

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

SETTLEMENT, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION



SETTLEMENTS

- Settlements are places where people build their homes.
- Early human beings lived on trees and in caves.
- When they started to grow crops it became necessary to have a permanent home.
- The settlements grew near the river valleys as water was available and land was fertile.
- With the development of trade, commerce and manufacturing, human settlements became larger.
- Settlement flourished and civilizations developed near river valleys

SITES AND SETTLEMENTS

- The place where a building or a settlement develops is called its site.
- The natural conditions for selection of an ideal site are
 1. favourable climate
 2. availability of water
 3. suitable land
 4. fertile soil

TYPES OF SETTLEMENTS

TEMPORARY

The people living in deep forests, hot and cold deserts and mountains often dwell in such temporary settlements. They practice hunting, gathering, shifting cultivation and transhumance.

PERMANENT

RURAL

URBAN

COMPACT

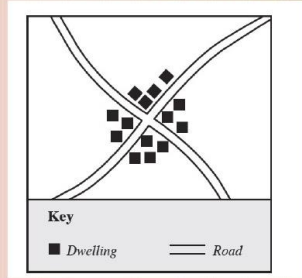
SCATTERED

LINEAR

NUCLEATED



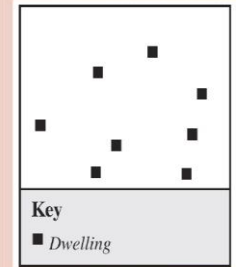
Nucleated Settlements



A nucleated settlement pattern refers to the grouping of many houses around a centre called a nucleus.



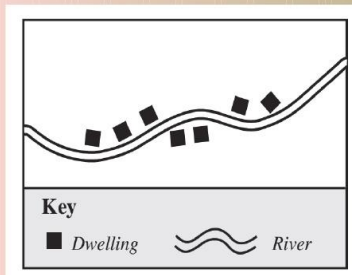
Dispersed Settlements



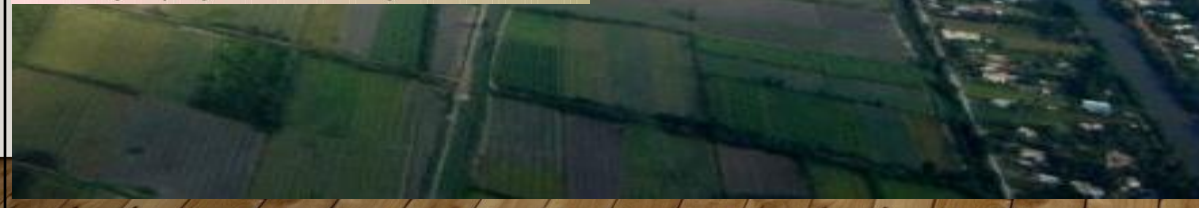
A dispersed settlement refers to the scattering of houses over a large area.



Linear Settlements



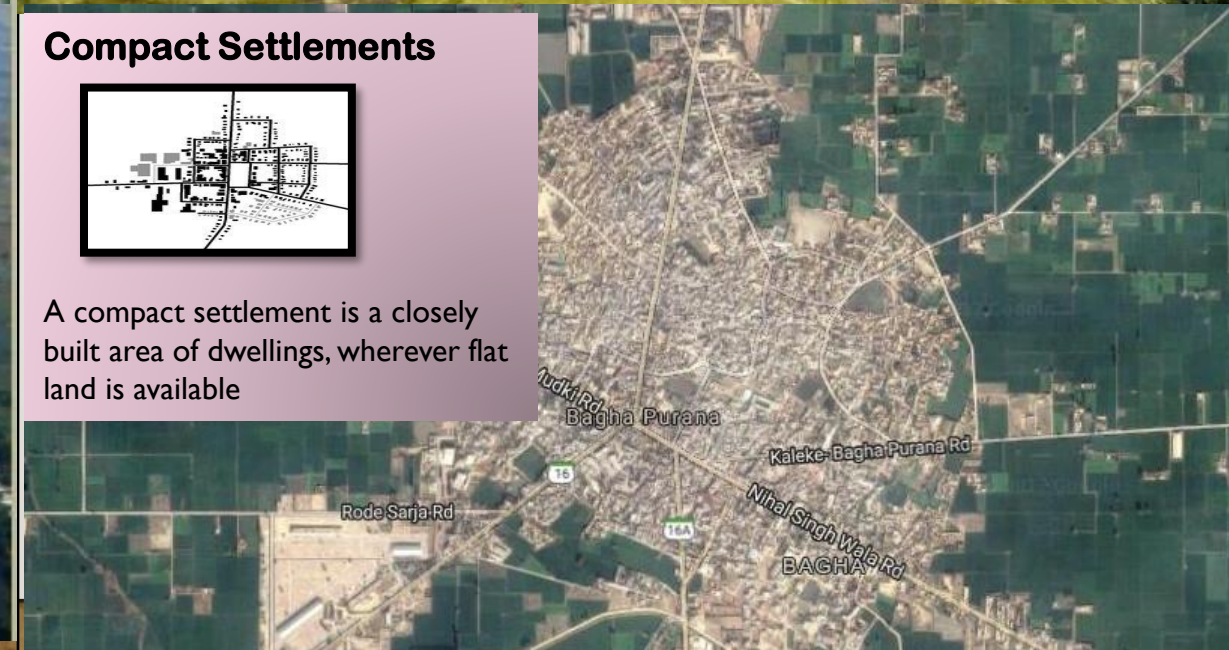
A linear settlement pattern refers to the grouping of houses along a line.



