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A Guide to Human Geography

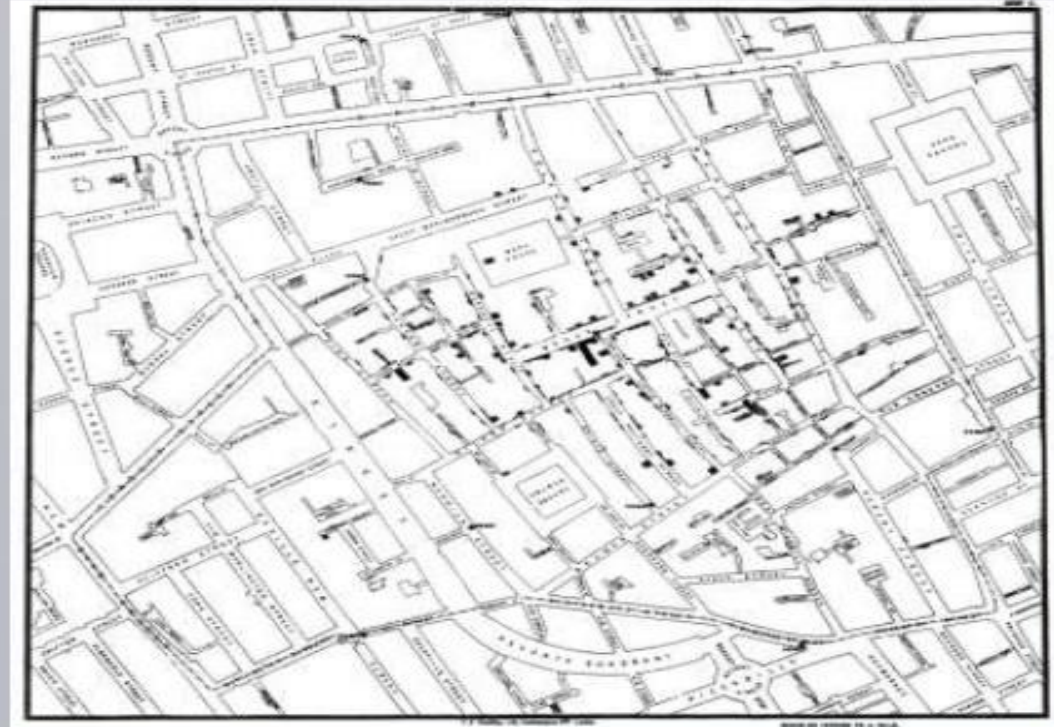
Outline

- A history of geography
- Key areas of human geography
- Influential human geographers
- Key concepts in human geography

Origins...

18th and 19th Centuries where geography became recognised as an academic discipline

1854 Broad Street cholera outbreak



Milestones

- ✿ 1950s Quantitative revolution
- ✿ 1970s emergence of Critical geography
- ✿ 1970s and 1980s Radical Geography
- ✿ Approaches have led to a wide range of theoretical approaches to geography and variety of different areas of research.

Task

- You have been given a selection of journal abstracts from a range of research projects that span across the discipline of human geography. They fall under the following categories:
 - Economic Geography
 - Political Geography
 - Military Geography
 - Health Geography
 - Social Geography
 - Cultural Geography
 - Historical Geography
 - Childrens Geographies
 - Population Geography
 - Development Geography
- Try and identify the correct definition for each of these types of human geography and try to match the pieces of research to their appropriate category .

Cultural Geography

- The study of cultural products and norms and their variation across and relations relation to spaces and places.
- Focus on how humans function spatially
- Can include further sub categories:
 - ★ Language geography, animals geography, childrens geographies, geography of religions and more...
- Examples:
 - ★ Geographies of megachurches in the United States
 - ★ Places post-graffiti: the Journey of the Peckham Rock
 - ★ Locating Haunting: a ghost hunters guide

Development Geography

- The study of the earths' geography with reference to the standard of living and quality of life of its human inhabitants.
- Examples:
 - ★ Understanding the evolution of rice technology of Rice Technology in China 0 – From traditional agriculture to GM rice today
 - ★ Assessing the Economic Vulnerability of Small Island Developing States and the Least Developed Countries
 - ★ Foreign Assistance and the struggle against HIV/AIDS in the Developing World

Economic Geography

- The study of the location, distribution and spatial organisation of economic activities across the world.
- Examples:
 - ★ Do developing countries need 'good' institutions and policies and financial markets to benefit from capitalist account liberalization
 - ★ Global Production Networks: realizing the potential
 - ★ Barriers to 'US style' lean retailing the case of Wal-marts failure in Germany

