CARTOGRAPHY

III B.SC GEOGRAPHÝ DATE: 19/10/2020 TIME: 11.30 TO 12.30

TOPIC : MAP SYMBOLIZATION DR.K.INDHIRA GUEST LECTURER DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY GOVERNMENT COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (A) KUMBAKONAM





## Introduction to maps







### What is a map?

- A generalized view of an area, usually some portion of Earth's surface, as seen from above at a greatly reduced size
- Any geographical image of the environment
- A two-dimensional representation of the spatial distribution of selected phenomena



### Why make maps?

- To represent a larger area than we can see
- To show a phenomenon or process we can't see with our eyes
- To present information concisely
- To show spatial relationships

### Represent a larger area



Show what we can't see



### Present info concisely



### Cholera and the Map



# Show spatial relationships

### How do we read maps?

- Maps are *selective* views of reality
- Size of the map relative to reality (scale)
- What's on the map (symbolization)
- Shape of the map (projection)



- Ratio of the distance on the map to the distance on the ground
- Scale is a fraction
- Larger area covered means larger denominator
- Larger denominator means smaller fraction
- So a *large-scale* map covers a small area







Small-scale

### Large-scale





• Ratio of the distance on the map to the distance on the ground

1. Graphic:



- Stays the same when photocopied
- Might not be right for the whole map



- 2. Verbal:1 inch equals 10 miles
- Easy to understand
- Can change if photocopied



# 3. Representative fraction or ratio: 1:24,000

- Units don't matter
- Can change if photocopied



### Map symbolization

- Symbols are a code instead of text
- Three kinds: point, line, area
- Consider shape, size, orientation, pattern, color, value

### Visual Variables



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### **Point symbols**

- Every symbol counts as one occurrence
- Qualitative points
  - Indicate location
  - Can also describe that location
- Quantitative points
  - Show a distribution
  - Indicate a value (graduated symbols)



### Indicate location Describe location





Walking Track - Well marked and usually benched \* boots not generally needed \* most waterways bridged \* for most fitness levels

### Tramping Track - Marked but not usually benched

- \* may be steep and rough in places \* some unbridged waterways
- \* boots advisable \* moderate fitness usually required



### Show a distribution





Map by: UIC Big City Teacher Preparation Initiative

### Indicate a value



### Line symbols

- One-dimensional
- Mostly taken for granted (borders, roads)
- Isolines connect same values
- Flow-line maps indicate value by width of line



### Isolines (Contour lines)



### Flow-line maps





### Area symbols

- Each territory or region has one value
- Differences in kind
- Differences in value
  - Choropleth maps
  - Usually, darker indicates more
- Cartograms distort area to show value

### Differences in kind



### Differences in kind



# Differences in value (Choropleth)



### The final result

Each state is sized according to the number of votes it has in the electoral college



### Cartogram

### Topographic maps

- Also called quadrangles
- Nearly 54,000 for the U.S.
- Done by the US Geological Survey (USGS) since 1897
- Map out the entire country in a standard fashion

## Topographic maps

- Till the 1940s, you climbed to the highest point and plotted what you could see from there
- Aerial photography after WWII
- Two overlapping photos are put in a stereoscope
- 10 photos for each 7.5 minute map

### Topographic maps

• Show 2D features, point, line and area; also show 3D via contour lines

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- Common symbols are in the appendix of the text
- Note the contour interval at the bottom of the map



## Map-reading exercise

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