

## THE INFLUENCE OF NATURAL GEOGRAPHICAL FACTORS ON POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

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**Abstract:** The article reflects the natural factors that affect the location of the population. In particular, the influence of climate, landscape and water factors on the location of the population is studied. Also, the role of natural factors in the dense and sparse settlement of the population is incomparable.

**Keywords:** natural geographical factors, population location, climate, landscape, ecological balance, population distribution.

Throughout its historical development, mankind has tried to live in areas that can offer a wide range of opportunities. Because regions of such a scale help to improve people's lifestyle and engage them in various fields. Various natural geographical factors significantly influence the distribution and density of human populations. Understanding these impacts is critical to effective population planning, resource allocation, and predicting future population trends.

Of course, in areas with positive natural geographical factors, we can find many areas where the development of society is growing rapidly, but despite this, as a result of the negative aspects of climate change in recent years and the disturbance of the ecological balance of landscapes on its border, the conditions in the areas is reducing the development trend, and this process shows the need for research in this area.

In addition to the issues of the territorial location of the population and its territorial organization, many scientists have dealt with the factors that affect the location of the population. Also, Milutin A.Ljenvich studied the impact of geomorphological diversity on population settlement within the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Montenegro. This justifies the fact that the structure of the earth's surface leads to the settlement of the population in favourable places. In

particular, it causes the formation of living conditions of the population according to natural factors in the location specific to the relief.

Problems related to global climate change, which is one of the important natural geographical factors, can be found in the research of Tomos R. Karl.

In the studies of Z.N. Tojiyeva and F.A. Dosmanov, the uneven location of the population is determined by interrelated natural, socio-economic and historical factors. Among these factors, the socio-economic factor is of particular importance. However, the role of natural factors was considered primary in all periods. In particular, the average population density is low in most of the countries whose territory is underdeveloped from an economic point of view, and the economy of these countries is specialized in agriculture and is characterized by the fact that a lot of labour is based on demand. The location of the population, and its density, are formed in a manner specific to the conditions, climate, relief, geographical location, socio-economic development and demographic situation of each region. Therefore, the population and its density are growing rapidly in countries with a positive demographic situation and a rapidly growing population. This is based on the strong influence of natural geographical conditions on the uneven distribution of the population. [4]

A. Sattarov's research has studied the influence of natural geographical factors on the location of settlements based on the Surkhandarya region from a scientific point of view. The influence of relief, water and climate features on the geographical location of the population was analyzed and grouped. This led to the location of the population depending on the living conditions. [3]

It can be said that natural geographical factors are mainly caused by natural geographical processes occurring in nature. Among the natural geographical factors, climate has an impact on many regions today. Climate is the long-term pattern of weather characteristics of a region. Climate change alone is changing the appearance of several landscapes. The word landscape is a German word meaning "land". It is considered a generalizing concept of typological natural complexes,

and it is an area with a natural border, distinguished by the same geological structure, relief, climate, soil, flora and fauna, and hydrological regime. The disorder of the climate alone affects the balance of natural conditions necessary for humans, plants and animals - that is, the ecological balance.

In the current era we live in, climate-related problems are causing a number of side effects around the world. As a result of temperature increase, water evaporation coefficient increases, water resources decrease in the regions, the risk of repeated droughts increases and productivity indicators decrease due to the decrease of moisture in the soil. Changes in anomalous phenomena such as warming and cooling lead to the destruction of agricultural products and fruits, which are necessary for the lifestyle of many people.

The causes of climate-related natural disasters can be traced to human activities that have significantly altered the Earth's natural balance. Unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, reckless land use, and industrial expansion have led to the formation of anthropogenic landscapes, disrupting ecosystems. The release of harmful substances into the atmosphere, including toxic gases from industrial processes and vehicle emissions, further exacerbates these problems. These emissions contribute to global warming, altering climate indicators and indirectly influencing population distribution patterns.

Population distribution across the globe is notably uneven, shaped by both historical and environmental factors. Early human settlements were concentrated around the Mediterranean Sea due to its favorable climate and resources. Over time, these settlements expanded northward and into northeastern regions. Today, global population density varies considerably, with distinct densely and sparsely populated zones.

Densely populated areas include regions with favorable climates, fertile lands, and developed infrastructure, such as the Indian subcontinent, Southeast China, the Korean Peninsula, and Japan. These areas host some of the world's largest cities, including Tokyo, Shanghai, and Mumbai. In contrast, sparsely populated areas like

deserts, tundras, and high-altitude regions are characterized by harsh environmental conditions that limit human habitation.

Understanding the causes and effects of population distribution, alongside climate-related changes, is essential for planning and resource management. Addressing environmental challenges requires a sustainable approach to human activity and a concerted effort to reduce harmful emissions and their impacts on global population dynamics.

- The most densely populated areas are the Indian Peninsula, Southeast China, the Korean Peninsula, and Japan; Millionaire cities - Tokyo, Shanghai, Calcutta, Bombay, Osaka, Kyoto, etc.;

- Densely populated areas - areas other than the northeastern part of Europe, the Scandinavian peninsula, and the European territory of Russia. In such areas, the population corresponds to 50-100 people per 1 sq. km.;

- Areas with densely populated areas - areas of the Atlantic coast of the USA;

- The densely populated areas include the lower reaches and deltas of the Nile River.

Sparsely populated areas are also divided into several parts:

- Areas with the least population - Greenland, the northern part of Canada, the Arctic archipelago, Siberia and the northern parts of the Far East;

- Inhabited areas - Sahara Kabir region;

- Areas with relatively few inhabitants - Australian deserts;

- Areas with less than average population - Gobi, Taklamakan deserts, Tibetan Plateau;

- Areas with average population - Amazonia, the western part of the Brazilian plateau.

Population distribution and density are significantly influenced by natural geographical factors such as climate, topography, proximity to water bodies, and the availability of arable land. Regions with a favorable climate, abundant water resources, and developed infrastructure tend to attract higher population densities.

In contrast, harsh landforms like deserts and high mountains often deter population growth due to their challenging living conditions. Understanding these factors is essential for effective urban planning, resource allocation, and sustainable development. Accurate mapping and analysis of population placement enable policymakers to address disparities and ensure efficient use of resources. Proper planning based on population dynamics can help improve living standards and support long-term economic growth while minimizing environmental impacts. Overall, geographical features and human adaptability play interconnected roles in shaping population patterns worldwide.

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