

SIR HERBERT HOPE RISLEY'S RACIAL CLASSIFICATION OF INDIAN POPULATION

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Introduction

- The term '**RACE**' refers to the genetically transmitted physical characteristics of different human group.
- Human beings are grouped into three major races:
 - The Caucasoid Race: people of Europe, the Middle East and India
 - The Mongoloid Race: people of Japan, China, Nepal, Korea and Vietnamese
 - The Negroid Race: includes black African people, the American Negroes and their descendants.

Introduction...

- India is a huge crucible where racial admixture has been taking place since prehistoric times due to successive migration from central Asia therefore there are no pure races.
- According to A. Ahmad, 'Those who managed to drift into the isolated and remote parts of the sub-continent could preserve their original ethnic traits, which remained by and large unaffected by the fresh waves of incursions witnessed along the main corridor of movement connecting the Kabul Valley with the North Indian Plain'

Factors determining the racial differences

Climatic Changes

Hormonal Influence

Biological Mutation
& Selection

Racial Mixture or
Miscegenation

Races are determined on the basis of following characteristics:

Internal Characteristics

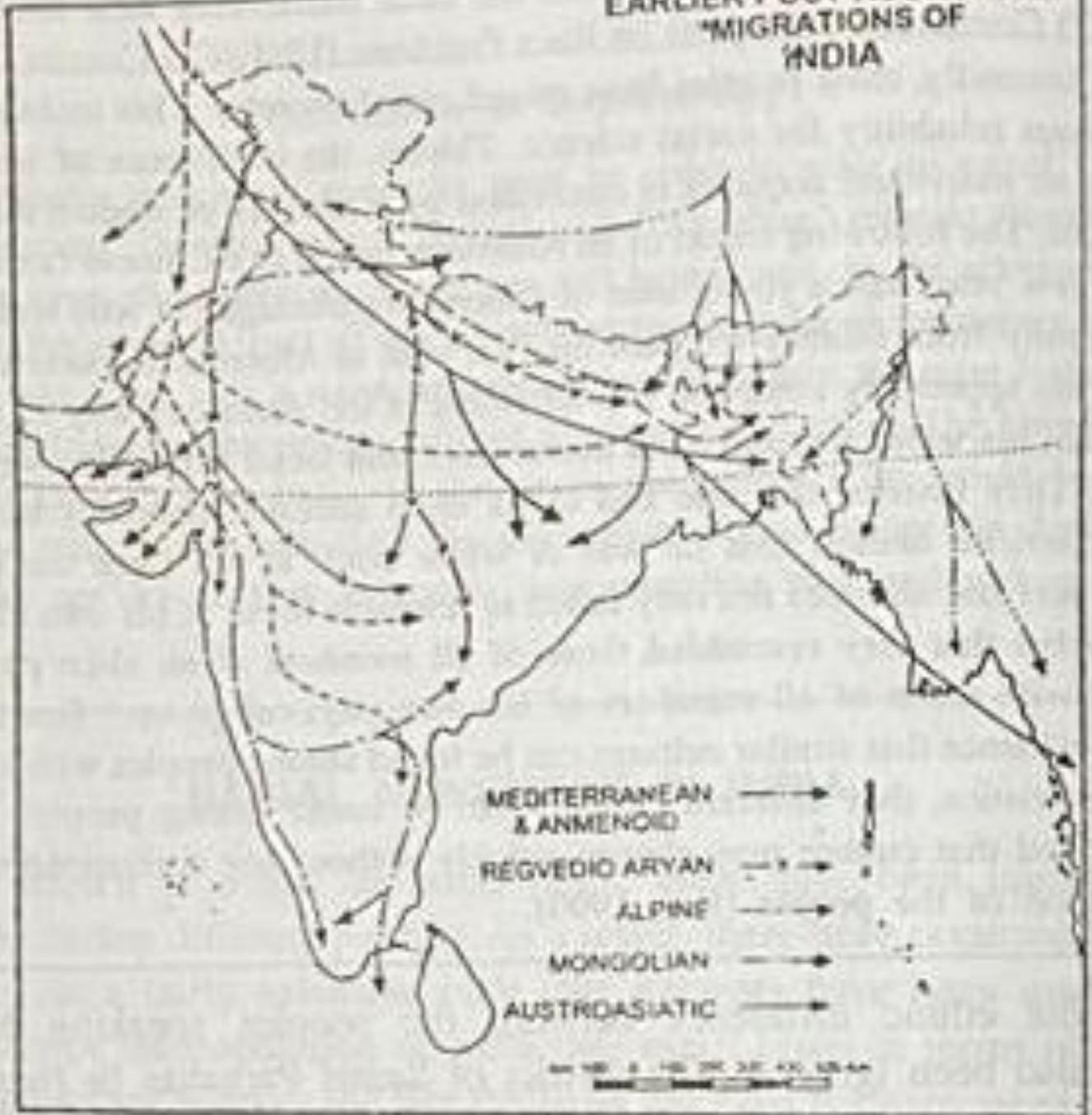
- Cephalic Index(head)
- Nasal Index(nose)
- Cranial Index(skull)
- Prognathism Index(jaw)
- Orbital Index(Eye)

External Characteristics

- Complexion
- Stature
- Shape of face
- Texture of Hair
- Blood Group

- Sir Herbert Risley was British anthropologist and physiognomist.
- Herbert Hope Risley was the Census Commissioner for India in 1901.
- He stated that the population of India consisted of seven basic types: Mongoloid, Dravidian, Indo-Aryans, Turko-Iranian, Mongolo-Dravidian, Aryo-Dravidian' Scytho-Dravidian.
- Risley's classification was revised and published in 'The People of India, 1908'
- Risley believed that the Mongoloid and Dravidian races were the original inhabitants of North East India and south India respectively.
- Scythians arrived from central Asia and swiped down the west coast and Aryans arrived shortly after.
- He also believed that the basic linguistic divisions of the Indian subcontinent could be tracked back to racial origins.

