

1

MAN AND HIS WORLD

What we have learnt

- Chimpanzee, Gorilla and Modern man have evolved from a type of monkeys existed on the earth about ten million years ago.
- Australopithecus, Singentropus, Pithecanthropus, Erectus, Sinanthropus, Neanderthal man, Cromagnon man are the different phases in the evolution of man.

Man is the youngest among the living beings on the earth. His life was modified in accordance with the topography, climate vegetation etc., of his region. These factors have brought in significant changes in the stature of man and as a result, human races with differing colour and body stature evolved. Later on they travelled and spread over different parts of the world. In the initial stages food and suitable climate were the driving forces for such travels.

But when he learned to cultivate, he stopped wandering and started a settled life.

Thus settlements began. As time passed, the number and size of such settlements increased. The society developed and man's needs also diversified.

Man started migrating to different parts of the world for better economic, social and educational achievements as well as for political reasons. The developments in the field of science and technology have really expedited such migrations. This lesson is about different human races, their characteristics, migration and settlement.



How diverse mankind in this world!

The dark Africans with curly spring like hair, the Chinese and Koreans with their flat nose and narrow eyes, the European with their golden hair and white skin..... How astonishing!

You must have seen the photographs of the world leaders and athletes appearing on television and in newspapers. Is their physical appearance the same?

You might have learned about the evolution of man in the previous classes. When did modern man evolve? Which are the major human races of the world? Which parts of the world do they belong to? Let us find out answers to such questions.

Human beings belong to primates, the highest order of mammals. A developed brain, hands which move freely, flat nails and keen eyesight are the major characteristics of primates. The ability of man to stand erect, his locomotion, co-ordination of brain and hands, and the composition of blood are much similar to those of apes. But his ability to make and use different kinds of tools makes him different from other primates.

The apes, believed to be the predecessors of mankind evolved from a common ancestor who existed about 65 million years ago. They were herbivores, lived on trees. The last stage of evolution occurred about 5 lakh years ago. Scientists are of the opinion that homosapiens, the ancestors of man appeared in that period.

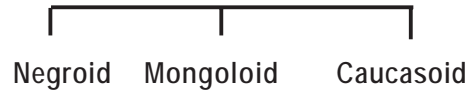
Although homosapiens have certain common traits based on the colour of skin, shape of head, nature of hair and body stature, they are broadly divided into different human races.

Discoveries of Charles Darwin

Charles Darwin, who made studies on the evolution of species, established similarities in the basic character and

blood groups among different human races. That shows a common ancestor for different races.

Homosapiens can be broadly grouped into three racial groups on the basis of their external features.



Let us examine the special features of these races.

Negroid



The characteristics of this race are clearly seen in the Negroes of Sudan. We call them 'Kappiris'. Black curly hair, black or dark brown complexion, brown iris, broad and flat nose, long head, thick lips and slightly protruded teeth are the characteristics of the Negroid race.

"Maseemba is the capital of Membera district. People of Maseemba speak Tumbukka language. This is also the place from where a large number of recruitment to the mines of South Africa are made..... Even though two rivers Rukkuru and Lunyangua

flow through this district, they dry up in summer. Water shortage is severe in the summer season. The aborigines of this place are of Vamtumbukka tribes. Tribes having strange names such as Angoni, Avemba, Akkamanga, Sukkooma, Safwa, Vangonde, Vappakka with their unique cultures are also there in Maseemba.

It is a wonderful sight to see them coming together as crowds to the markets. Bare headed rural women folk carrying their kids in pouches made of squirrel skin and men with axes and catapults, clinkgcoins bamboo pipes pretending to be multimillionaires may be standing under the trees and corners, chattering.....

Translated from Kappirikalude Nattil
S.K Pottekkat

What you have read is a picture of African villagers about 55 years ago, as described by the famous writer, S.K Pottekkat.

The Negroid-Australoid races are also known as Equatorians or Afro- Australians. How did they get such names? Think.

Find out from the map (figure 1.1) the regions where Negroid race lives.

