

# GEOGRAPHY OF THE WORLD

## KEY POINTS

- Brief Introduction of the Earth
- Distribution of the Continents and Oceans
- Location and Characteristics of the Oceans
- Location and Geographical Characteristics of the Continents
- Capital, Land Area and Population of the Countries of the World

### 3.1 Brief Introduction of the Earth:

The earth, the only habitat of man, is very large. Its total surface area is 510 million square km. It may be mentioned that only about 29 per cent of the earth's surface area, that is 149 million square km is covered by land and the remaining 71 per cent, that is 361 million square km is covered with water. The land portion of the earth is constituted by the continents like Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, South America, Oceania and Antarctica. On the other hand, the huge water portion of the earth is covered with the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Southern oceans. It may be mentioned that among the continents Asia and among the oceans the Pacific are the largest ones in area. According to the estimates of 2015 the total population of the world is 730 crores or 7.3 billion.

It is notable that the topographic character, climate, soil, plants, animals, etc are different in different places on the earth. It is due to such

*Geography*

variations of different elements of the natural environment the population distribution and the man's ways of living are not the same in different places on the earth. Even the socio-economic advancement of different places on the earth greatly depends on the prevailing characteristics of the natural environment. That is why the areas having favourable natural environment and rich in natural resources are generally economically advanced. On the other hand, many areas on the earth having unfavourable natural environment and devoid of necessary natural resources are economically lagging behind.

### **3.2 Distribution of Continents and Oceans:**

According to the Continental Drift Theory, in the early stage, that is about 300 million years before (Permian Period of Palaeozoic Era), the earth's lithosphere was together as a single landmass, which was surrounded by hydrosphere. This state of lithosphere of the earth is known as Pangaea, and the hydrosphere surrounding the Pangaea is known as Panthalassa. After passage of sometime a narrow and elongated sea was formed due to fracture almost in the middle of the Pangaea in east-west direction. It is known as Tethys sea. Formation of this Tethys sea divided the Pangaea into two parts in north-south direction. Its northern part is called Angaraland or Laurasia and the southern part Gondwana Land. During the Mesozoic era, that is about 250 million years ago, due to splitting and continental drift the Laurasia and Gondwanaland got further divided and moved towards the equator and the west and thereby the continents of present form were created. According to the theory of continental drift, North America, Greenland and the landmass of Europe and Asia north of Indian sub-continent were formed after division of the Laurasia. On the other hand, following division of the Gondwanaland South America, Africa, Madagaskar, India, Arabian region, Malayasia and its other islands, Australia, Antarctica, etc were formed.

A large portion of the earth's surface covered by the oceans and seas including rivers, lakes, etc is known as the Hydrosphere. On the other hand, another part of the earth's surface formed by land slightly above sea-level is called the Lithosphere. It may be mentioned that both these two large hydrosphere and lithosphere of the earth are not forming two separate clusters. It means hydrosphere and lithosphere are penetrating within each other through fragmentation of both the units. Of course, all the oceans and seas of the earth excepting the Caspian sea,

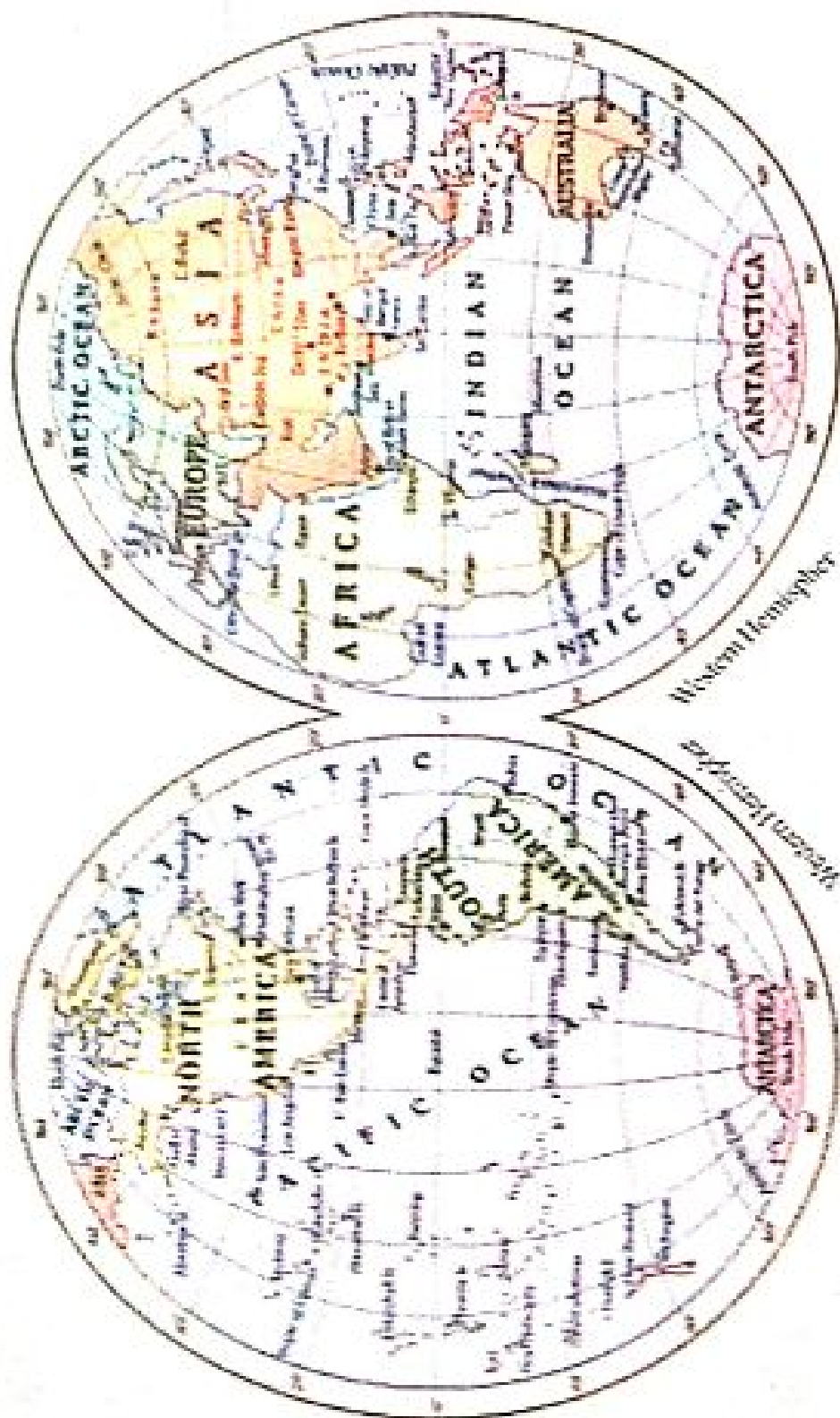


Fig. A.1 : The Continents and the Oceans of the World.

Dead sea and Aral sea are being linked with one another. But the lithosphere, having surrounded by water from all sides, remains divided into four divisions. It means the first part of lithosphere is formed by the continents of Asia, Europe and Africa; the second part is formed by the continents of North America and South America; the third part by Australia including a large number of islands constituting the continent of Oceania; and the fourth part by the continent of Antarctica. On the other hand, among the five oceans of the earth, which are all interlinked and surrounding the continents, the Pacific is located between Asia, North America and South America; the Atlantic is located between North America and South America and Europe and Africa; the Indian ocean is located on the south of Asia, east of Africa and west of Oceania; the Northern or Arctic Ocean on the north of North America, Europe and Asia; and the Southern ocean is on the south of South America, Africa and Oceania (Fig. 3.1). It may be mentioned that a large proportion of the hydrosphere (57 per cent) is confined to the southern hemisphere. On the other hand, a large portion of the lithosphere (67 per cent) is confined to the northern hemisphere. That is why about 90 per cent of the world's human population lives in the northern hemisphere.

### **3.3 Distribution and Characteristics of the Oceans:**

It is not possible to determine the exact boundaries of all the oceans in the earth as they are all interconnected. Even then the spatial extent of the oceans has been roughly fixed for ease of their study. Out of five oceans, as already mentioned, three oceans, such as the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian, are spatially spread to both northern and southern hemispheres. Only, the Southern ocean is located in southern hemisphere, and the Northern ocean in the northern hemisphere (Fig. 3.1). Among all the oceans, with respect to land area or spatial extent, the Pacific ocean is the largest and the Northern ocean is the smallest (Table 3.1).

Although the water surface of the oceans is smooth, their bottom topography is very rugged. The way mountains, hills, plateaus, plains, etc. make the topography of the lithosphere rugged, in the same way ridges, trenches, etc also turn the oceanic floor rough. The average depth of ocean floor is 4000 meter. We know that from the line of contact of lithosphere and hydrosphere the depth increases towards middle of the ocean and different landforms are found. Generally, from the coast to the middle of oceans and seas there exist Continental Shelf,

Continental Slope, Deep Sea Plain, Oceanic Canyon, Oceanic Ridge and Island and Deep Sea Trench (Fig. 3.2). In fact, the shallow part of the oceans and seas (depth up to about 200 meter) surrounding the coasts is called the Continental Shelf. The considerably deep part (depth up to about 2000 meter) after the continental shelf is known as the Continental Slope. After the continental slope there exist very deep oceanic floor (depth up to 4000 meter), deep oceanic trench (on an average with depth up to 8000 meter in the middle of the ocean) and a large number of scattered ridges, islands, etc appearing above the sea level. Among the oceanic trenches, the Mariana Trench or Challenger Trench (with depth 11, 022 meter) of the Pacific ocean floor is the deepest.

