

**CARL RITTER (1779-1859) & HIS**  
**CONTRIBUTION TO GEOGRAPHY AS A**  
**DISCIPLINE**

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**time-12.30pm -1.30pm }**

# MAIN TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- A. EARLY LIFE .
- B. CONCEPT OF IDEA OF UNITY OF NATURE.
- C. CONCEPT OF “ERDKUNDE”.
- D. GEOGRAPHICAL IDEAS OF RITTER AND HIS METHODS.
- E. EVALUATION OF RITTER’S CONTRIBUTION.

# EARLY LIFE

- 1. INFLUNCE OF IDEAS OF ROUSSEAU & PESTALOZZI.
- 2. CONCEPTS DEVELOPED ON THE BASIS OF OBSERVATIONS.
- 3. INFLUNCE OF SCHOOL SYSTEM DEVELOPED BY SALZAMANN.
- 4. UNIVERSITY OF FRANKFURT & UNIVERSITY OF GOTTINGEN.
- 5. MEETING WITH ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT IN 1807.

# CONCEPT OF IDEA OF UNITY OF NATURE

- 1. IDEA OF UNITY OF NATURE WHICH BECAME BASIC THEME OF RITTER'S GEOGRAPHICAL SCHOLARSHIP.
- 2. EMPHASIZE ON FIELD TRIPS.
- 3. OBSERVATIONAL METHODS OF NATURE STUDY.
- 4. SUBJECT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH HISTORY & GEOLOGY.

# CONCEPT OF “ERDKUNDE”

- 1. “HANDBUCH DER PHYSISCHEN GEOGRAPHIE” (1810).
- 2. “ERDKUNDE” (2 VOLUMES) ( 1817-18).
- 3. “ERDKUNDE” ( 19 VOLUMES) (1831-1859).
- 4. CONCEPT OF COMPARATIVE GEOGRAPHY.
- 5. IDEA OF “LOKALVERHALTNISSE” OR LOCAL CONDITIONS  
:
  - A. 1<sup>ST</sup> ATTRIBUTE= Topographical attribute,
  - B. 2<sup>ND</sup> ATTRIBUTE= Distribution & movements of water, sea & atmosphere: the bases of human life,
  - C. 3<sup>RD</sup> ATTRIBUTE= The material conditions described as the Geographical aspects of natural History.

# CONCEPT OF “ERDKUNDE”(2)

- 6. “CENTRAL PRINCIPLE OF GEOGRAPHY IS THE RELATION OF ALL PHENOMENA & FORMS OF NATURE TO THE HUMAN RACE ,EXAMINED & ORGANISED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF UNIQUE GEOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION OF LAND & MAN ON THE EARTH”S SURFACE” = it is “ERDKUNDE” .
  - 7. “GEOGRAPHY OF MAN ORIENTED OR ANTHROPOCENTRIC”.
  - 8. CONCEPT OF REGIONAL INDIVIDUALITY.
  - 9. CONCEPT OF “GANZHEIT” OR WHOLE
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- IDEAS  
of Kant &  
Zeune

# CHOROLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF “ERDKUNDE”

- 1. Africa (I) 1822
- 2. East Asia (II-VI) 1818–1836
- 3. West Asia (VII-XI) 1837–1844
- 4. Arabia (XII-XIII) 1846–1847
- 5. Sinai Peninsula (XIV-XVII) 1847–1848
- 6. Asia Minor (XVIII-XIX) 1850–1852
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# GEOGRAPHICAL IDEAS OF RITTER AND HIS METHODS.





# GEOGRAPHICAL IDEAS OF RITTER AND HIS METHODS (02)

- 1. **“NEW SCIENTIFIC GEOGRAPHY”.**
- 2. CONCEPT OF TERRESTRIAL OR SPATIAL UNITY (“RAUMBEGRIFF”).
- 3. CHOROLOGICAL PRINCIPLES.
- 4. “NATURE FOR ITS PRINCIPLES RATHER THAN TO EVOLVE A NATURAL DIVISIONS OF THE LANDS”.
- 5. “HORIZONTAL CONCEPT OF UNITY OF PARTICULAR AREAS”.
- 6. “ CONCEPT OF WHOLE”.
- 7. “GOD IS THE PLANNER OF THE UNIVERSE”.
- 8. GEOGRAPHICAL PHILOSOPHY OF TELEOLOGY.
- 9. ANTHROPOGENIC GEOGRAPHY.

# GEOGRAPHICAL IDEAS OF RITTER AND HIS METHODS (03)

- 10. LECTURES BEFORE THE BERLIN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE (1826 & 1850).
- 11. “LAW OF THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE PARTS OF EACH CONTINENT TO THE WHOLE”.
- 12. METHODOLOGY OF FACTS.
- 13. GEOGRAPHY AS EMPIRICAL SCIENCE (OBSERVATION TO OBSERVATION).
- 14. GENERAL COMPARATIVE GEOGRAPHY.
- 15. FOUNDER OF REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY.
- 16. CONCEPT OF “ERDTEILE”.
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# EVALUATION OF WORKS OF RITTER

- 1. CRITICISM OF TELEOLOGICAL STANDPOINT OF RITTER.
- 2. FOUNDATION OF THE HOLISTIC TRADITION.
- 3. RITTER'S INFLUNCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE METHODOLOGY OF GEOGRAPHY .
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THANK YOU

