

Settlements

Settlement is a place in which people live and where they carry out the activities such as agriculture, trade.

Rural settlement

The study of rural settlement includes:

1. Pattern
 - Dispersed settlement pattern: is when houses and farms are widely scattered throughout the countryside.
 - Nucleated settlement pattern: houses are tightly built near the central feature, e.g. church..
2. Form - refers to the shape
 - Linear: houses are built along the road
 - Cross – shaped: occurs at the road junctions.
 - Green village: buildings are clustered around the green or other open space.

Site and situation

The site is the place where the settlement is built.

The situation is the relationship between settlement and its surrounding area.

Settlement hierarchy

The bases of settlement hierarchy are individual households, farms and hamlets.

A simple model hierarchy:

- Hamlet: general store, post office, pub.
- Village: general store, post office, pub, primary school, butcher.
- Small town: general store, post office, pub, primary school, butcher, services, supermarket..

Urban settlement

Urbanization: is the increase in the percentage of population living in urban areas.

Urbanization takes place when urban population increases more rapidly than population as a whole.

Models of urban form

1. **Bid rent theory:** the value of a land is used for different purposes. Land in the centre of a city is the most expensive land, because the public transport is accessible here, and also small amount of land here.
2. **Burgess concentric model:** housing quality increases with the distance from the inner city. The land in the city is used for different purposes.

3. **Hoyt's sector model:** sectors develop along important routeways, while certain land uses, such as high class residential and industry, detere each other.

Central business district

It is the commertial and economic core of the city.

Central business district has numbers of characteric features:

- Few people live there
- Offices are concentrated here
- Public transport concentrated here
- Reduced access for cars

Village: small number of inhabitants. Agricultural and residential purposes.

Town: is a settlement with number of inhabitants from 2 000 to 100 000.

City: is a settlement with number of inhabitants higher than 100 000.

Metropolis: is a city with particular tributary area.

Conurbation: is an aggregation of cities that are muttually interconnected.