Compact Settlements



A compact settlement is a closely built area of dwellings, wherever flat land is available



TYPES OF HOUSES -

In rural areas, people build houses to suit their environment.
They use locally available material to build houses.



Places where water accumulates in the rainy season the houses are constructed on a raised platform or stilts.



In regions of heavy rainfall, they have slanting roofs.



Thick mud walled houses with thatched roofs are very common in areas of hot climate. Local materials like stones, mud, clay, straw etc are used to construct houses.



In extreme cold climatic regions that are snowbound most of the year, people build houses of snow called igloo.

TRANSPORT

ROADWAYS, RAILWAYS, WATERWAYS AND AIRWAYS

ROADWAYS



- The most commonly used means of transport especially for short distances are roads.
- They can be metalled (pucca) and unmetalled (kutchha).
- The plains have a dense network of roads.
- Roads have also been build in terrains like deserts, forests and even high mountains.
- Manali-Leh highway in the Himlayan Mountains is one of the highest roadways in the world.
- Roads built underground are called subways/under paths. Flyovers are built over raised structures.
- There are several National and State highways in India. The latest development in India is the construction of Express Ways.
- The Golden Quadrilateral connects Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata.





MANALI LEH HIGHWAY – Highest highway in the world



EXPRESSWAYS



FLYOVERS



GOLDEN QUADILATERAL OF INDIA



SUBWAYS

RAILWAYS

- The railways carry heavy goods and people over long distances quickly and cheaply.
- The invention of the steam engine and the Industrial Revolution helped in speedy development of rail transport. Diesel and electric engines have largely replaced the steam engines.
- In places super fast trains have been introduced to make the journey faster. The railway network is well developed over the plain areas.
- Advanced technological skills have enabled laying of railway lines in difficult mountain terrains also.
- Indian railway network is well developed. It is the largest in Asia.

LONGEST AND HIGHEST RAILWAY LINES OF THE WORLD

- LONGEST RAILWAY
- **The Trans-Siberian Railway is the longest railway system connecting St. Petersburg in Western Russia to Vladivostok on the Pacific coast.**



- HIGHEST RAILWAY
- **Qingzang Railway, China -**



- **The Qinghai-Tibet railway, that connects Xining, the largest city in the Tibetan Plateau and the capital of the Qinghai Province of China, to Lhasa**

WATERWAYS

- Waterways are the cheapest for carrying heavy and bulky goods over long distances. They are mainly of two types – **inland waterways and sea routes**.
- **Inland waterways** - Navigable rivers and lakes are used as inland waterways. Some of the important inland waterways are the Ganga-Brahmaputra river system, the Great Lakes in North America and the river Nile in Africa.
- **Sea Routes** - mostly used for transporting merchandise from one country to another and are connected with the ports.
- **Important Ports Of The World** - Singapore and Mumbai in Asia, New York, Los Angeles in North America, Rio de Janeiro in South America, Durban and Cape Town in Africa, Sydney in Australia, London and Rotterdam in Europe.

