



Study of History of Urban Geography

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Abstract

Urban geography is a subset of human geography that studies cities. An urban geographer's major duty is to examine spatial processes that form patterns in urban regions. So they research village, town, and city locations as well as their relative significance in respect to other areas and cities. Urban geography also considers economic, political, and social factors. Urban geography combines numerous different subjects within geography to completely comprehend each of these features of a metropolis.

Key words: Development, Environment, Economic, Socio, Cultural etc.

Introduction

Urban geography grew throughout the twentieth century. It is now a well-established subject that studies urban settlements in their geographical context. The sub-discipline studies the origins, form, and evolution of urban settlements, as well as their roles in and around their surroundings. The field acquired relevance in the social sciences as population grew and these settlements became economic, social, and political hubs. Earlier urban geographers focused on the cities' physical characteristics. The major focus was on the link between some cities' location and structure in respect to their surroundings. Urban geographers' framework evolved through time, and now there are two main methods. The first one is on cities as separate phenomena on the earth's surface. In addition, they look at the spatial relationships between various metropolitan centres. The second perspective examines cities' morphology (layout and built-up area) and land use intensity. Some authors have begun to analyse issues of urban growth and



development within this paradigm. Urban geography currently covers the spatial connection of activities inside urban locations, the economic foundation of cities, patterns of distribution of cities throughout the earth surface, distribution of geographical phenomena within cities, and spatial interactions between cities.

History of Urban Geography

Early American urban geography studies focused on place and context. The man-land tradition of geography focuses on the influence of nature on humanity. Carl Sauer influenced urban geography in the 1920s by encouraging geographers to investigate a city's population and economy in relation to its physical location. Early urban geography also emphasised the importance of the hinterland (the rural regions that provide a city with agricultural goods and raw resources) and trading districts.

Geographical analysis, quantitative measures, and the scientific method were all emphasised throughout the 1950s and 1970s. Metropolitan geographers started using quantitative data like census data to compare various urban regions. Using this data, they could compare cities and generate computer-based analyses. Urban studies dominated geographic study by the 1970s.

Soon after, behavioural studies in geography and urban geography grew. Behavioral researchers argued that location and spatial features could not be completely blamed for city changes. Individuals and groups inside a city make choices that affect the city.

The 1980s saw urban geographers focusing on structural characteristics of cities connected to social, political and economic dynamics. For example, urban geographers explored how capital investment may promote urban transformation. From the late 1980s through present, urban geographers have started to distinguish themselves, allowing for a variety of perspectives and foci. For example, a city's location, history, and interaction with its physical environment

and natural resources are still considered vital to its development. Influences on urban evolution include social interactions, political and economic issues.

Urban Studies and Definitions:

Urban geography analyses the city in relation to its surroundings. The elements explain economic, social, cultural, and political dynamics geographically. However, urban geography is restricted in scope since it only deals with one phenomena, a town or city. The topic is some of a town's general concepts.

“Dickinson defines urban geography” the study of a metropolis dominating its surroundings He calls it the monarch of the neighbouring communities. His characteristic for all cities is institutional mastery over their surroundings.

Its survival is dependent on the resources of the surrounding region, as well as their physical, social, and economic infrastructure. The spatial reality is their interconnectedness.

“Raymond E. Murphy points out the dual role of urban geographer, i.e., assess cities as entities in terms of location, character, development and relationships with the surrounding countryside

To explore urban patterns of land use, social and cultural patterns, circulation patterns, and most importantly, natural environmental patterns, as they exist in interrelation and interaction”.

Harold Carter argued that as geographers study the variability of the earth's surface, urban geographers are particularly interested in the inhabitants and structures that make up cities. The study of urban geography is significant because a large proportion of the world's population lives in cities, and urban issues are crucial to applied geography.

“Brian J.L. Berry also promoted urban studies by introducing urban systems as outcomes of economic growth. The scope of urban studies has expanded beyond the site-situation structural approach”.



“N. Baransky, The originator of Soviet economic geography noted that the study of cities has broadened to include historians, geographers, statisticians, economists, and sociologists. Cities also engage with planners, designers, architects, financial professionals, and other specialists in other industries”.

Behaviouralism and Urban Centres:

A city's development is tied to its consumers' behaviour, who are the appropriate decision makers for land use. It is based on three variables:

- (1) Value of a home – purchase or rent?
- (2) Residence quality
- (3) Workplace and neighbourhood relationships?

The capacity of users to engage with space is dependent on family wealth. However, it is clear that individuals of similar economic groups like to congregate for an equal space.

In India, social relationships and conduct are influenced by caste-based norms and culture. These communities have spawned ‘mohallas’. While the city's geography is essential, so is its population's behaviour and cultural heritage. Cities have their unique fragrance because of the citizens' Behaviouralism.

Conclusion

Urban geography is more than a mash-up of theories. Not a multi-dimensional investigation of its Purpose, but a systematic geographic research. Now that urban geography is less united, it's harder to exhibit a tidy framework. Whatever the case, the primary issue is spatial, which is crucial for both urban geography and other sub-disciplines. Urban geography is a mix of methods. It is closer to a transdisciplinary study than a systematic geographical investigation. The town cannot be studied like a rock by a geologist. The urban environment is a broad sphere of people living their lives with a humanist concept. The main goal is to provide a high quality of life for all residents of a city.



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