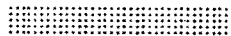


## CHAPTER [I]

### APPRAISAL OF THE PROBLEM

- 1.1] Introduction
- 1.2] Objective of the Present Study.
- 1.3] Source of Data And Information.
- 1.4] Methodology.
- 1.5] Design of the Present work.



C H A P T E R [I]  
APPRAISAL OF THE PROBLEM

1.1] I N T R O D U C T I O N :

Settlement Geography is a recent most sprout from the venerable tank of human geography. Its considerations have however run like a thread through almost the whole fabric of geographic thought<sup>1</sup>. Settlement geography deals with the facilities built in the process of human occupance of the land and their grouping the nature and distribution of these facilities are related to the art and made of living and on physical factors.

The term settlement geography is derived from the German 'Siedleness Geography', which involves the study of visual imprints made by man upon the physical landscape in the process of occupancy. Geographers study settlement enables and their spatial patterns for analysing sequence of change in the cultural landscape. Urban and rural settlements are concerned of economists, historians and sociologists but their line of approach differs. Geographers mainly treat the problem as man made habitat on the earth surface in relation with environment and examine the settlement features such as buildings and their architectural style.

According to Professor S.P.Chatterjee, 'Settlement geography deals with the size, form and functions of settlements built up by man and their historic growth'. Settlements studies appear as essential elements of research

undertakings in many other branches of geography. It also studies the intensity of human success in the natural environment conditions. Settlement geography is intimately related to population geography, agricultural geography transport geography, Military geography and historical geography.

The Scientific study of settlement geography began in Germany with Ritters work in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Later on Kohl, Richthofen, Ratzel, Meitzen, GrandMann, Martiny Christaller and Nitz in Germany, Lefever in Belgium, Bowman, Hall Kohn, Stone, Jordan and Hudson in the United States, Bunge, Byland, Hagerstrand in Sweeden, Chisholm and Hgget in Britain, Ahmad and Singh in India and Doxiadis in Greece have made significant contribution to the field of settlement studies<sup>3</sup>.

A vast amount of literature on settlement geography, particularly on urban geography has grown during the present century in the Western countries and also in India. The study of rural settlement geography is still very limited. In India, the credit for introducing this branch of geography goes to Professor E.Ahmad (1949), Prof. R.L.Singh (1972), Prof. A.B.Mukerji (1976), R.B.Mandal (1979), V.N.Sihna, A.P.Kumbhar (1984), K.G.Kulkarni (1983), S.S.Chaudhari (1987).

In the Present study, the rural settlements of Satara District have been considered. The distribution, growth characteristics and site and location of rural

settlement have been studied.

1.2] OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENT STUDY :

In the present study, an attempt has been made to study the spatial distribution of rural settlements and the factors which affects on the distribution of rural settlements. The growth character of rural settlements have also studied in relation to population. The site and situation of rural settlements and their relationship with physical and cultural factors have been studied.

:

The specific objectives of the present study are :

- [1] To study the various factors which affect on the distribution of rural settlements.
- [2] To study the relationship between physical factors and the distribution of rural settlements.
- [3] To study the relationship between cultural and Man made factors on the distribution of rural settlements.
- [4] To study the spatial distribution of rural settlements in the study region.
- [5] To study the Mean population size, Mean areal size

and average spacing between rural settlements.

- [6] To study the growth characteristic of rural settlements in the study region as a whole, talukawise and at individual level.
- [7] To study the size of distribution of rural settlements in the study region.
- [8] To study the site and location of rural settlements.

The study of rural settlements play an important role in the life of people whether the settlements are small or large. The settlement study is very important in the mountains river basin and drought-prone area, which is selected for study.

#### 1.3] SOURCE OF DATA AND INFORMATION :

The data and information for the present study is taken from various sources.

- 1] District Gazetteer of Satara District - 1963.
- 2] District Census Hand Book of Satara District 1971, 1981 and 1991.
- 3] Socio-Economic Review and District Statistical Abstract of Satara District 1991.
- 4] The toposheet of 1:50,000 scale has been used for the purpose of physical division & for the study of site and location of the rural settlements.