Bushmen of Kalahari

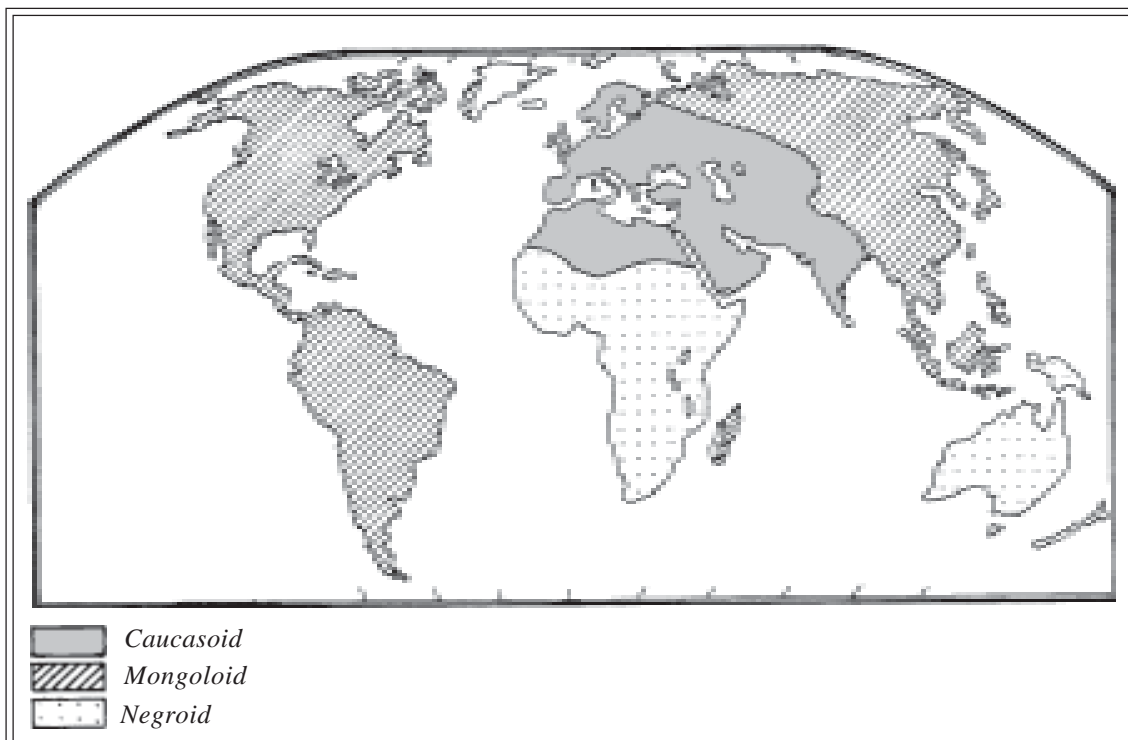
It is a subclass of the Negroid race. They are spread over the arid regions of South Africa such as Botswana, Namibia and Angola. These people were forced to engage in agricultural, domestic and other activities with the

advent of Europeans. Today only a few people of this class are leading their traditional way of life. This hunting race catch their prey by shooting poisoned arrows. They dry the meat in the sun and store it, and drink the animal's blood. They even drink the juice of the grass and other undigested food in the prey's stomach by squeezing it. They break animal bones to drink the marrow. The hide is used for making bags and clothes and the bone pieces, for the points of their arrows.

Mongoloids



The important characteristic of the race is their epicanthic fold. Flat nose, and saffron or yellowish brown skin are the other characteristics. Body hair is comparatively less for this short statured people. The people of China, Korea, and Japan are of Mongoloid race. People of this race are also found in India. Locate the places where such people live. Find out their homelands from the map (figure 1.1) and make notes on it.



Distribution of human races
figure 1.1

Eskimoes

Eskimoes are one among the many subclasses of the mongoloid race. It is believed that Eskimos originated from Bering Strait about 5000 years ago. Then they spread over north east Canada and Greenland through Alaska. Fish, beaver, reindeer, seal etc. form the food items of eskimoes. There are fish below the frozen surface. They catch fish using hooks by making holes on the frozen ground.

completed, they would get trapped in the house. The floor of igloo will be much below the ground level and there will be an opening to reach the ground. Don't think that there is extreme cold in this ice house. The structure of the building, body heat of Eskimo, heat emitted from the lamps using animal fat etc. make the temperature inside the igloo higher than that of outside.