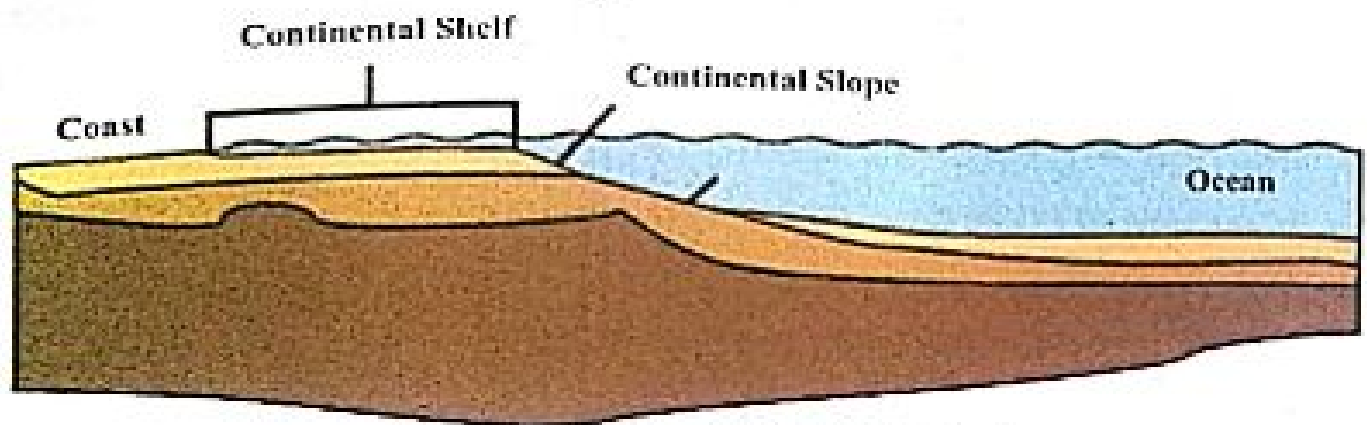


Fig. 3.2 : Continental Shelf (Mahidhal)

Table 3.1: Distribution of Land Area of the Oceans

| Ocean                    | Land Area<br>(in million km <sup>2</sup> ) | Proportion to Total Land<br>Area to the Hydrosphere<br>(in per cent) |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Pacific Ocean         | 165.2                                      | 45.8                                                                 |
| 2. Atlantic Ocean        | 82.4                                       | 22.8                                                                 |
| 3. Indian Ocean          | 73.4                                       | 20.3                                                                 |
| 4. Southern Ocean        | 20.3                                       | 5.6                                                                  |
| 5. Northern Ocean        | 14.1                                       | 3.9                                                                  |
| <b>Total Hydrosphere</b> | <b>361.0</b>                               | —                                                                    |

The areal extent and major characteristics of the of the oceans are presented below.



(1) **Pacific Ocean** : With a land area of about 165 million km<sup>2</sup> the Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean in the world (Table 3.1). This ocean covers about one-third of the earth's surface area. In terms of land area it is little more than two times of the Atlantic ocean. The Pacific ocean is surrounded by Alaska state of the United States of America, eastern part of Siberia and the Arctic ocean on the north; Australia, New Zealand and the Southern ocean on the south; western coasts of North and South America on the east; and eastern coasts of Asia and islands of Japan, Philippines, etc. on the west (Fig. 3.3). The average depth of the Pacific ocean is about 3000 meter. The Pacific ocean has at least 20,000 number of small and big oceanic islands. Among these islands, Japan, Taiwan, Philippines, New Zealand, Indonesia, Hawaii, etc. are worth mentioning. Again, the oceanic trenches like the deepest Mariana trench, Aleutian, Kurile, Philippine, Tonga, Peru-Chile, etc. are important. Some of the major seas under the Pacific ocean include Bering sea, Okhotsk sea, Japan sea, South China sea, Philippine sea, Alaska sea, etc.

(2) **Atlantic Ocean** : With an area of about 82 million km<sup>2</sup> the Atlantic ocean is the second largest ocean in the world (Table 3.1). The Atlantic ocean covers about one-sixth the earth's surface area and it is about half of the Pacific ocean. The shape of the Atlantic ocean is like that of English letter 'S'. It is surrounded by Greenland and the Arctic ocean on the north; the Southern ocean on the south; the continents

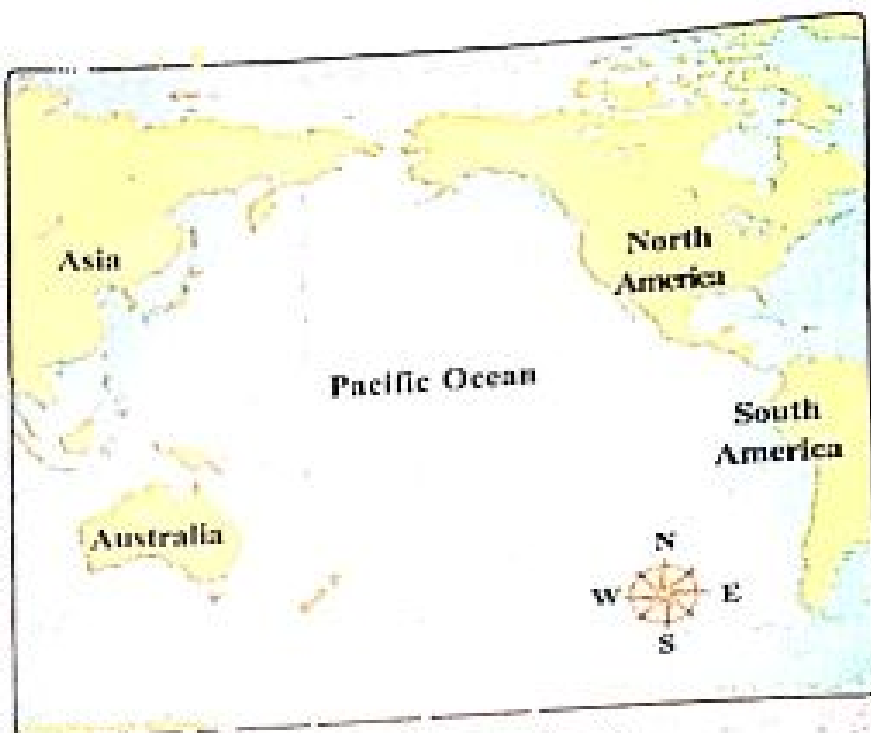


Fig. 3.3 : Pacific Ocean

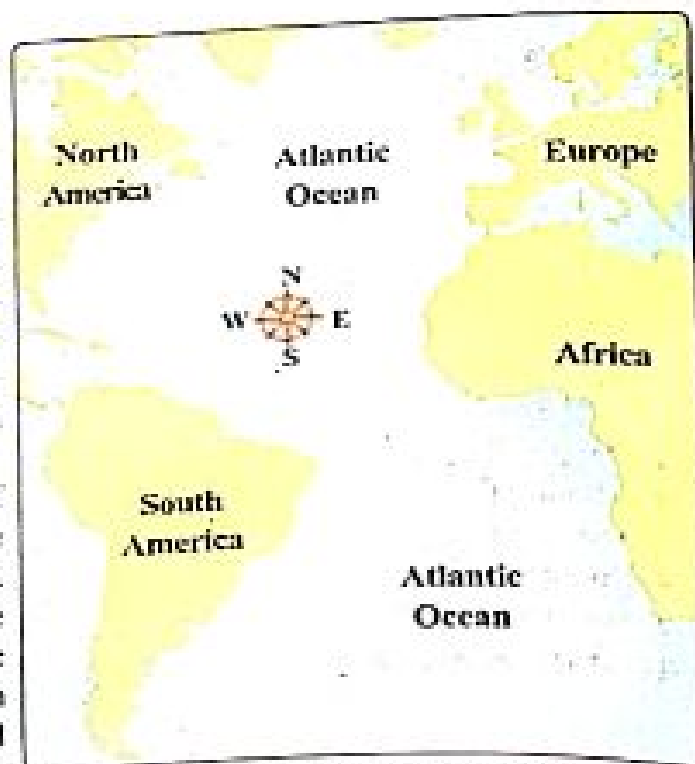


Fig. 3.4 : Atlantic Ocean

of Europe and Africa on the east; and the contents of North America and South America on the west (Fig. 3.4). The average depth of the Atlantic ocean is about 3000 meter. It may be mentioned that there is a ridge named Mid-Atlantic Ridge almost in the middle of the Atlantic ocean in north-south direction. Its northern part is called Dolphin Rise and the southern part Challenger Rise.

The Atlantic ocean has innumerable small and big ocean islands. Among them, Iceland, Newfoundland, British Isles, West Indies, Canary, Falkland, Bermuda, etc are worth mentioning. Some of its important oceanic trenches include Puerto Rico, Romanche and South Sandwich. Some of the major seas under the Atlantic ocean are Mediterranean sea, Baltic sea, Caribbean sea, Gulf of Mexico, Labrador sea, Hudson sea, etc.

(3) **Indian Ocean** : With an area of about 73 million km<sup>2</sup> the Indian ocean is the third largest ocean in the world (Table 3.1). Its areal extent is slightly less than half of the area of the Pacific ocean. The Indian ocean is bounded on the north by Indian sub-continent and South-East Asia; on the south by the Southern ocean; on the east by Australia



Fig. 3.5 : Indian Ocean

and the islands of South-East Asia; and on the west by Africa and Madagascar (Fig. 3.5). The average depth of the Indian ocean is about 4000 meter. It has a few oceanic trenches like Sunda, Socotra-Chagos, Seychelles, Madagascar, Crozet, etc. Some of the important seas under the Indian ocean include Arabian sea, Persian Gulf, Bay of Bengal, Andaman sea, Red sea, etc. On the other hand, some of the important oceanic islands in the Indian ocean are Sri Lanka, Andaman and Nicobar islands, Indonesia, Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar, etc.

(4) **Southern Ocean** : With an area of about 20 million km<sup>2</sup> the Southern ocean is the fourth largest ocean in the world. It surrounds the

and the islands of South-East Asia; and on the west by Africa and Madagascar (Fig. 3.5). The average depth of the Indian ocean is about 4000 meter. It has a few oceanic trenches like Sunda, Socotra-Chagos, Seychelles, Madagascar, Crozet, etc. Some of the important seas under the Indian ocean include

content of Antarctica. Roughly the Southern ocean lies to the south of 40° south latitude. Actually, it is an extension of the Pacific ocean, Atlantic ocean and Indian ocean (Fig. 3.5). Due to its location in the south polar region the Southern ocean remains covered with ice in most part of the year.



Fig. 3.6 : Southern Ocean

(5) **Arctic Ocean** : With an area of about 14 million km<sup>2</sup> the Arctic ocean is the smallest ocean in the world. Its area is about one-fifth of the Indian ocean. As the Arctic ocean surrounds the north pole, its shape is circular. Infact, the northern part of Asia, Europe and North America surround the Arctic ocean (Fig. 3.6). Its average depth is about 3500 meter. Due to its location in the north polar region, the Arctic ocean remains covered with thick ice in most part of the year.