Besides, a few information regarding the research work taken from the various reports and journals.

#### 1.4] M E T H O D O L O G Y :

To study the distribution of rural settlements various quantitative methods have been applied. In the

present study, in order to get a clear picture of the distribution of rural settlements, the information for various aspects i.e. physiography, drainage, population, land under agriculture, land under irrigation, land under forest, Road network, has been collected in regular form of grids. The division of area into grids allows a very ready comparison since the area in all cases remains unchanged and spatial contrast became easily describable. The size of the grid is adjusted to the area and the grid of 10 x 10 kms. were found suitable for the study region. Thus the whole area was divided into this size and information was collected gridwise. The isopleths have been drawn for each aspect.

In order to study the spatial pattern of rural settlement distribution, the statistical technique called 'Nearest-Neighbour' Analysis' developed by Plant Ecologist P.J.Clark and P.C. Evans (1954) has been used. To study mean population size, mean areal size and average spacing of rural settlements various quantitative method have been used.

To study the site and situation of rural settlements the toposheets of 1:50,000 scale have been used.

#### 1.5] DESIGN OF THE PRESENT WORK :

The present research work has been divided into six chapters :

The first chapter deals with the appraisal of the problem. In this chapter, the importance of rural settlement geography has been described. This chapter deals with the

aims and objectives of the present study, source of data and information as well as methodology that have been applied in the present study.

The second chapter includes the geographical setting of the study region. In this chapter, the discussion on physical setting, cultural environment, population character and economic level of the region has been made. Besides this, the climate, drainage, forest, soils, landuse, agricultural and cropping pattern, irrigation, road network of the study area have also described. Because all these factors are directly or indirectly influenced on the distribution of rural settlements in the study region.

The third chapter devoted to distribution of rural settlements in the Satara district. The various factors affecting on the distribution of rural settlements have been considered. The physiography, the climatic conditions, drainage pattern, forest land under agriculture, land under irrigation & road network have affected on the distribution of rural settlements. Besides this, the spatial distribution of rural settlements of the study region have been studied quantitative technique called 'Nearest Neighbour analysis'.

In the fourth chapter, an attempt has been made to study size distribution of rural settlements and their growth characteristics from 1971 to 1991. The decadal growth rate of settlements, talukawise growth rate of settlements and individual population growth rate of rural settlements have been studied and shown with the help of various maps.

The fifth chapter deals with site and location of rural settlements. In this chapter various important sites have been studied with the help of topographical maps and some important examples have been depicted with the help of diagrams.

The last chapter i.e. sixth, deals with major findings and concluding remarks on the distribution of rural settlements, growth characteristics of rural settlements and site and situation of rural settlements of the study region.





REFERENCES

- 1] Singh R.L. (1961), Meaning objectives and scope of Settlement Geography. Nat. Geog. Jour. of India, Vol.7. Pt. PP. 12-20.
- 2] Nand Lal (1989), Rural Settlement Planning and Development PP. XIV.
- 3] Ahmad,E, (1949), Rural Settlements in the United Provinces of area and oudh, Unpublished Ph.D. Thesis (London University).
- 4] Singh R.L. et. al. 1972 (ed), Geographic Dimensions of Rural Settlements (Varanasi : N.G.S.I.) PP.288.
- 5] A.B.Mukerji (1976), Rural Settlement In The Chandigarh Siwarlik Hills : An Application of Multiple Collinear Fission Model - PP. 54.
- 6] R.B.Mandal, (1979), An Introduction of Rural Settlements' Concept Publication, New Delhi.
- 7] A.B.Mukerji, (1974), Spacing of villages upper Ganga Yamuna Doab'  
Geographic Review of India, Vol. 36, No.2.
- 8] Sinha V.N.P.(1976) Chota Nagpur Plateau  
A Study in Settlement Geography'.
- 9] Kumbhar A.P. (1984), 'The Study of Rural Settlements in Nira River Valley'.