Igloo

Eskimoes make their houses with ice blocks! They cut the ice into square blocks and arrange them in a circular shape around them. When it is

Caucasoid

Their complexion is pale red or white or the colour of olive oil. They have light brown or golden hair. Light blue or dark iris, long nose, thin lips, tall and well built body etc., are the physical traits of Caucasoid.



In which part of the world can we see people with such physical traits?

Celts of Western Europe

Celts are a class of Caucasoid race. Once spread over Western Europe and even frightened the Romans and the Greeks, today they shrunk into the Western regions of Scotland, Ireland, Wales and France.

These people use Celtic, Gaelic, Simric and Bretton languages. In the past they believed in the power of human head. They believed that offering of enemy's head in springs would enrich their power and that of the spring. We can see the vestiges

of this culture in those who still use the practice of drinking water stored in the human skull as a treatment for epilepsy.

You can make use of books and other reading materials for gathering additional information on different human races, their living environments, life style and physical characteristics.

Complete the following table (table 1.1) including the characteristics of different human races.

If you come across a foreigner, can you identify his race?

The Vanishing racial purity

As time elapsed marital relations between different races led to the emergence of mixed racial groups. Today each major race has a number of sub races and mixed races. In short, there is no such thing as racial purity. All are alike.

From the maps you have learnt the source region of different human races.

- Analysing the physical characteristics of the people of the USA can you say to which racial group they belong?

Trait	Negroid	Mongoloid	Caucasoid
• Skin Colour	• Black or chocolate colour	• Saffron or yellow brown	• Pale red, white or colour of olive oil
• Nature of hair	•	•	•
• Shape of nose	•	•	•
• Nature of lips	•	•	•
•	•	•	•

Table 1.1

- *Which race was in power in South Africa till recently?*

Compare the answers of the above questions with the pieces of information on the map (figure 1.1). Could you notice any difference? What is your conclusion?

Different races during different periods of history left their native places and settled in different regions. This process is still going on and this is known as migration.

Different ways of Migration

Many people from Kerala are migrating to gulf countries, the USA, Britain and such other nations. The migration across the national boundaries is known as international migration. Migration within a country is known as internal migration.

People move daily from one place to another for the purposes of education, business, employment etc. This movement is called commutation. A person who performs commutation is known as a commuter. Commutation cannot be considered as migration.

- *Find suitable examples for the different types of migrations.*

International migration include two processes. The outward migration of people of one country to another country is known as emigration and the incoming of people to a country is known as immigration.

Several factors force people to leave their homelands. These factors are known as ‘push factors’. There are some other factors that attract people to a region. These are known as ‘pull factors’.

Many people from all over the world left their motherland and became refugees. Motherland became "foreign" to them.

What might be the reasons which prompted them to leave their motherland and to migrate to other places?

- Better employment opportunities
- Environmental hazards
- Resource availability
- Political instability
- Extension of national boundaries
- Facilities for higher education
- Epidemics
- Slavery
- Suitable climatic conditions
- Religious factors
-

The following are some of the migrations that occurred in the world.

- The migrations of the Europeans to the USA.
- The migrations of doctors, nurses and technocrats of Indian origin to the USA, Australia and Europe.
- The immigration to India from Sri Lanka and Tibet.
- The recent migration from Chernobyl in Russia and Bhopal in India.
- Migrations of the Whites to South Africa.
- Migrations of Keralites to Gulf countries.
- Migrations of Ethiopians to Sudan.
- Invasion of Europeans to India.
- Migrations of people from Central Travancore to Malabar.
-

Categorise and list out these migrations into forced migrations and voluntary migrations.

Forced Migrations	Voluntary migrations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration of Ethiopians to Sudan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration of Keralites to Gulf countries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Table 1.2

Impact of migration

Travels of man in search of new world is as old as man himself. Migrations to different regions caused changes in the prevailed conditions of the regions concerned. Let us see the various impacts of such migrations. Complete the table (table 1.3) based on this.