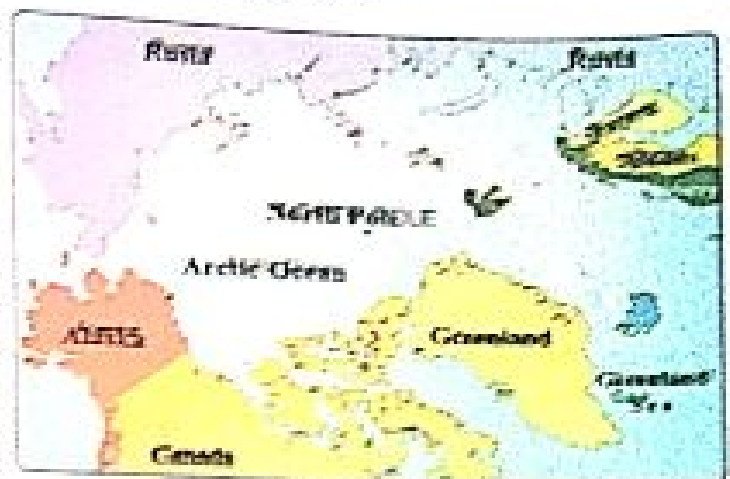


Fig. 3.7 : Arctic Ocean

### 3.4 Location and Geographical Characteristics of the Continents:

About 67 per cent of the earth's lithosphere is confined to the northern hemisphere. Of the 7 continents of the world, excluding South America's major portion, Africa's southern part, Oceania and Antarctica, the remaining major portion is located in the northern hemisphere. It is notable that the continents of North America, Europe and Asia are completely within the northern hemisphere. On the other hand, in east-west direction, North America and South America are located in the western hemisphere and the remaining major portion in the eastern hemisphere. Although the international boundaries are fixed among the countries, the boundaries between the continents are basically determined



through some physical elements like rivers, seas, oceans, etc. For instance, the boundary between the continents of Europe and Africa is determined by the Mediterranean sea, and between Asia and Africa by the Red sea. On the other hand, the boundary between Europe and Asia is determined physically by the Ural mountain range. Again, the boundary between North America and South America is formed by the Panama Canal.

The presence of hills and mountains, plateaus, plains, coastal plains, etc has kept the topography of the lithosphere highly rugged. Of course, the topography is not same in all parts of the continents. Besides, the climate also does not remain the same in different places on the earth. For instance, the climate of the equatorial and tropical region is hot and wet; mid-latitude region temperate; and polar region extremely cold. Due to such a variation of climatic condition the vegetation character also differs. For example, it is evergreen forest in the equatorial region; short grass and thorny vegetation in the hot and dry desert region; mosses, lichens and fern-type vegetation in the polar region.

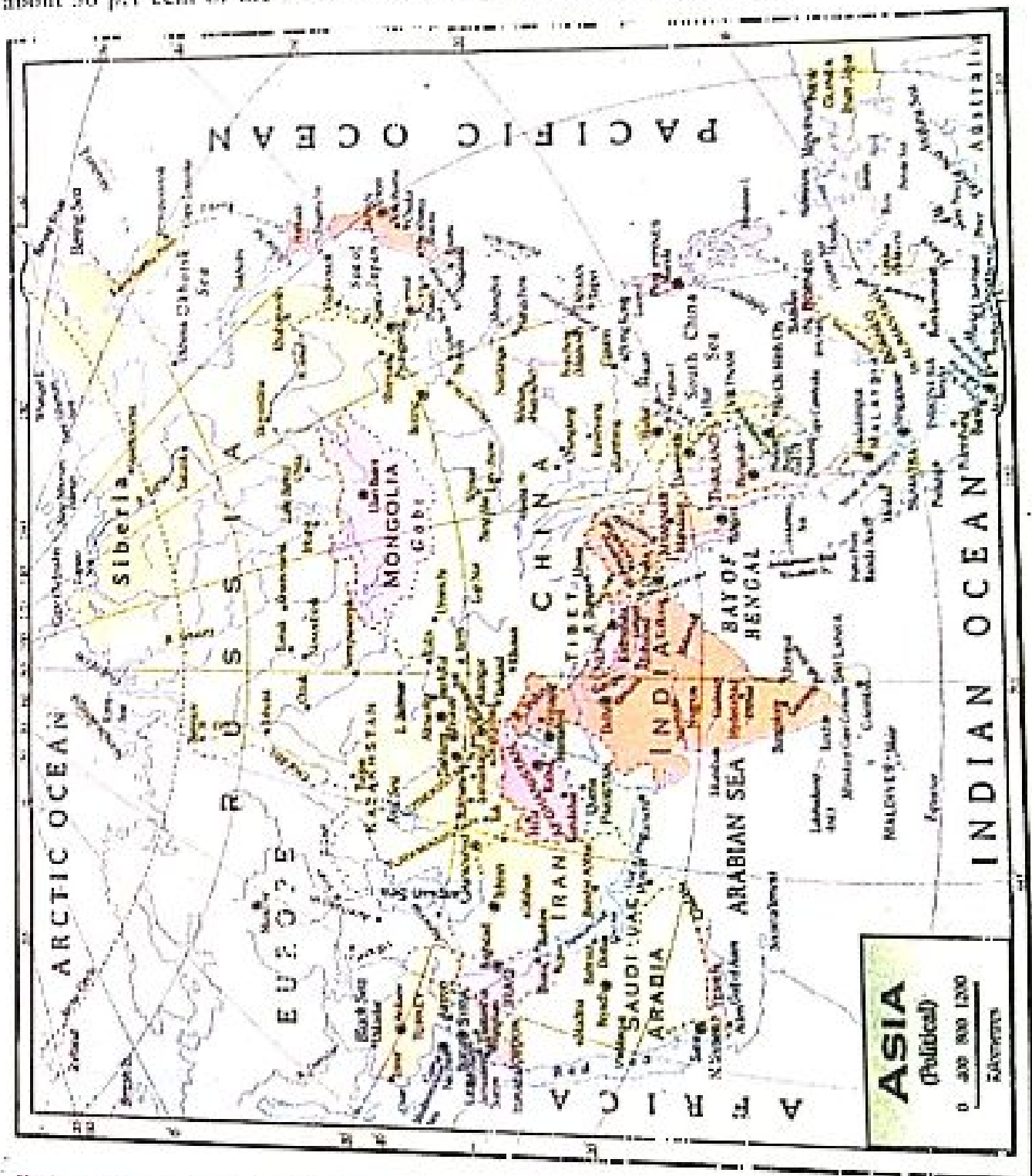
Depending on differences in climate, soil and topography the agricultural practices and crop production also vary from one area to another. Accordingly, the areas with favourable physical conditions and having economic advancement in agriculture, industry, trade, transport, etc witness a very high density of population. Hence, the population density is very low in the extremely hot and cold regions.

**Table 3.2 :- Distribution of Areas of Continents.**

| Continents               | Area:<br>(in Million sq. Km) | Areas of Continents in<br>proportion to total lithosphere |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Asia                  | 44.6                         | 29.9                                                      |
| 2. Europe                | 10.9                         | 7.3                                                       |
| 3. Africa                | 30.1                         | 20.2                                                      |
| 4. North America         | 24.3                         | 16.3                                                      |
| 5. South America         | 17.8                         | 11.9                                                      |
| 6. Oceania               | 8.1                          | 5.4                                                       |
| 7. Antarctica            | 13.2                         | 8.8                                                       |
| <b>Total lithosphere</b> | <b>149.0</b>                 | <b>—</b>                                                  |

Out of altogether seven continents of the world the snow covered continent of Antarctica does not have any permanent human settlement. Hence, here the geographical location and some physical characteristics relating to topography of the remaining six continents are presented below.

(1) **The Continent of Asia** : Asia is the largest continent in the world. With a land area of 44.6 million km<sup>2</sup> the continent of Asia covers about 30 per cent of the earth's land area (Table 3.7). The continent



of Asia is mainly located in the northern hemisphere. It lies between 78° north latitude in the north to 1° north latitude in the south, and 25° east longitude in the west to 170° west longitude in the east. It may be mentioned that the islands located in the Pacific ocean, such as Japan, Taiwan, Philippine, Java, Sumatra, Borneo, etc and that located in the Indian ocean, such as Andaman and Nicobar, Sri Lanka, Lakshadweep, Maldives, Bahrain, etc are all in Asia. The continent of Asia is surrounded by the Arctic ocean on the north; the Indian ocean on the south; the Bering strait and the Pacific ocean on the east; and the Red sea, Suez canal, Mediterranean sea, Caucasus mountain, Caspian sea, Ural river and Ural mountain range on the west (Fig. 3.8). As per 2014 estimates the population of Asia is 430 crores, which constitutes about three-fifth of the world's population. There are 51 countries in Asia.

The continent of Asia is covered with high mountain ranges, plateaus, river valleys, low-lands, coastal plains, islands, deserts, etc. Its central part is full of mountains and plateaus. Among the mountain ranges, the north-south Ural mountain ranges forming the western boundary of the continent, the world's highest the east-west running Himalayan mountain ranges and the offshoots in the middle, and the Karakoram ranges, Kunlun ranges, Altain ranges, Tianshan ranges, Altai mountain, Aravalli ranges, etc are worth mentioning. The world's highest peak Everest (8,848 meter) belonging to the Himalayan mountain system and the second highest peak Godwin Austin or Mount K<sub>2</sub> (8,611 meter) belonging to the Karakoram mountain system are both located in the content of Asia. On the other hand, among the plateaus, the Tibetan plateau, the world's highest Pamir plateau, Siberian plateau, Mongolian plateau, Deccan plateau, Arabian plateau, Iranian plateau, etc are important.

Many large rivers being originated from such highland region of mountains, hills and plateaus flow to the oceans and seas in north, south and east direction and have formed a number of fertile plains and deltas. Among the worth mentioning rivers, the Indus, Ganges and Brahmaputra are flowing almost in the south-central part of the continent; Yenisei, Ob and Lena rivers in the northern part; Amur, Hwang Ho, Yangtze Kiang and Sikiang rivers in the eastern part; and Narmada, Tapti, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri, Barak, Menam, Irawati and Mekong rivers in the south and south-east. There are many small and large lakes in Asia. Among the lakes, Balkhas, Baikal, Chilka, Sambar, Dal, Pulikat, Kolleru, Loktak, etc are worth mentioning. Besides, Gobi, Thar and Arabian deserts are also located in the continent of Asia.