Health Geography

- The application of geographical information, perspectives and methods to the study of health, disease and health care.
- Examples:
 - ★ Enabling methods for community health mapping in developing countries
 - ★ Spatial patterns of natural hazards mortality in the United States
 - ★ Vulnerability of populations and the urban health care systems to nuclear weapon attack – examples from four American cities

Population Geography

- The study of the ways in which spatial variations in the distribution, composition, migration, and growth of populations are related to the nature of places.
- Examples:
 - ★ Where have all the children gone? Womens reports of more childlessness at older ages than when they were younger in a large-scale continuous household survey in Britain
 - ★ Settlement Size and fertility in the Nordic countries
 - ★ Late marriage and the HIV epidemic in the sub-Saharan Africa

Military Geography

- ✿ The study of the natural, artificial and physical features that may affect the planning and conduct of military operations, understanding the political through a militaristic lens.
- ✿ Examples:
 - ★ Military Geography: the influence of terrain in the outcome of the Gallipoli Campaign 1915
 - ★ Assessing the socio-economic impacts of military installations on their host communities
 - ★ The terrible geographicalness of terrorism: reflections of a hazards geographer

Urban Geography

- ✿ The study of the history or urban settlement, the development of cities, urban structure, spatial patterns that occur within the city, as well as urban problems and policies.
- ✿ Examples:
 - ★ The globalization of urban housing markets: immigration and changing housing demand in Vancouver
 - ★ Scent and the City: Perfume, Consumption and the urban economy
 - ★ Geography of Protest: Places of Demonstration in Buenos Aires and Seoul

- ✿ The study of the spatially uneven outcomes of political processes and the ways in which political processes are themselves affected by spatial structures
- ✿ Examples:
 - ★ The question of 'the political' in critical geopolitics: Querying the 'child soldier' in the 'war on terror'
 - ★ Everyday political practices, democracy and the environment in a native village in Mexico City
 - ★ Geographies of state failure and sophistication in maritime piracy hijackings

Childrens Geography

- ✿ Study of places and spaces of childrens lives, characterised experimentally, politically and ethically.
- ✿ Examples:
 - ★ Embodied learning: responding to AIDS in Lesothos' education sector
 - ★ Youth, gangs and violence: Analysing the social and spatial mobility of young people in Guatemala city
 - ★ Negotiating spatial identities: mobile perspectives on street life in Uganda

Social Geography

- ✿ The study of how society affects geographical features, and how environmental factors affect society.
- ✿ Examples:
 - ★ Zombie Geographies and the undead cities
 - ★ Playing with fear: parkour and the mobility of emotion
 - ★ Changing spaces: the role of the internet in shaping Deaf Geographies

Historical Geography

The study of a place or region at a specific time or period in the past, or the study of geographic change in a place or region over a period of time.

Examples:

- ★ Geographies of exploration and improvement: William Scoresby and Arctic Whaling 1782-1822
- ★ 'Fighting from the fields': developing the British 'national farm' in the Second World War
- ★ territories: arenas of geographical knowledge in early colonial Peru

Human Geography		Physical Geography	Mixed Human and Physical Geography	Other
Cultural Geography	Political Geography	Biogeography	Agricultural Geography	Applied Geography
Economic Geography	•Electoral geography	•Vegetation studies	•Agricultural policy	Education and geography
•Employment	•Geopolitics	•Zoogeography	•Agricultural systems	Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
•Location Theory	Population Geography	Climatology	Development Studies	•Cartography
•Manufacturing	•Demography	•Applied	•Agrarian	•Image Analysis
•Marketing	•Population change	•Climatic change	•Urban planning	•Photogrammetry
•Retailing	•Population migration	•Microclimatology	•Policy studies	•Remote Sensing
•Services	Recreational geography	Ecology	Regional Geographies	Geographical Thought
Gender studies	•Tourism	Geomorphology	Environment studies	•History
•Rural Geography	Historical Geography	•Applied	•Conservation	•Methodology
•Rural Economy	•Countryside	•Arid	•Environmental Change	•Philosophy
•Rural population change	• Industry	•Coastal	•Mineral Resources	Quantitative methods
Industrial Geography	• Population	•Fluvial	•Environmental impact assessment	•Mathematical techniques
•Regional development	• Towns	•Glacial	•Environmental management	•Statistical Techniques
•Technological change	Social Geography	•Weathering	•Environmental perception	Theoretical geography
Medical Geography	•Ethnicity	Hydrology	•Environmental quality	
Urban Geography	•Social theory	•Applied	•Environmental systems	
•Urban economy	•Socio-economic status	•Water quality	Hazards	
•Urban housing	Transport Geography	Meteorology	Planning	
•Urban theory, models	•Rural-urban	Quaternary Environments	•Environmental	
•Urban population		•Archaeology	•Regional	
•Urban renewal		•Landform Evolution	Resource Geography	
•Urban politics		•Palaeoecology	•Energy	
		•Sediments	•Mineral Resources	
		Soils	•Water Resources	

