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FOUNDERS OF MODERN GEOGRAPHY * RICHARD HARTSHORNE (1899-1992)*

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Abstract: Richard Hartshorn was a 20th century Geographer. His contribution is in the nature of Geography, Philosophy of Geography, and also contributed in the methodology of Geography study. He published two major books in 1939 and 1959. So he has become a great geographer in 20th century. The name of first publication is "Nature of Geography" and name of second publication is "Perspectives on the nature of Geography".

Key words: Richard Hartshorn ,nature of Geography, Philosophy of Geography.

1)INTRODUCTION:

The publication of these two books which is the very fundamental in the study of Geography. A clear understanding of the nature and purpose of geography was an essential prerequisite for geographic study. These are the words of Richard Hartshorn.

2) LIFE AND EDUCATION:-

Richard Hartshorne is the modern Geographer in 20th century. He has devoted his whole life to geography. Therefore Richard Hartshorne obtains the vital place among the world of geographers. Therefore the study of the Geographic development is incomplete without consideration of the contribution of Harshorne. He was made many major contributions in field of modern Geography. He was born in 12 December in 1899 in Pensilvania in U.S.A.

He came from rural area. He had four brothers and one sister. After completing the school education, he entered the Princeton University of USA and obtained his graduate degree in mathematics. Besides mathematics he studied other subjects like philosophy, History, Literature. He delivered a speech in one seminar in Princeton University in USA. He read a book written by Professor Hantington title of "Pulse of Asia". He turned towards the study of geography after studying this book, he entered in Chicago University of USA. He then made the special study of geography. He studied the Human Geography under the guidance of Semple. He also studies political geography.

In 1924 he obtained his PhD degree of Chicago University in USA. Title of his thesis is "Transportation in Great Lakes of USA". After the PhD degree he entered Minnesota University in USA in 1927 to 1940. He started his career of a teacher. He became the professor of geography in 1940. He left this university and he jointed the Wisconsin University of USA in 1940 to 1970, as Professor of Geography. When he was in these two universities, he retired

in 1970. He was mainly interested in the field of Economic Geography.

3) CONTRIBUTION:-

Richard Hartshorne has contributed to many branches of geographic branches which is as follows.

I) Economic Geography:-

His basic research has been in the field of Economic Geography. He contributed in field of economic geography. He was teaching economic geography in the university. He has developed various economic concepts in the field of economic geography.

II) Political Geography:-

After economic geography, he was interested in study of political geography also. He contributed many research articles and book in the field of economic and political geography.

In 1933 and 1935, he published the book on political geography. In 1936 another book published on political geography.

III) GEOGRAPHIC METHODOLOGY:-

In 1934, he expressed his views and ideas about the geographic methodology. He published two research articles in 1934 and 1935 on geographic methodology. First one was "teaching in geography objectives" and second is "methodology of political geography". In this connection, he went to European countries. He discusses the European geographers. He studied the geography of France, Great Britain and Germany. Based on this experience he studied in many books in Germany, France University. He met many senior geographers and discussed the philosophy and methodology of geography.

IV) PUBLICATION:-

He contributed in field of nature of geography. He published books titled "The Nature of Geography". He published another revised edition in 1959 "The Perspectives on the Nature of Geography". The second book was translated in many languages in the world. In this second book, he defined the definition of geography as, "Geography is a study of aerial differentiation". So in this way Richard Hartshorne is publication is very important in the field of geography.

V) VIEWS ON DUALISM IN GEOGRAPHY:-

There are two groups of the Geographer in the world, Physical and Human. The group of geographer, they are against the division of geography in to physical and human. The Hartshorn is against the division of many branches. We cannot understand geography by making the division in physical and human. We cannot divide it in physical and human. We cannot divide it in regional and systematic geography. They are the methods of the study of geography, and geography is one subject. The physical and human are interdependent on each other. Man also changes in physical environment.

VI) VIEWS ON HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY:-

Richard Hartshorne says that the study of History and Geography are closely related to each other. In geographic studies the aerial differentiation concept is most important. The history makes the temporal study. History considers the time period. Geography has been considers an area. The changes and development in different time periods are also studied in geography.

4) SUMMARY:-

Professor Hetner was greatly impressed the contribution of Hartshorne. For this contribution Hartshorne got many honorary degrees. He has got medals in USA and European University. The Royal Geographical Society of London also noticed his contribution. He is also called as a founder of modern geographical thought.

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