(2) **The Continent of Europe :** The continent of Europe is situated along the north-western boundary of Asia. It is located completely in the northern hemisphere. It extends from 36° north latitude in the south to 71°

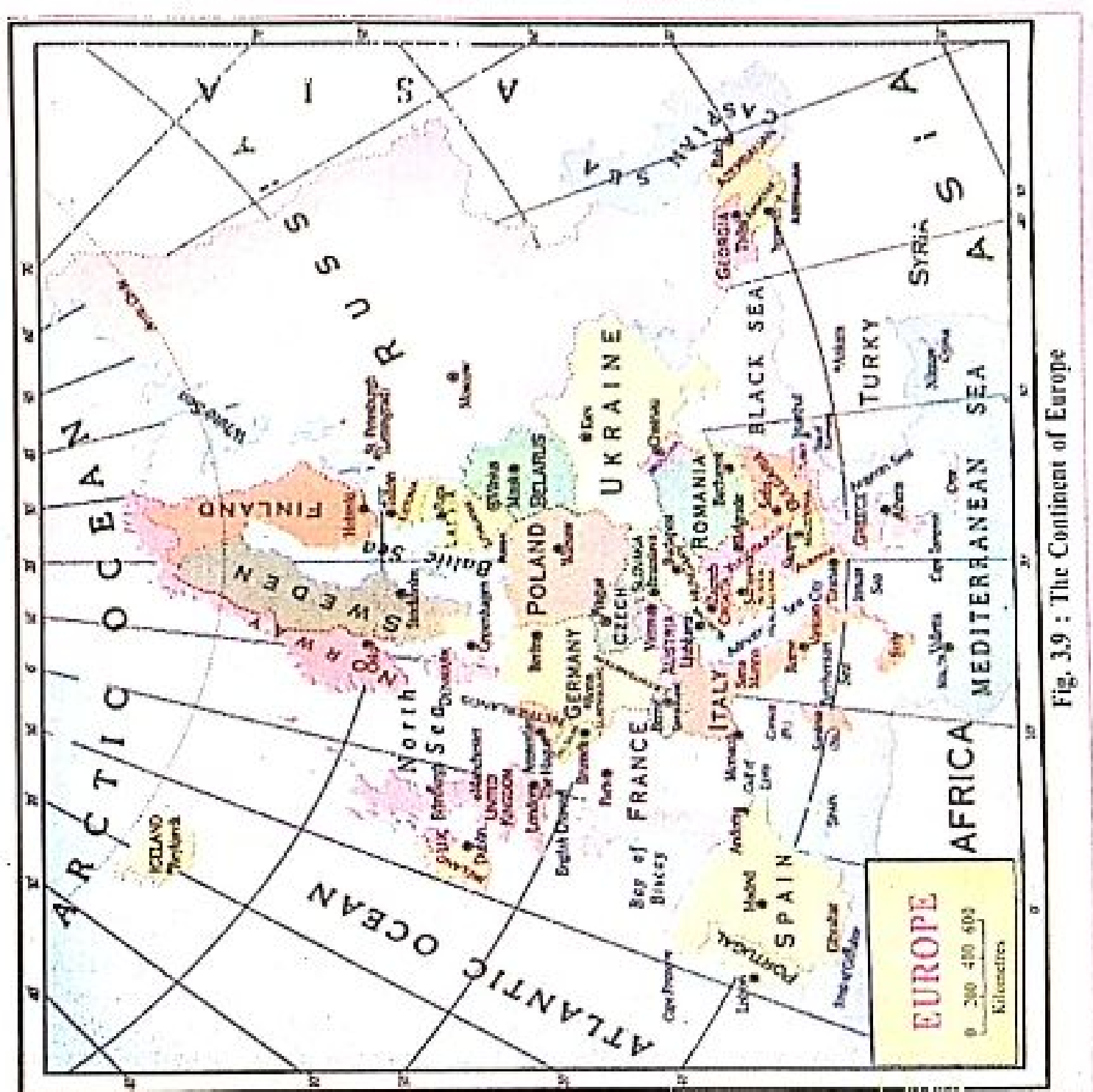


Fig. 3.9 : The Continent of Europe

north latitude in the north, and from  $10^{\circ}$  west longitude in the west to  $40^{\circ}$  east longitude in the east. Its geographical area is 10.9 million  $\text{km}^2$ , which constitutes 7.3 per cent of the earth's land area and three times the land area of India (Table 3.2).

It may be mentioned that the islands like British islands, Ireland, Iceland and Shetland in the Atlantic ocean; Crete, Sicily, Malta, Sardinia, Corsica and Balearic islands in the Mediterranean sea; and Gotland, Aland, Novaya, Zemlya, Svalbard and Greenland in the Arctic ocean are all under the continent of Europe. Europe is surrounded by the Arctic ocean on the north; the Mediterranean sea, Caspian sea and Black sea on the south; the continent of Asia on the east; and the Atlantic ocean on the west. It means that the continent of Europe is surrounded by seas and oceans from three sides (Fig. 3.9). Physically, the continent of Europe is separated from Asia by the Ural mountain range and the Ural river. According to the estimates of 2014, the population of Europe is 74 crores, which constitutes about 10.4 per cent of the world's total population. There are 44 countries in Europe.

The physiographic structure of Europe is very complex and diverse. In respect of physiography Europe can be broadly divided into two parts – northern part and southern part. The northern part which stretches from the coastal France on the west to the Ural mountain ranges on the east is almost a plain land. But, the southern part (from Spain to the Black sea) having covered with hills, mountains and plateaus is highly rugged. Among the mountain ranges of the southern Europe, the Alps, Pyrenees, Carpathian and Caucasus are worth mentioning. The 'Mount Albrus' peak (5,633 meter) of the Caucasus mountain range is the highest place of Europe. On the other hand, the highest peak of the Alps is 'Mount Blanc' (4,807 meter). Europe is full of rivers, lakes, etc. Among the rivers, Elbro of Spain; Rhone and Seine of France; Rhine and Elbe of Germany; Oder and Vistula of Poland; Danube of Austria, Hungary and Romania; Dnieper of Balarus and Ukraine; Po of Italy; Thames of the Great Britain; Don, Volga and Ural of Russia, etc are worth mentioning. Some of the important lakes of Europe are Onega, Ladoga, Sudskowe, Venarn, etc.

(3) **The Continent of Africa** : Africa is the second largest continent in the world. With an area of slightly more than 30 million  $\text{km}^2$  the continent of Africa covers about 20 per cent of the world's total land area (Table 3.2). The equator which passes almost through middle of continent divides it into two parts. Africa is located between  $37^{\circ}$  north latitude in the north to  $34^{\circ}$  south latitude in the south, and  $51^{\circ}$

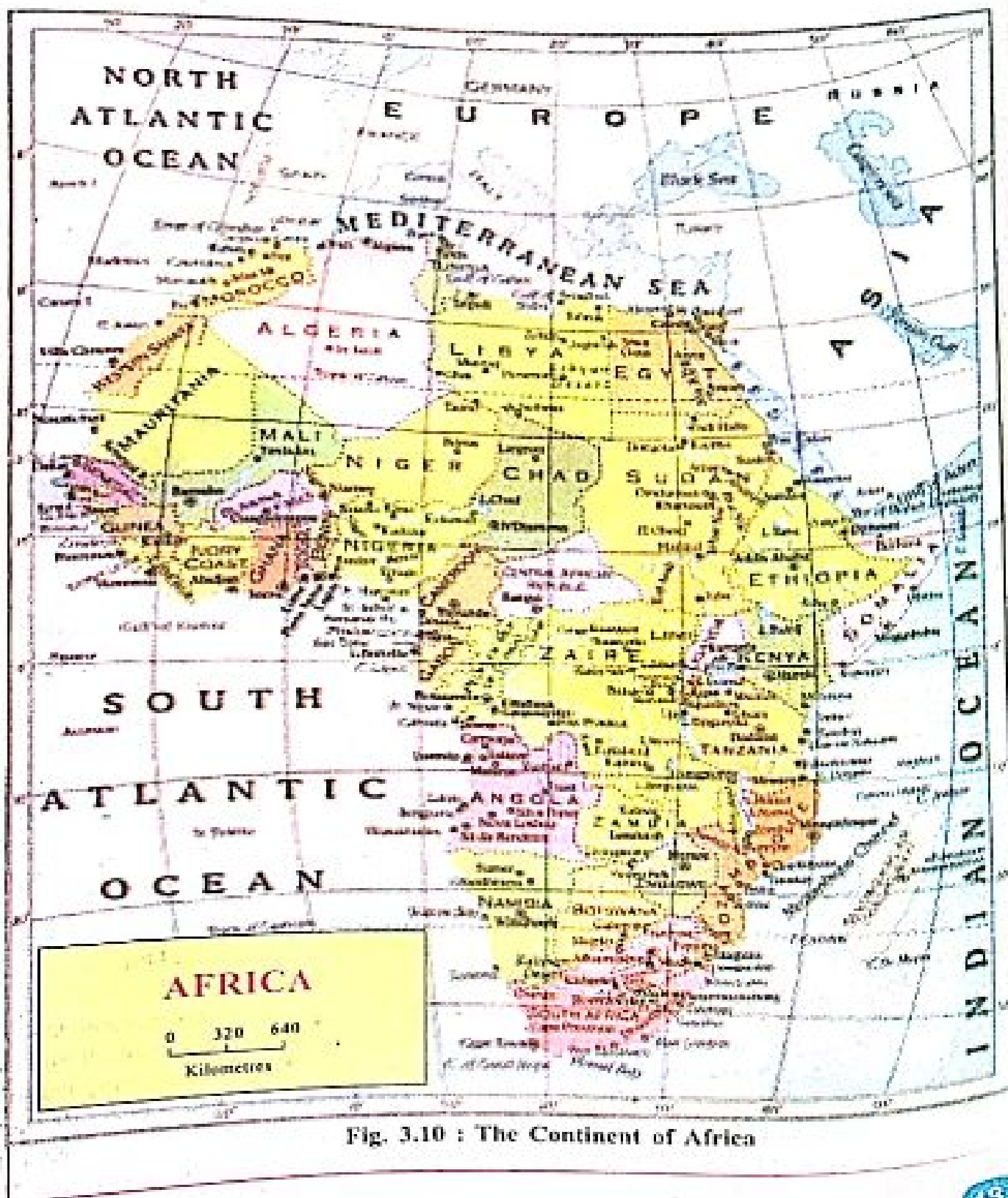


Fig. 3.10 : The Continent of Africa



east longitude in the east to 17° west longitude in the west. It is surrounded by the Mediterranean sea on the north; the Southern ocean on the south; the Indian ocean on the east; and the Atlantic ocean on the west (Fig. 3.10). With an area of 2.4 million km<sup>2</sup> Algeria is the largest country of the continent. As per estimates of 2014, the population of Africa is 11 crores. There are 53 countries in Africa.