- Influence on language and literature.
- Transfer of human resources.
- Exchange of new knowledge.
- Over exploitation and the resultant scarcity of resources.
- Difference in the population structure of a particular region.
- Cultural diffusion.
- Economic progress.
- Introduction of land use practices which are not conducive to the land.
- Changes and diversification in the field of agriculture.
- Environmental degradation and pollution.
- Progress in transport and communication.

- Scarcity of Land.
- High density of population.
-

Transhumance

The pastoral nomads who settled in the foothill zones are moving upslopes during summer to graze their animals. They remain there for the whole summer period and come down with the advent of winter. This movement of people with their cattle is known as transhumance. The Gujjar and Bakerwal tribes of Jammu and Kashmir are still practising transhumance.

When man learned to cultivate crops, he started a settled life. This put an end to his endless journey in search of food. He made shelter with the locally available materials near his farm. Thus formed the primitive form of settlements.

Merits of migrations	Demerits of migrations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural diffusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolution of slums
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scarcity of infrastructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Table 1.3

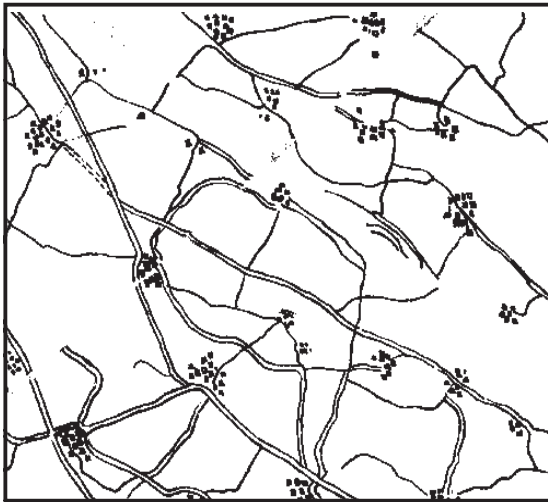


figure 1.2

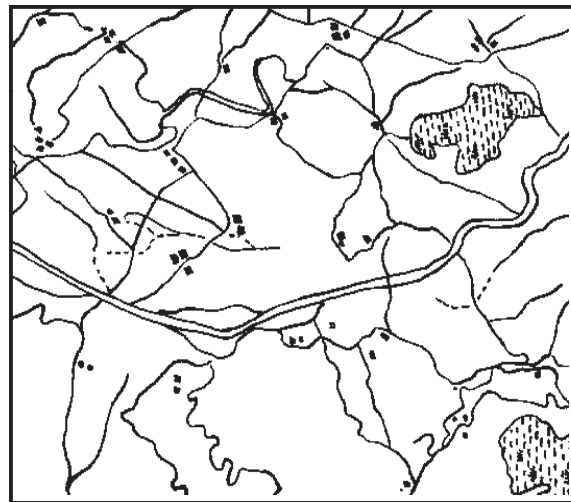


figure 1.3

 Settlements

Men who had been living in total agreement with the laws of the nature, slowly tamed nature to suit his needs. As years passed, the magnitude of manipulations of this sort became manifold.

Find answers to the following questions based on the figures (fig 1.2, 1.3) provided.

- *How is the distribution of settlements of the area depicted in fig 1.2?*
- *How is the distribution of settlement of the area depicted in fig 1.3?*

Let us examine the factors considered for the selection of sites for settlements.

Man gave considerable importance to the factors like climate, soil, availability of water, inundation, defence etc., while selecting the sites for their settlements. These factors are called siting factors of settlements.

- *Make notes on the significance of the above mentioned siting factors in the development of settlements.*

- *The ancient civilizations emerged on the river basins. What could be the reason?*

Settlements where the houses are very close to each other are known as ‘compact settlements’ whereas settlements where the houses are far apart are known as ‘dispersed settlements’.

