



Dr. Jayachandran's

INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

SOUTH INDIA'S PREMIER INSTITUTION FOR
PUBLIC POLICY AND CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

GEOGRAPHY

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CLIMATIC REGIONS OF THE WORLD – PART 1

IN PART 1 DOCUMENT

Hot, Wet Equatorial Climate

Tropical Monsoon and Tropical Marine Climates

Savanna or Sudan climate

IN PART 2 DOCUMENT

Hot Desert and Mid-latitude Desert Climates

**Warm Temperate Western Margin (Mediterranean)
Climate**

Temperate Continental (Steppe) Climate

IN PART 3 DOCUMENT

Warm Temperate Eastern Margin (China Type) Climate

Cool Temperate Western Margin (British type) Climate

Cool Temperate Continental (Siberian) Climate

IN PART 4 DOCUMENT

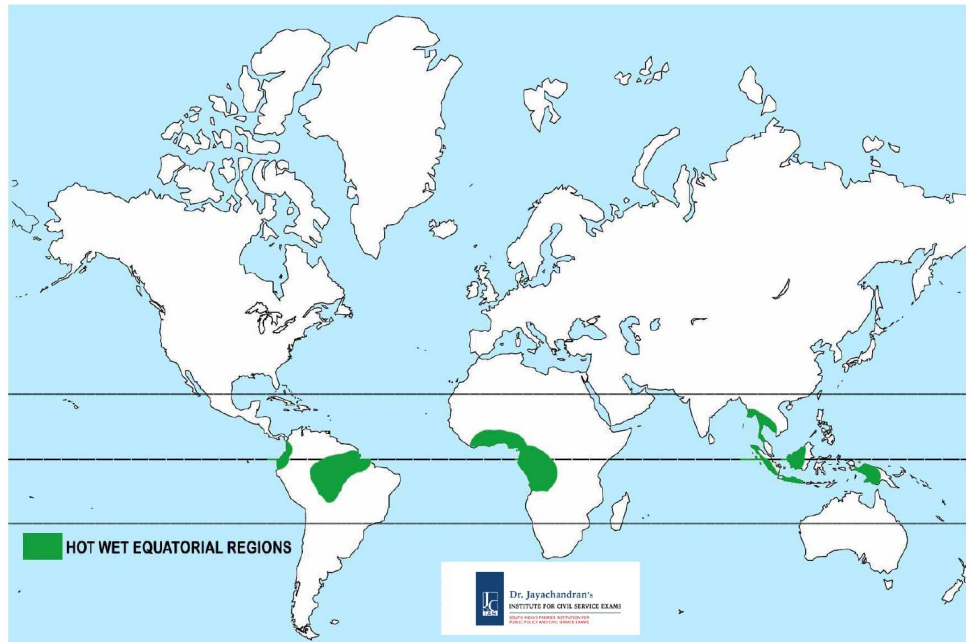
Cool Temperate Eastern Margin (Laurentian) Climate

Arctic or Polar Climate

Hot, Wet Equatorial Climate

Distribution

- * Between 5° and 10° north and south of equator.
- * In the lowlands of the Amazon, the Congo, Malaysia and the East Indies.



Climate

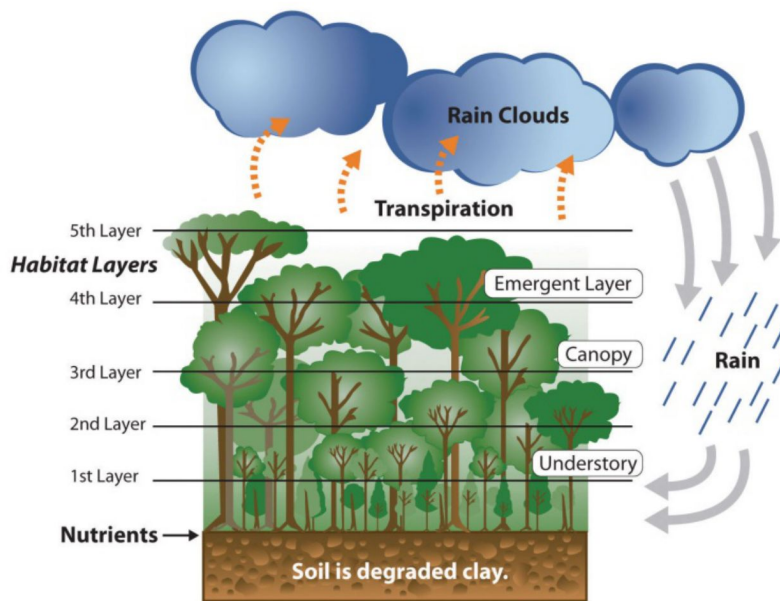
- * Great uniformity of temperature throughout year.
- * Mean monthly temperatures always around 24 to 27°C, with very little variation.
- * No winter.
- * Diurnal and Annual range of temperature is small.
- * Precipitation is heavy between 150 cm and 250 cm, and well distributed throughout the year.
- * Double rainfall peaks which coinciding with equinoxes.