Excluding the narrow coastal plains, the major part of the continent is a large plateau. There is no high mountain range in Africa. Of course, the small patches of highlands scattered throughout the continent have made its topography rugged. The Kilimanjaro peak (5,895 meter) located on the east is the highest place of the continent. Among the highlands of Africa, the Atlas mountain of northern fringe, the Ethiopian highland of north-eastern fringe, the Adamawa highland of western fringe, Drakensberg highland of South Africa, etc are worth mentioning. The continent is full of rivers and lakes. Apart from the world's longest river Nile, its other main rivers include Congo (Zaire), Niger, Zambezi, Orange, Limpopo, Volta, Senegal, Chive Ogu, Lurio, Luangwa, Kaledon, etc. Among the lakes, Victoria, Albert, Tanganyika, Chad, Volta, Nyasa, Cabora Bassa, Malawi, Turkana, Kivu, Kochow, Abbe, etc are worth mentioning. Besides the world's largest Sahara desert, the Kalahari and Namibia deserts are also located in Africa.

(4) **The Continent of North America :** North America is the world's third largest continent. Its land area is 24.3 million km<sup>2</sup>, which constitutes 16.3 per cent of the world's land area (Table 3.2). As this continent is located on the north of South America and also in the northern hemisphere, it is called North America. This continent extends from 7° north latitude on the south to 83° north latitude on the north, and from 50° west longitude on the east to 168° west longitude on the west. The continent of North America is surrounded by the Northern ocean on the north; South America, Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific ocean on the south; the Atlantic ocean on the east; and the Bering sea, Bering strait and the Pacific ocean on the west (Fig. 3.11). Along with Canada, United States of America and Mexico; Guatemala, Costa Rica, Panama, etc of the central America; and Cuba, Jamaica, Bahama, Dominican Republic, etc of the Caribbean islands there are altogether 23 countries in North America. The world's second largest country Canada is the largest country in North America. As per 2014 estimates the total population of North America is 565 million.

The physiographic character of North America is highly diverse. Its highest place is McKinley peak (6,194 meter) and lowest place is

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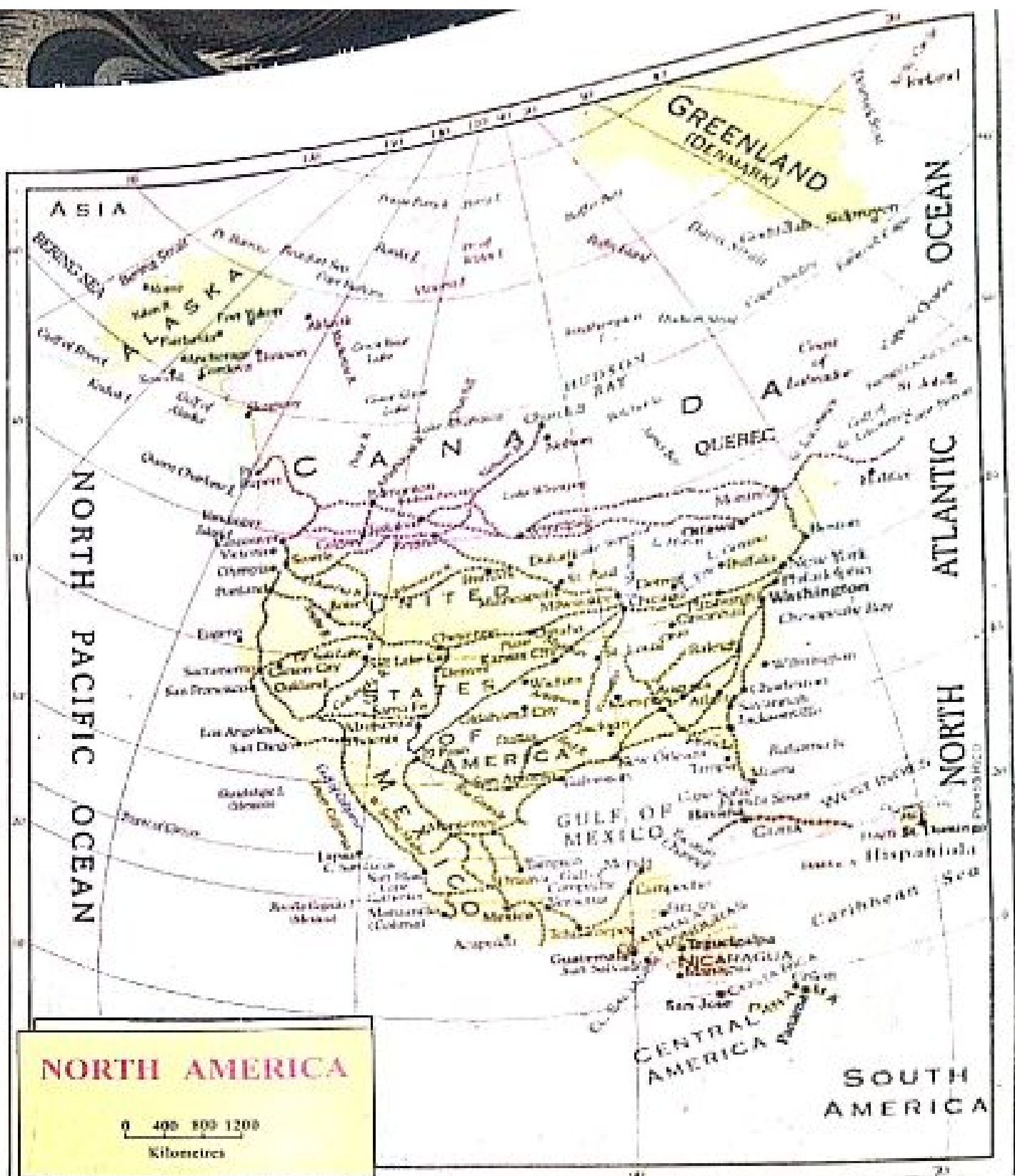


Fig. 3.11 : The Continent of North America

Death Valley (86 meter below sea level). The western and eastern parts of the continent are hilly and mountainous in north-south direction. On the other hand, the remaining part of the continent is covered with high and low land plains. On the basis of physiographic character North America can be mainly divided into four divisions- (1) Rocky mountainous region, (2) Great upland plain region, (3) Appalachian Highland region, and (4) Coastal lowland plains. The Rocky mountainous region consisting of the lofty young folded mountain ranges is located in the western part of North America from Alaska to Mexico in north-south direction. Besides, the coastal west is characterized by the mountain ranges like Cascade, Sierra Nevada and Coast-range, and the eastern part extending from Newfoundland in the north to Florida in the south being characterized by hills and mountains, narrow valleys, fragmented plateaus, etc forms the rugged Appalachian highlands. The Alleghany and Blue Ridge mountains are located in the southern part of this region. There is a wide plain land of the Atlantic coast located on the east of Appalachian highlands stretching from Nova Scotia in the north to Panama in the south. Along the western coast of the continent there is a narrow California coastal plain. Besides, there are innumerable small and large islands in the north, south-east and western parts of the continent.

There are many rivers and lakes in North America. Among the rivers, Missouri, Mississippi, Yukon, Mackenzie, Rio Grande, Red, Arkansas, Colorado, Colombia, Snake, Ohio, Tennessee, Hudson, St. Lawrence, etc are worth mentioning. On the other hand, the major lakes of the continent include Superior, Huron, Michigan, Erie, Ontario, Great Bear, Great Slave, Winnipeg and Great Salt. There is a desert-like area in the south-western part of the continent called Colorado.

**(5) The Continent of South America :** The continent located just on the south of North America is South America. It is located between  $12^{\circ}$  north latitude on the north to  $55^{\circ}$  south latitude on the south and  $35^{\circ}$  west longitude on the east to  $81^{\circ}$  west longitude on the west. The shape of this continent is like a reversed triangle. It means its northern part very wide and southern part is very narrow. The geographical area of the continent is about 18 million  $\text{km}^2$ , which is 11.9 per cent of the world's land area (Table 3.2). The continent of South America is surrounded by North America and Caribbean sea on the north; the Southern ocean on the south; the Atlantic ocean on the east; and the Pacific ocean on the west. With Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Chile, etc there are altogether 12 countries in South America.

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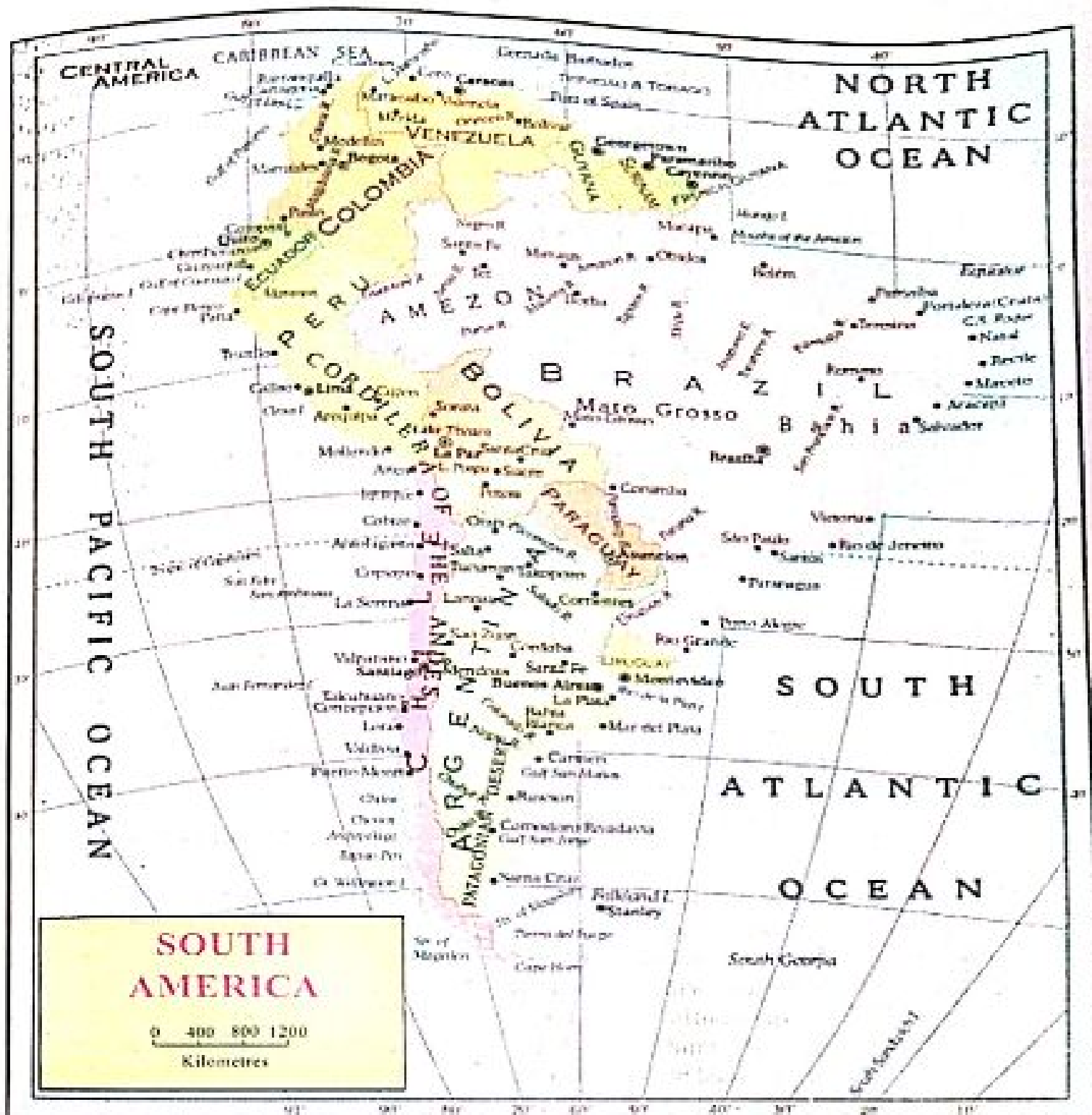


Fig. 3.12 : The Continent of South America

The world's fifth largest country Brazil is the largest country of South America (Fig. 3.12). According to 2014 estimates, the total population of South America is 407 million.