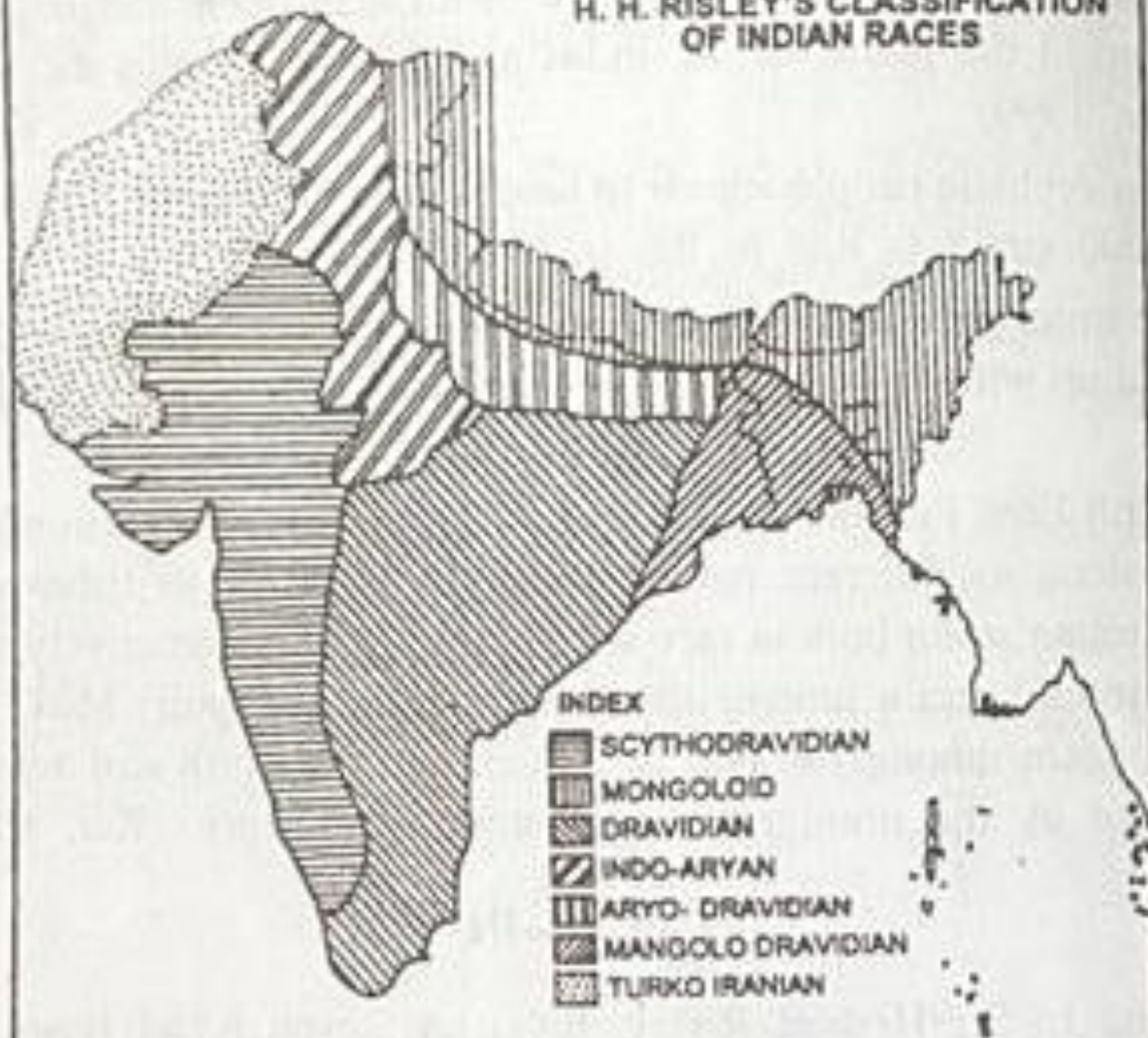
EARLIER POST-AUSTRALOID MIGRATIONS OF INDIA



According to Risley, India has Seven (7) Racial Types:

- The Turko-Iranian Type
 - The Indo-Aryan Type
 - The Scytho-Dravidian Type
 - The Aryo-Dravidian Type
 - The Mongolo- Dravidian Type
 - The Mongoloid Type
 - The Dravidian Type
- This classification has been rejected on the ground that these groups represent language groups and not races.

H. H. RISLEY'S CLASSIFICATION OF INDIAN RACES



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