Natural Vegetation

- * Supports luxuriant type of vegetation – the tropical rain forest.
- * Amazon tropical rain forest is known as Selvas.
- * Thick canopy, all plants struggle for sunlight resulting in peculiar layer arrangement.
- * Comprises a multitude of evergreen trees that yield tropical hardwood, e.g. mahogany, ebony, greenheart, cabinet wood. And dyewoods.
- * Lianas, epiphytic and parasitic plants are also found.
- * Trees of single species(pure stands) are very scarce in such vegetation.
- * Soil cover is thin, with humus due to heavy bacterial activity but once cleared, rains washes the surface causing soil erosion.



- * 5 layers of forest.



Economy

- * Equatorial regions are generally sparsely populated.
- * In the forests, most primitive people live as hunters and collectors and the more advanced ones practice shifting cultivation.
- * Extensive heat and humidity causes heavy physical stress on human.
- * High disease rate and infection due to favourable condition for bacteria, virus and pests.
- * Thick forest not commercially viable for exploitation.



- * Clearing and maintaining of roads and railways in forests very expensive. but rivers form national waterways.
- * Some plantation crops are also practiced like natural rubber, cocoa, etc.

Tropical Monsoon and Tropical Marine Climates

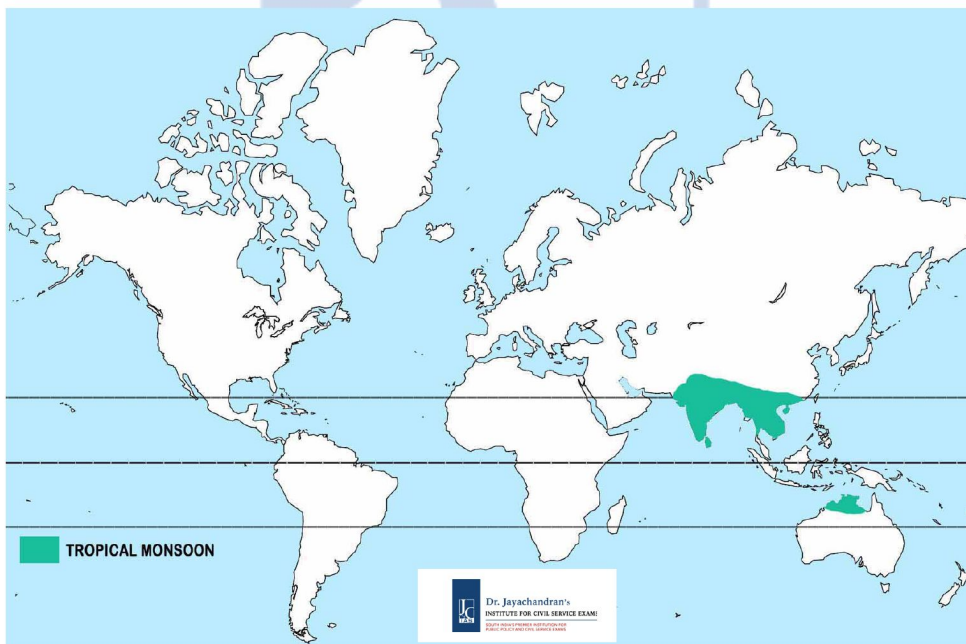
Difference between Tropical Monsoon and Tropical Marine

Ocean is the main influencing factor in Tropical marine. While it is Monsoonal winds in Tropical monsoon.

Tropical monsoon is more like Equatorial forest but the heavy rain occurs in high sun season, tropical monsoon

Distribution

- * Found in zones between 5° and 30° and 30° latitudes on either side of the equator.
- * Monsoon climate best developed in the Indian sub-continent, Burma, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, parts of Vietnam and South China and northern Australia.
- * Tropical Marine climate is found in Central America, West Indies, Philippines, parts of East Africa, Madagascar, Guyana coast and eastern Brazil.



