**Types of forest**

**Alpine Forests**

**Examples of areas:**

Northern areas (Chitral, Dir, Kohistan)

**Description:**

* Trees have stunted growth due to low temperature and less sunlight.
* Roots spread sideways on thin soil to absorb more nutrition and to have better grip on the ground.
* Normally upward branches to attain more sunlight.

**Importance:**

Used as fuel wood only.

**Coniferous Forests**

**Examples of areas:**

1. Northern areas.

2. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

(Abbottabad, Mansehra, Kohistan, Shangla, Swat)

3. Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Murree.

4. Balochistan Mountains. (Quetta & Kalat divisions)

**Description:**

Evergreen forests survive in low temperature.

Conical in shape.

Sloping branches which prevent snow accumulation.

Small, thick, leathery and needle-shaped leaves to check excessive transpiration.

Less leaf-fall provide less humus formation.

**Importance:**

Important source of timber for making furniture and boxes.

Environmental protection.

Conserve soil and help in checking floods.

Good breeding and conserving centres for birds, wildlife.

Attract tourists and promote tourism industry.

Add to the scenic beauty of the area.

**Tropical Thorn Forest (Rakh)**

**Examples of areas:**

1. Punjab Plains.

2. Southern & Western Balochistan

3. Sindh Plains.

**Description:**

* Forest dominated by thorny hardwood.
* Low height (6-10 metres).
* Deep roots to search for water.
* Scanty vegetation due to water shortage.

**Importance:**

* They are used as firewood.

**Sub-Tropical Scrub Forest**

**Examples of areas:**

1. Hills and foothills of Lower Himalayas.

2. Sulaiman and Kirthar Ranges.

3. Western Mountain (Peshawar, Waziristan, Kohat, Mardan)

4. Above the Makran Coast Range.

**Description:**

* Sub-tropical broad-leafed and tropical thorny species.

**Importance:**

* Watershed protection.
* Supplying firewood.
* Grazing purposes.