The physiographic character of South America is highly diverse. It contains almost all the landforms including high mountains, riverine plains, plateaus, coastal plains, islands, deserts, etc. The western part of South America is covered the high Andes folded mountain ranges in north-south direction from Panama Canal to Cape of Horn. It is worth mentioning that with a length of about 8,000 km it is the longest mountain system in the world. In respect of altitude also the position of Andes is just next to the Himalayas. Its highest peak is Aconcagua (7,020 meter). The great Brazilian plateau is located in the central-eastern part of the continent. On the other hand, Ecuador plateau and Parana-Patagonia plateau are located respectively in the northern and southern fringe areas of the Andes mountain system. Both the Pacific and Atlantic coastal plains of South America are narrow. Among the rivers of the continent, Orinico, Amazon, Parana, Paraguay, Uruguay, etc are worth mentioning. These rivers have created very large plains covering most part of the continent. It may be mentioned that the world's highest lake 'Titicaca' is also located in this continent. The Atacama hot desert and Patagonia temperate desert are located in the extremely rainless dry parts of the Andes mountain ranges.

(6) **The Continent of Oceania :** The continent of Oceania is formed by the great island of Australia and many other small and large islands located in the south-west Pacific ocean including New Zealand, Tasmania, New Guinea, etc. Located on the south of Asia this continent is completely a part of southern hemisphere. It roughly extends from 0° equator on the north to 48° south latitude on the south, and 180° longitude on the east to 113° east longitude on the west. The land area of this continent is about 8 million km<sup>2</sup>, which constitutes 5.4 per cent of the world's total land area (Table 3.2). Australia is the largest country of this smallest continent, and it is the sixth largest country of the world. The continent of Oceania is surrounded by the islands of Java, Sumatra, Celebes, etc of the South-East Asia and the Pacific ocean on the north; the Southern ocean on the south; the Pacific ocean on the east; and the Indian ocean on the west (Fig. 3.12). Along with Australia and New Zealand the continent of Oceania altogether has 14 countries. As per 2014 estimates, Oceania has about 38 million population.

Australia, the main land of Oceania, is an ancient plateau. It has narrow

coastal plains all around. The eastern part of Australia is a highland region formed by the Great Dividing Range and Snowy mountain. This region is known as the Australian Alps. The Murray and Darling rivers have created

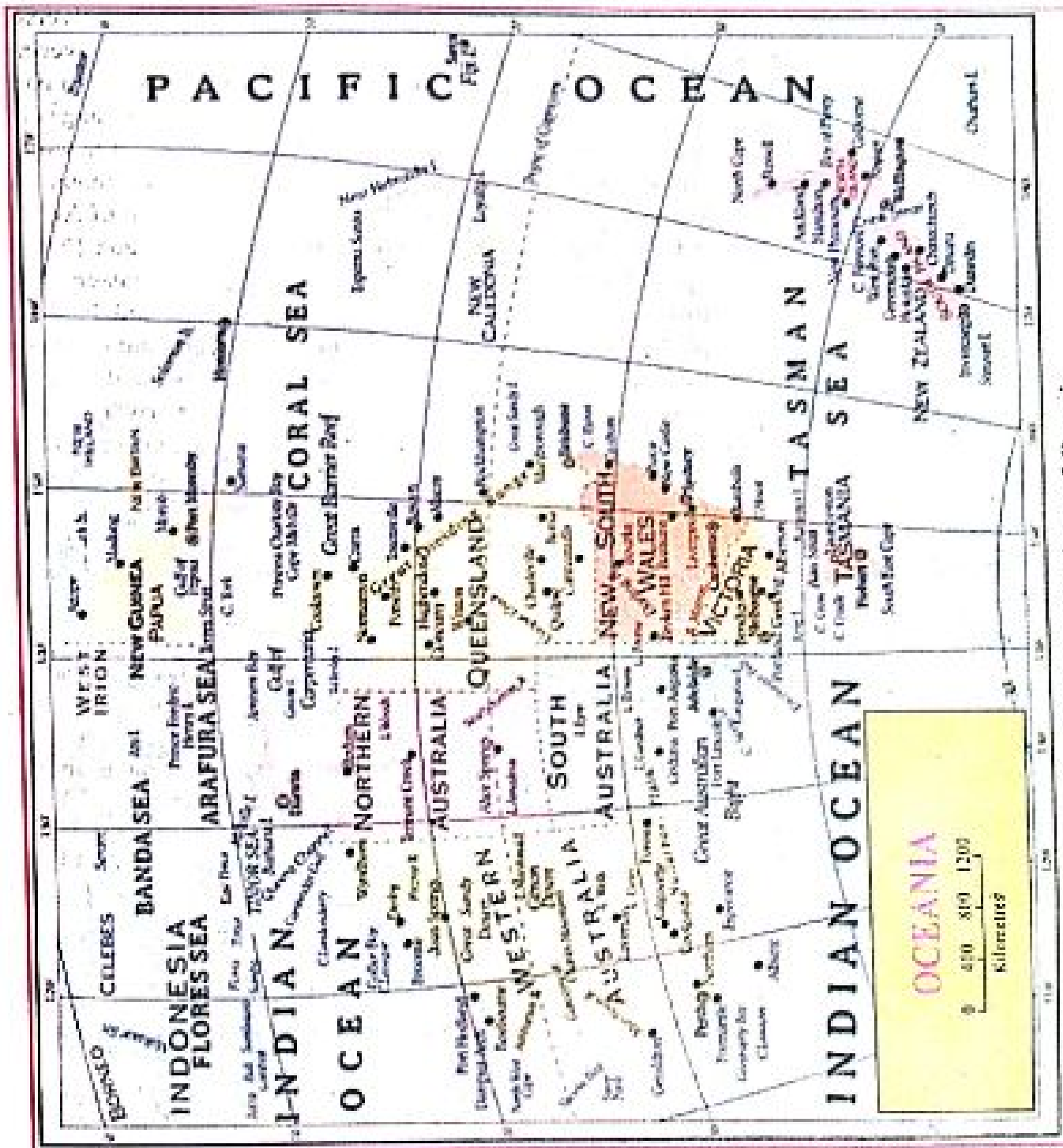


Fig. 3.13 : The Continent of Oceania



a great plain in the south-eastern part of Australia. Besides these two major rivers, the other important rivers of Australia are Balianka, Fitzroy, Flinders, Victoria, Sowan, etc. Among the lakes, Eyre, Barlee, Carnezic, Mackay, Carey, etc are worth mentioning. The western part of Australia is covered with a wide desert. Among the deserts of Australia, the Great Victoria, Great Sandy, Tanamy, Simpson, Gibson, Little Sandy, Tirarie, Pedirka, etc are important.

### 3.5 Countries of the World:

There are altogether 197 countries in the world. Among these, in terms of land area Russia is the largest country and Vatican city the smallest country in the world. On the other hand, with respect to population size, China is the most populous country and Vatican city the least populous country in the world. Again, out of all countries of the world, Asia has 51 countries, Europe 44, Africa 53, North America 23, South America 12 and Oceania 14. The list of countries under each continent is furnished below. In this list the capital, land area and population of each country is included.

**Table 3.3: Capital, Population and Area of the Countries of the World**

**(A) Capital, Population and Area of the Countries of the continent of Asia**

| Country Name   | Capital             | Population<br>(as per 2015<br>estimates) | Area<br>(In sq km) |
|----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | Kabul               | 3,22,47,000                              | 652,090            |
| 2. Armenia     | Yerevan             | 30,17,106                                | 29,800             |
| 3. Azerbaijan  | Baku                | 96,51,000                                | 86,600             |
| 4. Bahrain     | Manama              | 14,12,299                                | 694                |
| 5. Bangladesh  | Dhaka               | 16,04,11,000                             | 1,43,998           |
| 6. Bhutan      | Thimphu             | 7,57,000                                 | 47,000             |
| 7. Brunei      | Bandar Seri Begawan | 4,13,000                                 | 5,765              |
| 8. Cambodia    | Phnom Penh          | 1,54,17,100                              | 1,81,035           |
| 9. China       | Beijing             | 137,19,20,000                            | 95,96,961          |
| 10. Cyprus     | Nicosia             | 11,53,000                                | 3,355              |