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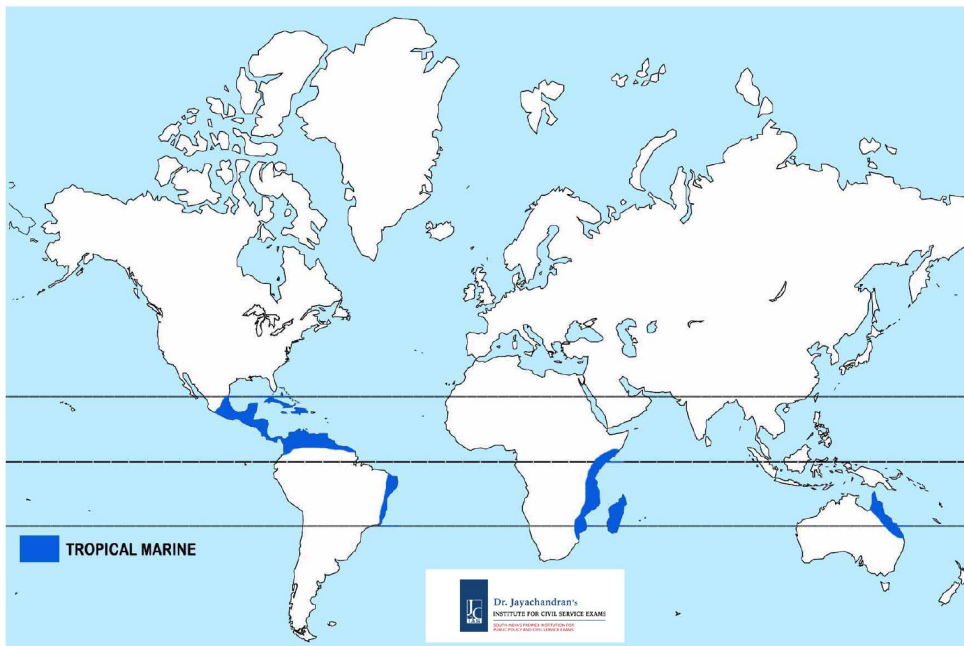
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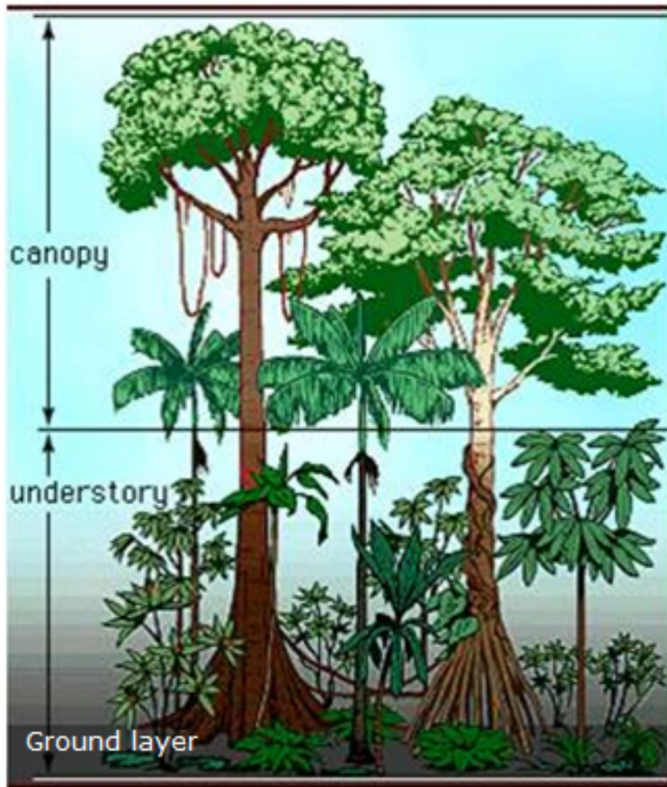
Climate

- * Mean annual temperature is fairly high but summer and winter seasons are sharply differentiated due to northward and southward movement of the sun.
- * Average temperature of warm dry summer months ranges between 27°C and 32°C.
- * Most of the annual rainfall occurs through Cyclonic and Orographic types of rains.
- * Average annual rainfall is around 150 cm but there are much variations in the temporal and spatial distribution.
- * Most of the annual monsoonal rainfall is received through moisture laden South-West monsoon winds.

Natural Vegetation

- * Trees are normally deciduous (shed their leaves in dry season)
- * Forests are open and less luxuriant.
- * Most of the forests yield valuable timber like teak. Other kinds of timber are sal, acacia and eucalyptus.
- * 3 layers of forests





Economy

- * Densely populated regions and land hungry for farmlands.
- * People are mainly engaged in agriculture. Wet paddy cultivation (flooded fields). Drought and floods common, irrigation facilities developed. Rice is the staple crop.
- * Cash crops are also cultivated like cane sugar, jute, etc.
- * Plantation agriculture introduced by colonisation, tea and coffee requires huge labour.
- * Commercially viable single strand and accessible forests supports lumbering. Teak in Burma.
- * Shifting cultivation in some regions.