Influential Human Geographers

- ✿ David Harvey (1935-present)
- ✿ World's most cited academic geographer
- ✿ Attributed with the modern development of modern geography as a discipline.
- ✿ [Video](#)



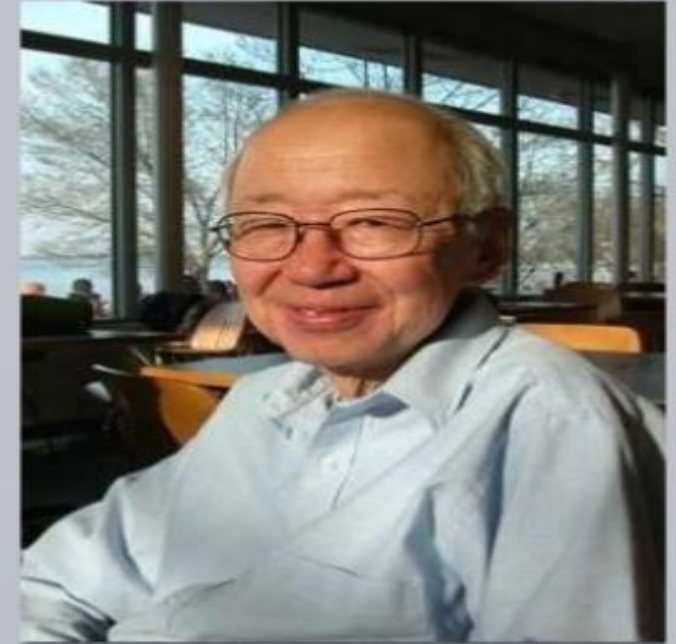
Influential Human Geographers

- ✿ Doreen Massey (1944-Present)
- ✿ Concept of space
- ✿ 'Spatial divisions of labour'
- ✿ Places :
 - * are not enclosures with a clear inside and outside
 - * Do not have single identities but multiple
 - * Are not frozen in time, they are processes



Influential Human Geographers

- ❁ Yi-Fu Tuan (1930 – present)
 - * Space and place: Place is defined as a particular part of space that can be occupied, unoccupied, real, or perceived Space is defined as that which is occupied by an object's volume
 - * Humanist geography: how humans interact with space and their physical and social environments



Influential Human Geographers

- ✿ Nigel Thrift (1949-Present)
 - ✿ 'Non-representational theory'
 - ✿ Use of space and time by financial markets
 - ✿ The history of time and construction of events



Influential Human Geographers

- ✿ Cindi Katz (1954 – present)
 - ✿ Social reproduction and the production of space, place and nature
 - ✿ Growing Up Global: Economic Restructuring and Children's Everyday Lives.



Key Concepts

* Space

- * The fundamental 'stuff' of geography
- * Geographers are poor at defining space
- * The geographers prime interest is in the objects within the space and their relative positions, which involves the descriptions, explanation and prediction of the distribution of phenomena. The relationships between objects in space is at the core of geography.

Key Concepts

- * **Place** – eludes easy definition (Cresswell, 1999)
 - * 1) Place as a location: a specific point on the earths surface
 - * 2) A sense of place
 - * 3) Place of locale
- * We can rethink definitions of place in order to show how local and non-local events and relations intertwine.

Key Concepts

✿ Scale

- ✿ A real material thing which actually exists and is the result of political struggle and/or social processes, or as a way of understanding the world.



Key Concepts

- Scale, continued...
- Six ways geographers have thought about the relationship between the local and the global:
 - 1) The global and the local are not actually things but ways of framing situations
 - 2) The global and the local each derive meaning from what they are not
 - 3) The global and the local simply offer different points of view on social networks
 - 4) The global is local, scratch anything global and you find locality. For instance, multinational firms are actually multilocal rather than global.
 - 5) The local is global: the local is only where global processes 'touch down' on the Earth's surface
 - 6) All spaces are hybrids of the global and the local: they are glocal

What do you think?

- ❁ **Globalisation:** the widening, deepening and speeding up of global interconnectedness
- ❁ Globalization, its meaning and conceptual value, has long been contested in human geography.
- ❁ Globalization is inherently geographical.
- ❁ Globalization is an ongoing process.
- ❁ Always contest and think critically about globalization!



Key Concepts

- * **Development**
- * Like many concepts in geography is hard to define.
- * Development is not a neutral concept. Its definitions varies over time and space.
- * Society Change/Policy Intervention



Interdisciplinary Research

- ✿ Physical and human geography working together interdisciplinary research projects in order to develop a more complete understanding of the world

Questions?

