### NCERT Class 11 Geography

# Chapter 4: Distribution of Oceans And Continents

Dr. Manishika Jain, NTSE Scholar, UGC NET JRF, CSIR NET JRF
 Gold Medalist, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
 Planner, City of Hillsboro, Oregon, USA

### Continental Drift www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgX2uCtfPyI

- •Abraham Ortelius: Dutch map maker 1<sup>st</sup> proposed possibility of joining America, Europe & Asia in 1596.
- Antonio Pellegrini: Drew a map showing 3 continents together
- Alfred Wegener: German meteorologist gave this theory in 1912 – Pangea & Panthalassa. 200 mya – Pangea spit into Laurasia and Gondwanaland

## Continental Drift - Evidences www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgX2uCtfPyI

- Jigsaw fit of continents best fit of Atlantic by Bullard in 1964 by computer program & was tried at 1000 fathom line
- Rocks of same age across oceans radiometric dating South America & Africa rock of Jurassic age (before that no oceans)
- Tillite Gondwana sedimentary rock deposit of glaciers provide evidence of palaeoclimates and drifting of continents
- Placer Deposits gold in Ghana but absence of source & gold bearing veins in Brazil
- Fossil distribution India, Madagascar and Africa (called Lemuria) Lemurs occurred & linked them. Mesosaurus - Southern Cape province of South Africa and Iraver formations of Brazil which are presently 4800 km apart

### Continental Drift — Forces of Drifting www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgX2uCtfPyI

- Pole Flee drift rotation of the earth (bulged at equator)
- •Tidal drift attraction of moon & sun cause tides on ocean waters

#### Post-Drift Studies

- Convection Current Theory: Holmes convection in mantle caused by radioactive elements causing thermal differences in mantle
- Ocean Floor submerged mountain ranges & trenches, mid-oceanic ridge had volcanic eruptions. Ocean crust is younger than continents.
  - Continental margin includes shelf, slope, rise and trench
  - Mid-oceanic ridge interconnected chain within mountain rift system at crest is zone of intense volcanic activity
  - Abyssal plains b/w margin and ridge



### Sea Floor Spreading — Henry Hess (1961) www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzFTD1Wxa9w

- Along mid oceanic ridge volcanic eruption were common & brought lava to surface (cause spread)
- Rocks equidistant from crest on both sides showed similarity, closer to mid-oceanic ridge ther are of normal polarity & youngest
- Ocean crust (200 mya) is younger than continental crust
- Ocean sediments were thin
- Deep trenches have deep seated earthquake but midoceanic ridge have shallow earthquake

### Plate Tectonics www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnBFNNRNOJ4

- •1967: McKenzie and Parker & also Morgan
- Plate moves over asthenosphere as rigid units
- Lithosphere includes crust & upper mantle (5-100 km in oceanic parts & 200 km in continental areas)

### Plate Tectonics www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnBFNNRNOJ4

- Divergent pull away, spreading sites, Mid Atlantic ridge
- Convergent destroyed, subduction zone
- Transform Slide, perpendicular to mid-oceanic ridge

#### Indian Plate Movement

- subduction zone along the Himalayas continent convergence
- Rakinyoma Mountains of Myanmar towards the island arc along the Java Trench (Eastern – spreading site)
- Western Kirthar Mountain of Pakistan & extends along Makrana coast – spreading site
- B/w India & Antarctica is divergent



