NOTE 6

SETTLEMENT



A settlement is defined as a place containing one or more building with people living in them. It can be a city, village or a compound.

FAVOURABLE CONDITIONS FOR SITING A SETTLEMENT

1. Adequate water supply
2. Fertile soil
3. Presence of low well drained land
4. Good communication network
5. Defence/protection for human habitation.

For a settlement to grow, the following factors to the stage of urbanization. They include

- Accessibility by road, rail,air etc.
- Presence of economic activities
- Presence of social amenities
- Political stability
- Favourable climate
- Relief and drainage. Etc

CLASSIFICATION OF SETTLEMENTS

Settlements can be classified based types, sizes, pattern and functions.

CLASSIFICATION BY TYPES

There are two main types of settlements; rural and urban settlements



1. Rural settlement: relatively small area with socially homogenous people who know themselves very well. They are normally involved in primary activities like farming, fishing, hunting and lumbering. They are made up of a few building with people ranging from one family to a few hundred.

Types of Rural settlement

- Homestead: one family settlement
- Hamlet: usually less than a hundred houses with many people living in them
- Village: larger than hamlet with basic services



2. Urban settlement: relatively large, densely populated with socially heterogeneous people who do not know one another very well. They consist of people with different cultural background, languages and many house with thousands of people living in them. They are involved in secondary activities such as manufacturing, construction, baking. Etc.

Types of Urban settlement

- Town: more populated, several thousands of people.
- City: a large town with greater people than town with economic and political centers
- Conurbation: two of more cities growing into one