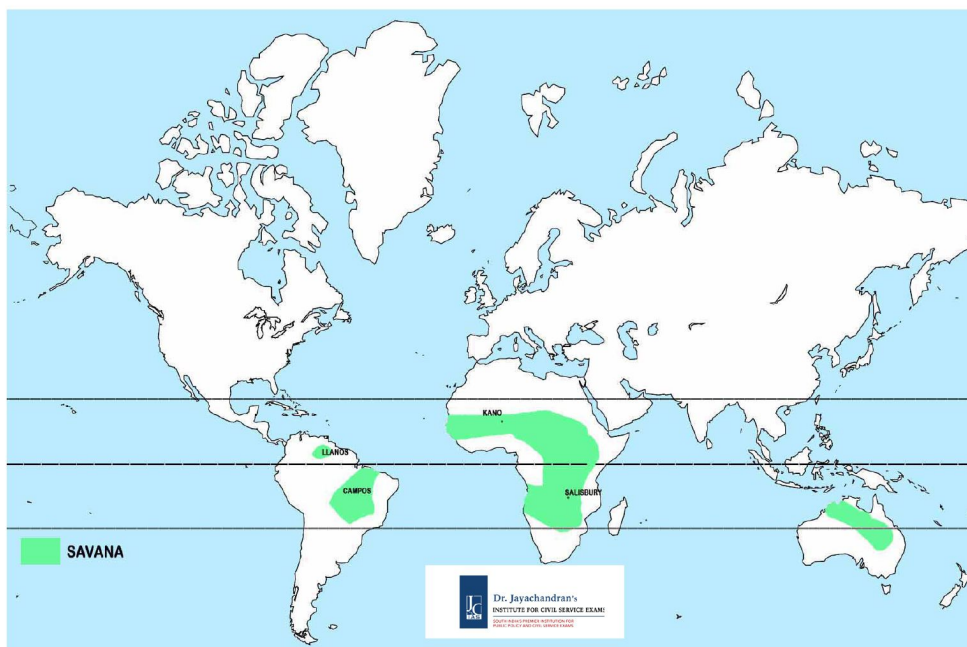


Savanna or Sudan climate

Notes

Distribution

- * Between 5°-20° latitudes on either side of the equator. Confined within tropics and best developed in Sudan (namesake)
- * A transitional type of climate found between the equatorial forests and trade wind hot desert.
- * From western Sudan curves to south to eastern Africa reaching southern Africa forming a belt. In south America, llanos of Orinoco basin and campos in Brazil. Australian savana in north of Australia



Climate

- * Hot rainy season and cool dry season
- * Monthly temperature between 21°C and 32°C.
- * Length of Rainy season and total annual rainfall decreases from equator towards poles and deserts.
- * Highest temperature occurs before onset of rainy season (April in Northern and October in southern hemisphere) not during high sun (June in N.H)
- * Extreme diurnal temperature: Hot days hot season of 37°C, clear sky and rapid radiation in night temperature falls to 10°C causing night frost.
- * The average annual rainfall ranges between 100 cm and 150 cm.

Natural Vegetation

- * It is characterized by tall grass and short trees.

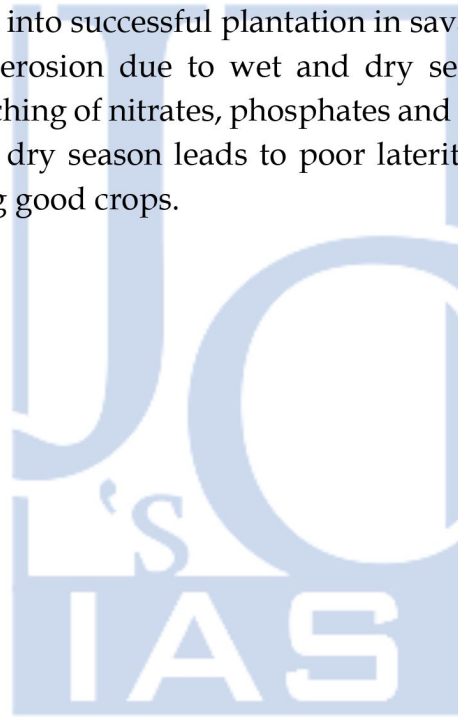


Notes

- * Trees are deciduous and hard. Many trees Umbrella shaped.
- * Grass is tall and coarse of 6 to 12 feet with long roots, grass dormant in rainless season and spring back while in rain.
- * As the rain reduces towards desert savanna merges with thorny scrub.
- * Scrubland is well represented by a number of species in Australia like mallee, mulga, Spinifex grass, etc.

Economy

- * Many tribes live within the Savanna lands.
- * Some tribes live as pastoralists like the Masai (Cattle pastoralist, Cattles for milk and blood not for feeding) and other as settled cultivators like the Hausa of northern Nigeria.
- * Farming affected due to drought depends on irrigation. Brazil developed into successful plantation in savana.
- * High soil erosion due to wet and dry season. Heavy rains causes leaching of nitrates, phosphates and potash. And heavy heating in dry season leads to poor laterite soil incapable of supporting good crops.



Continued in Next Part

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