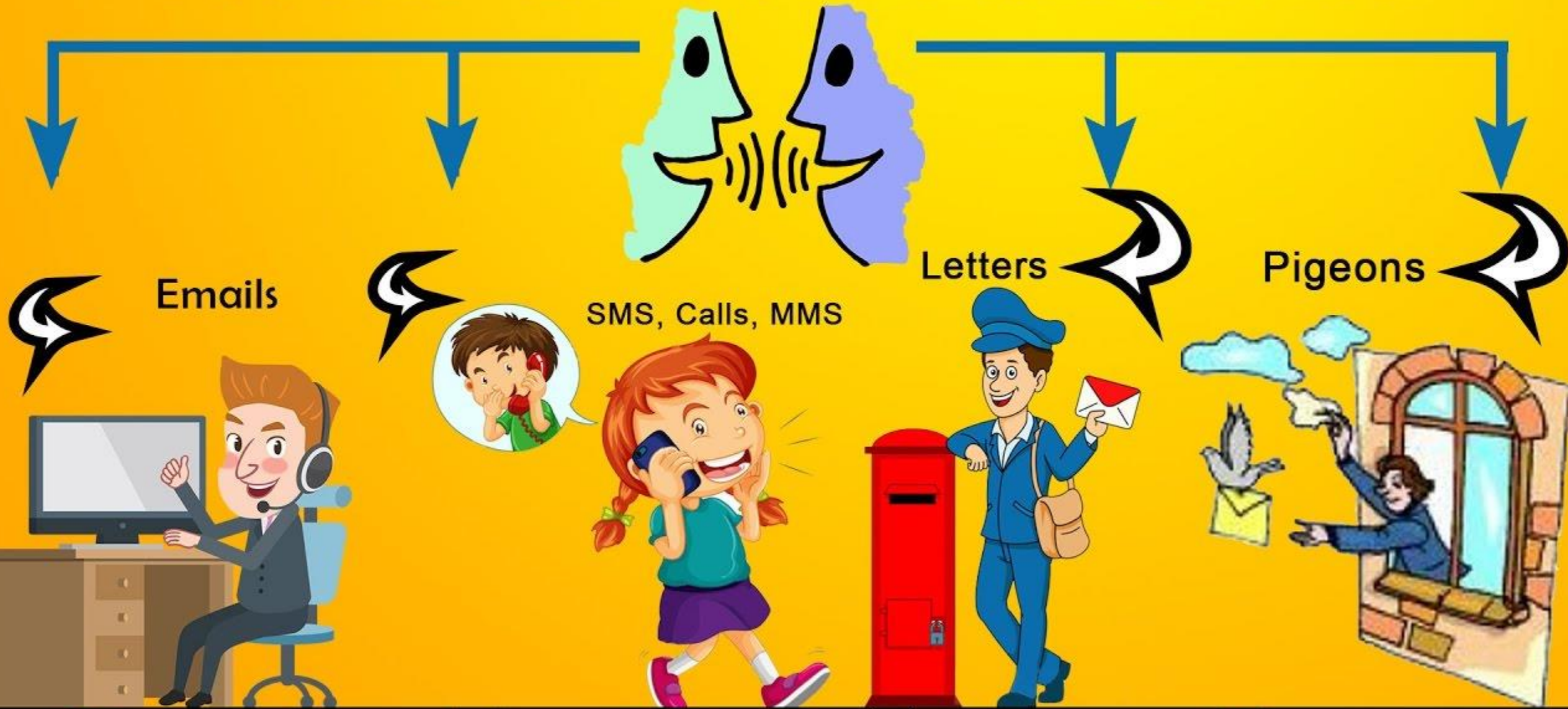
AIRWAYS

- This is the fastest way of transport developed in the early twentieth century.
- It is also the most expensive due to high cost of fuels.
- Air traffic is adversely affected by bad weather like fog and storms.
- It is the only mode of transport to reach the most remote and distant areas especially where there are no roads and railways. Helicopters are extremely useful in most inaccessible areas and in time of calamities for rescuing people and distributing food, water, clothes and medicines.
- Some of the important airports are Delhi, Mumbai, New York, London, Paris, Frankfurt and Cairo

COMMUNICATION



Means Of Communication





- Communication is the process of conveying messages to others. With the development of technology humans have devised new and fast modes of communication.
- Through newspapers, radio and television we can communicate with a large number of people. They are therefore called mass media.
- Satellites have helped in oil exploration, survey of forest, underground water, mineral wealth, weather forecast and disaster warning.
- Wireless telephonic communications through cellular phones have become very popular today.
- Internet not only provides us with worldwide information and interaction but has also made our lives more comfortable.