| Country Name         | Capital         | Population<br>(as per 2015<br>estimate) | Area<br>(in sq km) |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 11. Georgia          | Tbilisi         | 38,04,000                               | 69,700             |
| 12. India            | New Delhi       | 131,40,97,616                           | 32,87,263          |
| 13. Indonesia        | Jakarta         | 255,74,19,73                            | 190,45,69          |
| 14. Iran             | Tehran          | 7,84,83,446                             | 1,64,81,95         |
| 15. Iraq             | Baghdad         | 3,70,56,000                             | 4,38,317           |
| 16. Israel           | Jerusalem       | 83,75,384                               | 22,145             |
| 17. Japan            | Tokyo           | 12,68,66,820                            | 3,77,873           |
| 18. Jordan           | Amman           | 81,10,000                               | 89,342             |
| 19. Kazakhstan       | Astana          | 1,75,44,274                             | 27,24,900          |
| 20. Korea, North     | Pyongyang       | 2,47,83,000                             | 1,20,538           |
| 21. Korea, South     | Seoul           | 5,07,13,867                             | 99,538             |
| 22. Kuwait           | Kuwait City     | 38,37,700                               | 17,818             |
| 23. Kyrgyzstan       | Bishkek         | 59,51,000                               | 1,99,900           |
| 24. Laos             | Vientiane       | 69,01,049                               | 2,36,800           |
| 25. Lebanon          | Beirut          | 61,85,000                               | 10,400             |
| 26. Malaysia         | Kuala Lumpur    | 3,07,88,840                             | 3,29,847           |
| 27. Maldives         | Malé            | 3,46,246                                | 298                |
| 28. Mongolia         | Ulaanbaatar     | 30,27,335                               | 15,64,116          |
| 29. Myanmar (Burma)  | Yangon          | 5,71,47,000                             | 6,76,578           |
| 30. Nagorno-Karabakh | Khankendi       | 1,43,000                                | 4,400              |
| 31. Nepal            | Kathmandu       | 2,30,39,000                             | 1,47,181           |
| 32. Oman             | Muscat          | 42,01,000                               | 3,09,500           |
| 33. Pakistan         | Islamabad       | 19,90,47,300                            | 7,96,095           |
| 34. Philippines      | Manila          | 10,29,65,300                            | 3,00,000           |
| 35. Qatar            | Doha            | 23,94,524                               | 11,000             |
| 36. Russia           | Moscow (Europe) | 14,43,02,000                            | 1,70,98,242        |
| 37. Saudi Arabia     | Riyadh          | 3,15,65,109                             | 21,49,690          |

| Country Name                            | Capital    | Population (approx. 2015 estimate) | Area (in sq km) |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 38. Singapore                           | Singapore  | 55,41,121                          | 699             |
| 39. South Ossetia                       | Tskhinvali | 70,000                             | 3,900           |
| 40. Sri Lanka                           | Colombo    | 2,08,68,800                        | 65,610          |
| 41. Syria                               | Damascus   | 1,70,65,000                        | 1,85,180        |
| 42. Taiwan (Republic of China)          | Taipei     | 2,34,68,000                        | 35,980          |
| 43. Tajikistan                          | Dushanbe   | 84,52,153                          | 1,43,100        |
| 44. Thailand                            | Bangkok    | 6,51,21,250                        | 5,13,115        |
| 45. Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus | Nicosia    | 2,64,172                           | 3,355           |
| 46. Turkmenistan                        | Ashgabat   | 53,73,000                          | 4,88,100        |
| 47. Uzbekistan                          | Tashkent   | 3,12,90,791                        | 4,47,400        |
| 48. Vietnam                             | Hanoi      | 9,17,14,080                        | 3,31,689        |
| 49. Yemen                               | Sana'a     | 2,67,37,000                        | 5,27,968        |
| 50. United Arab Emirates                | Abu Dhabi  | 95,77,000                          | 83,600          |
| 51. East Timor                          | DM         | 11,71,000                          | 14,874          |

**(B) Capital, Population and Area of the Countries of the continent of Europe :**

| Country Name              | Capital          | Population (approx. 2015 estimate) | Area (in sq km) |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Albania                | Tirana           | 28,92,000                          | 28,748          |
| 2. Andorra                | Andorra la Vella | 78,000                             | 468             |
| 3. Austria                | Vienna           | 86,15,955                          | 83,854          |
| 4. Belarus                | Minsk            | 95,24,247                          | 2,07,600        |
| 5. Belgium                | Brussels         | 1,12,11,064                        | 30,528          |
| 6. Bosnia and Herzegovina | Sarajevo         | 36,50,114                          | 51,197          |
| 7. Bulgaria               | Sofia            | 71,81,000                          | 1,10,912        |
| 8. Croatia                | Zagreb           | 44,25,000                          | 56,538          |

| Country Name      | Capital         | Population<br>(in per 2015<br>in lakhs) | Area<br>(in sq km) |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 9. Czech Republic | Prague          | 1,05,51,227                             | 78,866             |
| 10. Denmark       | Copenhagen      | 56,76,025                               | 43,094             |
| 11. Estonia       | Tallinn         | 13,40,504                               | 45,100             |
| 12. Finland       | Helsinki        | 54,76,031                               | 3,38,145           |
| 13. France        | Paris           | 6,43,46,720                             | 5,51,500           |
| 14. Germany       | Berlin          | 8,11,32,000                             | 3,57,022           |
| 15. Greece        | Athens          | 1,15,20,785                             | 1,31,957           |
| 16. Hungary       | Budapest        | 1,08,33,030                             | 93,032             |
| 17. Iceland       | Reykjavik       | 1,30,873                                | 1,03,000           |
| 18. Ireland       | Dublin          | 46,30,308                               | 70,273             |
| 19. Italy         | Rome            | 6,24,66,780                             | 3,01,318           |
| 20. Latvia        | Riga            | 21,78,454                               | 64,600             |
| 21. Liechtenstein | Vaduz           | 37,570                                  | 160                |
| 22. Lithuania     | Vilnius         | 32,41,000                               | 65,300             |
| 23. Luxembourg    | Luxembourg City | 5,62,202                                | 2,586              |
| 24. Macedonia     | Skopje          | 20,70,100                               | 25,713             |
| 25. Malta         | Valletta        | 43,148                                  | 316                |
| 26. Moldova       | Chisinau        | 41,09,000                               | 33,851             |
| 27. Monaco        | Monaco          | 34,253                                  | 2                  |
| 28. Montenegro    | Podgorica       | 6,42,421                                | 14,026             |
| 29. Netherlands   | Amsterdam       | 1,69,42,373                             | 41,528             |
| 30. Norway        | Oslo            | 51,94,411                               | 3,85,155           |
| 31. Poland        | Warsaw          | 3,84,78,001                             | 3,12,685           |
| 32. Portugal      | Lisbon          | 1,03,49,000                             | 91,982             |
| 33. Romania       | Bucharest       | 2,18,38,000                             | 2,38,391           |
| 34. San Marino    | San Marino      | 33,000                                  | 61                 |
| 35. Serbia        | Belgrade        | 73,97,190                               | 88,361             |

*Environment and Environmental Problems*

| Country Name       | Capital      | Population<br>(As per 2015<br>estimates) | Area<br>(in sq km) |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 36. Slovakia       | Bratislava   | 54,24,051                                | 49,033             |
| 37. Slovenia       | Ljubljana    | 20,64,000                                | 20,256             |
| 38. Spain          | Madrid       | 4,63,68,000                              | 5,05,992           |
| 39. Sweden         | Stockholm    | 98,04,792                                | 4,49,964           |
| 40. Switzerland    | Bern         | 82,92,451                                | 41,284             |
| 41. Turkey         | Ankara       | 7,82,15,000                              | 7,83,562           |
| 42. Ukraine        | Kyiv         | 4,58,28,000                              | 6,03,700           |
| 43. United Kingdom | London       | 6,50,92,000                              | 2,42,900           |
| 44. Vatican City   | Vatican City | 800                                      | 0.44               |

(C) Capital, Population and Area of the Countries of the continent of Africa :

| Country Name                             | Capital       | Population<br>(As per 2015<br>estimates) | Area<br>(in sq km) |
|------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Algeria                               | Algiers       | 3,99,48,000                              | 23,81,741          |
| 2. Angola                                | Luanda        | 15,941,390                               | 12,46,700          |
| 3. Benin                                 | Cotonou       | 1,05,83,000                              | 1,12,622           |
| 4. Botswana                              | Gaborone      | 21,39,000                                | 5,81,730           |
| 5. Burkina Faso                          | Ouagadougou   | 1,54,50,000                              | 2,74,000           |
| 6. Burundi                               | Bujumbura     | 97,42,000                                | 27,834             |
| 7. Cameroon                              | Yaoundé       | 2,37,39,000                              | 4,75,442           |
| 8. Cape Verde                            | Praia         | 5,14,000                                 | 4,033              |
| 9. Central African Republic              | Bangui        | 55,51,900                                | 6,22,984           |
| 10. Chad                                 | N'Djamena     | 1,17,07,000                              | 12,84,000          |
| 11. Comoros                              | Moroni        | 797,900                                  | 2,235              |
| 12. Congo, Democratic<br>Republic of the | Kinshasa      | 673,40,200                               | 23,44,858          |
| 13. Congo, Republic of the               | Brazzaville   | 3,798,900                                | 3,42,000           |
| 14. Djibouti                             | Djibouti City | 8,79,000                                 | 23,200             |

| Country Name          | Capital      | Population<br>(as per 2015<br>estimates) | Area<br>(in sq.km) |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 15. Egypt             | Cairo        | 8,90,74,000                              | 9,97,677           |
| 16. Equatorial Guinea | Malabo       | 6,93,000                                 | 28,051             |
| 17. Eritrea           | Asmara       | 52,00,000                                | 1,17,600           |
| 18. Ethiopia          | Addis Ababa  | 9,81,48,700                              | 11,04,300          |
| 19. Gabon             | Libreville   | 17,51,000                                | 2,67,668           |
| 20. Gambia            | Banjul       | 19,51,000                                | 11,295             |
| 21. Ghana             | Accra        | 2,76,72,000                              | 2,38,533           |
| 22. Guinea            | Conakry      | 94,02,098                                | 2,45,857           |
| 23. Guinea-Bissau     | Bissau       | 17,88,000                                | 36,125             |
| 24. Ivory Coast       | Abidjan      | 1,81,53,870                              | 322,463            |
| 25. Kenya             | Nairobi      | 4,43,06,000                              | 5,80,367           |
| 26. Lesotho           | Maseru       | 19,24,381                                | 30,355             |
| 27. Liberia           | Monrovia     | 45,03,000                                | 1,11,369           |
| 28. Libya             | Tripoli      | 63,17,000                                | 17,59,540          |
| 29. Madagascar        | Antananarivo | 2,30,47,400                              | 5,87,041           |
| 30. Malawi            | Lilongwe     | 1,51,74,000                              | 1,18,484           |
| 31. Mali              | Bamako       | 1,67,49,000                              | 12,40,192          |
| 32. Mauritania        | Nouakchott   | 36,41,000                                | 10,25,520          |
| 33. Mauritius         | Port Louis   | 12,62,660                                | 2,040              |
| 34. Morocco           | Rabat        | 3,41,21,000                              | 4,46,550           |
| 35. Mozambique        | Maputo       | 2,57,36,000                              | 8,01,590           |
| 36. Namibia           | Windhoek     | 24,82,100                                | 8,24,292           |
| 37. Niger             | Niamcy       | 1,58,84,462                              | 12,67,000          |
| 38. Nigeria           | Abuja        | 18,18,39,400                             | 9,23,768           |
| 39. Rwanda            | Kigali       | 1,13,31,300                              | 26,338             |
| 40. Senegal           | Dakar        | 1,46,90,400                              | 1,96,722           |
| 41. Seychelles        | Victoria     | 92,833                                   | 455                |
| 42. Sierra Leone      | Freetown     | 65,02,960                                | 71,740             |

| Country Name     | Capital       | Population<br>(as per 2015<br>estimate) | Area<br>(in sq km) |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 43. Somalia      | Mogadishu     | 1,11,23,000                             | 6,37,657           |
| 44. South Africa | Bloufontein   | 5,50,41,000                             | 12,21,037          |
| 45. Sudan        | Khartoum      | 4,38,83,000                             | 25,05,813          |
| 46. Swaziland    | Lobamba       | 12,86,000                               | 17,364             |
| 47. Tanzania     | Dar es Salaam | 5,22,91,000                             | 9,45,087           |
| 48. Togo         | Lomé          | 72,31,000                               | 56,785             |
| 49. Tunisia      | Tunis         | 1,10,26,000                             | 1,63,610           |
| 50. Uganda       | Kampala       | 3,61,41,000                             | 2,41,038           |
| 51. Zambia       | Lusaka        | 1,44,73,900                             | 7,52,618           |
| 52. Zimbabwe     | Harare        | 1,73,54,000                             | 3,90,757           |
| 53. South Sudan  | Juba          | 1,13,00,000                             | 6,19,745           |