Patterns of settlements

You have learned about the siting factors which helped the development of settlements. Man started building houses at the junctions of the then existing foot tracks. Subsequently, houses spread on both sides of the path due to the scarcity of land at the junctions. The shores of lakes and other water bodies were also preferred for the development of settlements. The roads, rivers, water bodies etc., have influenced much the shape of the settlements developed in each region.

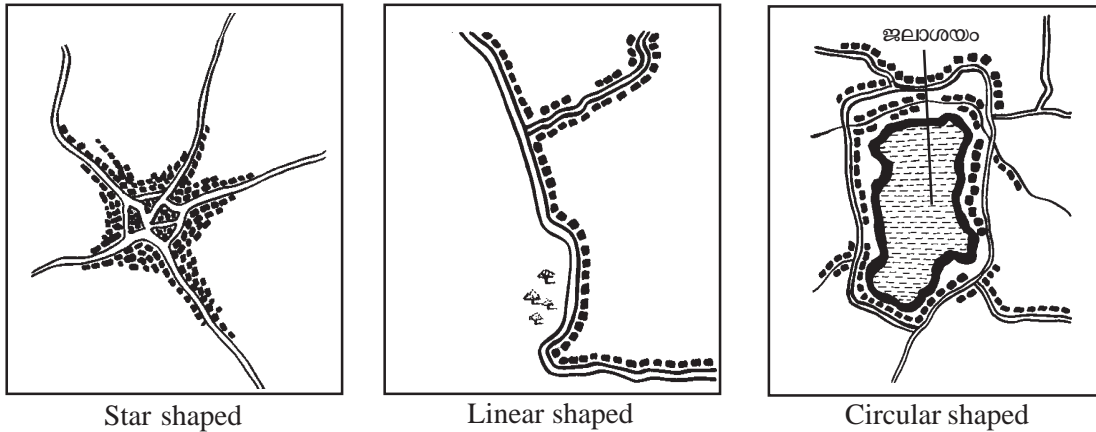


figure 1.4

■ Settlements

Observe the sketches of the settlements given above (figure 1.4) and make notes on them. What all details can be included?

- Shape
- The factors that influenced the distribution of settlements
- Reason for the particular shape to the settlements.
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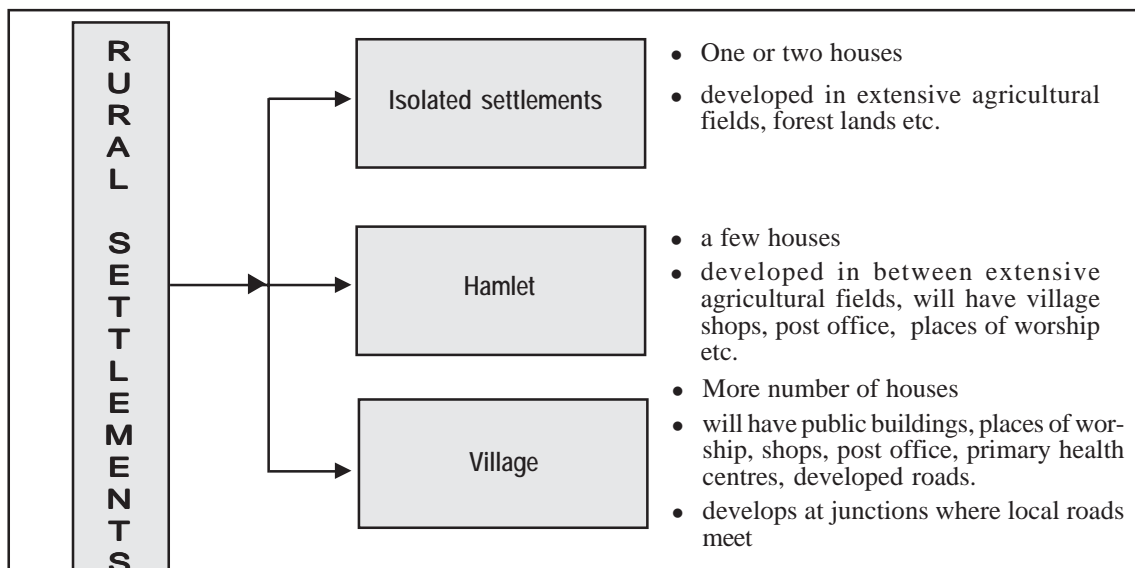
Rural settlements

The settlements of the people engaged in fishing, agriculture etc are called rural

settlements. Apart from the farm lands, rural settlements develop in traditional fishing centres and mines.