**(D) Capital, Population and Area of the Countries of the continent of North America :**

| Country Name           | Capital        | Population<br>(as per 2015<br>estimate) | Area<br>(in sq km) |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Antigua and Barbuda | St. John's     | 90,000                                  | 442                |
| 2. Bahamas             | Nassau         | 3,77,000                                | 13,878             |
| 3. Barbados            | Bridgetown     | 2,78,000                                | 430                |
| 4. Belize              | Belmopan       | 3,68,000                                | 22,966             |
| 5. Canada              | Ottawa         | 3,58,33,000                             | 99,70,610          |
| 6. Costa Rica          | San José       | 48,32,000                               | 51,100             |
| 7. Cuba                | Havana         | 1,11,39,000                             | 1,10,861           |
| 8. Dominica            | Roseau         | 78,000                                  | 751                |
| 9. Dominican Republic  | Santo Domingo  | 1,05,08,000                             | 48,671             |
| 10. El Salvador        | San Salvador   | 68,66,000                               | 21,041             |
| 11. Grenada            | St. George's   | 1,11,000                                | 344                |
| 12. Guatemala          | Guatemala City | 1,41,83,752                             | 1,08,889           |
| 13. Haiti              | Port-au-Prince | 1,09,24,000                             | 27,750             |



| Country Name                            | Capital          | Population<br>(as per 2015<br>estimate) | Area<br>(in sq km) |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 14. Honduras                            | Tegucigalpa      | 83,40,000                               | 1,12,088           |
| 15. Jamaica                             | Kingston         | 27,27,000                               | 10,991             |
| 16. Mexico                              | Mexico City      | 12,70,17,000                            | 19,58,201          |
| 17. Nicaragua                           | Managua          | 62,62,000                               | 1,30,000           |
| 18. Panama                              | Panama City      | 39,80,000                               | 75,517             |
| 19. Saint Kitts and Nevis               | Basseterre       | 42,696                                  | 261                |
| 20. Saint Lucia                         | Castries         | 1,75,000                                | 539                |
| 21. Saint Vincent and<br>the Grenadines | Kingstown        | 1,20,000                                | 388                |
| 22. Trinidad and Tobago                 | Port of Spain    | 13,51,000                               | 5,130              |
| 23. United States                       | Washington, D.C. | 32,12,34,172                            | 96,29,091          |

**(E) Capital, Population and Area of the Countries of the continent of South America :**

| Country Name  | Capital      | Population<br>(as per 2015<br>estimate) | Area<br>(in sq km) |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Argentina  | Buenos Aires | 42,4,26,000                             | 27,80,400          |
| 2. Bolivia    | La Paz       | 10,4,73,400                             | 10,98,581          |
| 3. Brazil     | Brasília     | 20,43,19,398                            | 85,14,877          |
| 4. Chile      | Santiago     | 1,80,23,000                             | 7,56,096           |
| 5. Colombia   | Bogotá       | 4,82,18,000                             | 11,38,914          |
| 6. Ecuador    | Quito        | 1,72,79,000                             | 2,83,561           |
| 7. Guyana     | Georgetown   | 753,000                                 | 2,14,969           |
| 8. Paraguay   | Asunción     | 70,20,000                               | 4,06,752           |
| 9. Peru       | Lima         | 3,11,51,643                             | 12,85,216          |
| 10. Uruguay   | Montevideo   | 35,62,000                               | 1,75,016           |
| 11. Venezuela | Caracas      | 3,06,20,000                             | 9,12,050           |
| 12. Suriname  | Paramaribo   | 5,76,000                                | 1,63,820           |

**(F) Capital, Population and Area of the Countries of the continent of Oceania :**

| Country Name                          | Capital        | Population<br>(as per 2015<br>estimates) | Area<br>(in sq km) |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Australia                          | Canberra       | 2,38,88,000                              | 77,41,220          |
| 2. Fiji                               | Suva           | 867,000                                  | 18,274             |
| 3. Kiribati                           | South Tarawa   | 1,13,400                                 | 726                |
| 4. Marshall Islands                   | Majuro         | 81,000                                   | 181                |
| 5. Micronesia,<br>Federated States of | Palikir        | 110,487                                  | 702                |
| 6. Nauru                              | Yaren District | 13,635                                   | 21                 |
| 7. New Zealand                        | Wellington     | 45,98,066                                | 2,70,534           |
| 8. Palau                              | Melekeok       | 19,949                                   | 459                |
| 9. Papua New Guinea                   | Port Moresby   | 77,44,600                                | 4,62,840           |
| 10. Samoa                             | Apia           | 1,94,210                                 | 2,831              |
| 11. Solomon Islands                   | Honiara        | 6,41,900                                 | 28,896             |
| 12. Tuvalu                            | Funafuti       | 11,800                                   | 26                 |
| 13. Vanuatu                           | Port Vila      | 2,77,500                                 | 12,189             |
| 14. Tonga                             | Nuku'alofa     | 103,300                                  | 747                |

## SUMMARY

- ☞ The total surface area of the earth is 510 million km<sup>2</sup>. Its 29 per cent is covered by land (Lithosphere) and 71 per cent by water (Hydrosphere)
- ☞ The lithosphere of the earth is formed by the continents like Asia, Europe, Africa, North America, South America, Oceania and Antarctica. Among these Asia is the largest continent. The continent of Antarctica does not have any permanent human settlement.
- ☞ The hydrosphere of the earth is formed by the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Southern oceans. Among these the Pacific Ocean is the largest.
- ☞ According to the estimates of 2015 the total population of the world is 730 crores.
- ☞ The ocean floor is rugged. The floor of the oceans has landforms like ridge, canyon,

oceanic hill, trench, etc. The average depth of the oceans is about 4,000 meter. The Mariana Trench or Challenger Trench with depth 11,022 meter located in the Pacific Ocean floor is the deepest trench in the world.

The surface of the lithosphere is also made rugged by the hills and mountains, plateaus, plains, coastal plains, etc. The highest mountain range of the world is the Himalayas. It is located in Asia. The highest peak of this mountain range is the Everest and its height is 8,848 meter.

There are altogether 197 countries in the world. Among these countries, in terms of land area, Russia is the largest and Vatican City the smallest. In respect of population, China is the largest and Vatican City the smallest.

## EXERCISE

1. Write in brief about the earth's lithosphere and hydrosphere.
2. How was the earth in the early days according to the Continental Drift Theory?
3. Write briefly about the topography of the ocean floor.
4. Write briefly about the distribution of oceans and continents.
5. Write in short about the landforms present on the earth's land surface.
6. Briefly discuss the physical characteristics of Asia.
7. Give your answer with reasons:
  - (a) Why do 90 per cent of the world's total population concentrate in the northern hemisphere?
  - (b) What is the reason behind lack of permanent human settlement in Antarctica?
8. Give short answer to the following questions:
  - (a) Which has created a natural boundary between Asia and Europe?
  - (b) Which is the longest mountain range of the world and where it is located?
  - (c) In terms of land area which are the largest and smallest countries of the world?
  - (d) Which country of the world is spread to two continents?
  - (e) In terms of population which are the largest and smallest countries of the world?
  - (f) What is the name of the major mountain range of North America? In which part of the continent is it located?
  - (g) Which is the world's largest desert and where is it located?
  - (h) Write the names of two northerly and two easterly rivers of Asia.

- (i) Write the names of one each of major mountain range, river and desert of Australia.
- (j) Write the names of three countries of Europe located in the Mediterranean region.
9. Write short notes:
- |                                     |                                |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (a) Pangaea                         | (b) Arctic Ocean               |
| (c) The Continent of Oceania        | (d) The rivers of Asia         |
| (e) The lakes of Africa             | (f) The rivers of Europe       |
| (g) The Appalachian Highland Region | (h) The lakes of North America |
10. Write the differences between:
- Continental shelf and Continental slope
  - Everest Peak and Godwin Austin Peak
  - The Continent of Oceania and the Continent of Antarctica
  - Gobi desert and Atacama desert
11. Choose the correct answer:
- Which is the world's second largest ocean?  
 (1) Pacific Ocean  
 (2) Indian Ocean  
 (3) Atlantic Ocean  
 (4) Southern Ocean
  - Which is smallest continent of the world?  
 (1) North America  
 (2) Europe  
 (3) Antarctica  
 (4) Oceania
  - In which ocean Falkland island is located?  
 (1) Atlantic Ocean  
 (2) Arctic Ocean  
 (3) Pacific Ocean  
 (4) Indian Ocean
  - Which sea has separated the continents of Asia and Africa?  
 (1) Mediterranean Sea  
 (2) Red Sea  
 (3) Caspian Sea  
 (4) Arabian Sea
  - What has naturally separated Asia from Europe?  
 (1) Ural mountain range  
 (2) Caucasus mountain  
 (3) Caspian Sea  
 (4) Volga river
  - In which continent is Ecuador located?  
 (1) North America  
 (2) South America  
 (3) Africa  
 (4) Asia
  - What is the capital of Brazil?  
 (1) Rio de Janeiro  
 (2) Sao Paulo  
 (3) Brasilia  
 (4) Lima