Endless paddy fields, the houses just like spots in between, limited transport and communication facilities! Even today we can see such small villages isolated from urban crowds, in some parts of north India, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh. Such villages are very rare in Kerala.

The following chart shows classification of rural settlements based on size.



The people of isolated settlements and hamlets depend on the neighbouring villages for different services. Can you say where the village people will go for higher education facilities, specialised medical treatment, employment in service sector and the like?

Urban Settlements

What are the peculiarities of urban settlements?

- High density of population
- Modern communication facilities
- More employment opportunities in service sectors
-
-

The area receiving the service of a port is its influential area. This is termed 'hinterland'.

An urban area extend its services to its surroundings and depends on the surrounding land for its existence. This area is known as 'urban field'.

Classification of Urban Centres

Based on the prominence of service provided by urban areas, they can be classified into Administrative towns, Cultural towns, Industrial towns, Resort towns etc. Try to find out examples for each type of the town mentioned above.

Classification of Urban Centres based on size

■ **City**

City is a place which gives more importance to service sector and has a population of more than one lakh.

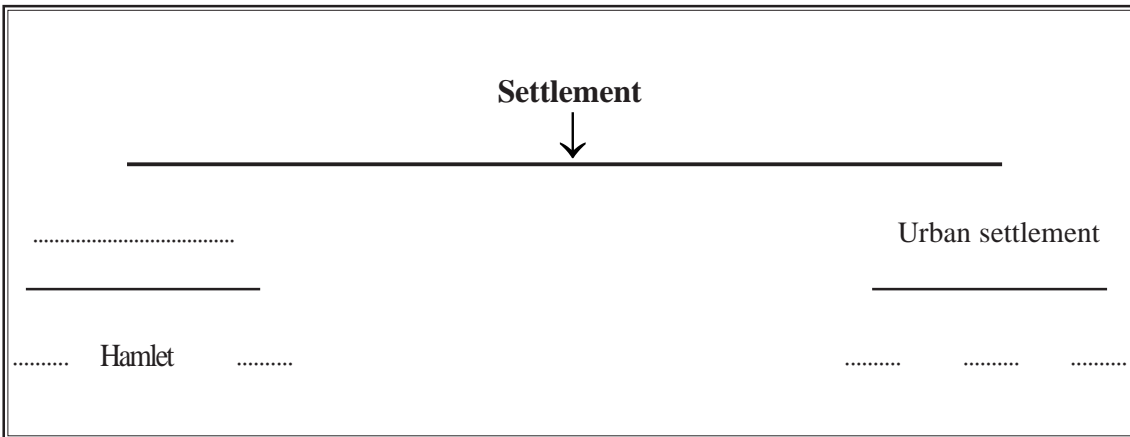
■ **Metropolitan city**

As per Indian census, a city having a population of more than 10 lakhs, can be considered a metropolitan city. Eg: Mumbai, Chennai.

■ **Megalopolis**

A complex of many large cities can be called a megalopolis.

Based on the knowledge you have acquired about settlements, complete the flow chart given below and add it to the wall magazine.



**SUMMARY**

- Human beings belong to primates, the highest order of mammals.
- Based on external appearance mankind can be classified into Negroid, Mongoloid, and Caucasoid.
- Movement of people from one place to another and settling there is known as migration.
- The permanent dwelling places of man are known as settlements.
- The shapes of settlements are greatly controlled by geographical conditions.
- Settlements can be divided into rural settlements and urban settlements.

QUESTIONS

1. Explain the characteristics of different human races?
2. You might have heard of the people of your area migrating to other areas. What could be the reasons for this?
3. What are the consequences of migration?
4. Compare rural settlements and urban settlements.
5. Write a note on the classification of towns.

