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Population and Urban Issues

Ravinder Kaur, Professor of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh.
Email: kaur_ravinder70@yahoo.co.in

Population and Food Security

Navneet Kaur, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh. Email: naveet_pu@yahoo.co.in

Cartographic Design and Advice

Mohan Singh, Ex-Senior Scientific Officer, Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh. Email: mohan5767@gmail.com

From the Editor's Desk

Population Geography December 2024 issue includes eight reviewed articles and one invited article published in our signature series, Geo-Reflections. These address many relevant population issues; most findings are based on fieldwork. The picked-up themes relate to human-environment interactions, human development status in an eco-sensitive zone, people's health, well-being, quality of life, condition of the elderly, systemic marginalisation of transgender individuals, gentrification displacing poorer residents, population explosion and its unconventional security fallout, the impact of migration on family members of in-migrants.

The articles' focus on the Indian landscape is evident. Some discourse on the global picture or global perspectives would have been desirable.

Research and writing the 'urban' in Indian geography: A critique of pathways highlights the underrepresentation of urban geographers in mainstream urban studies scholarship in India. Through reflexive writing, the author identifies three main factors: spatial pattern and scale, methodology, and theoretical grounding, all interconnected and influencing one another. It provides food for thought for urban geography scholars, particularly in India.

Looking around, we observe more pressing persuasive themes about people worthy of research. Say, India's population has surpassed that of China. What implications does this have for the country's society, economy, polity, infrastructure, and resources? What are the concerns and challenges ahead?

Likewise, armed conflicts in different countries are seriously impacting women and children, among other things.

We also witness increasing international migration through legal or illegal pathways, leading to discontent among the host country's residents.

An important component of our population is the ageing generation, which poses its challenges. How does ageing reshape societies, policies, and opportunities globally? How should we look for solutions?

Equally important are the vital areas of child and maternal health and the most demanding health challenges affecting populations worldwide.

Population is a vast area for research for geographers, whether it relates to demographic characteristics—including size, composition, and distribution of its inhabitants; metrics—such as population growth rate, age structure, gender balance, and urbanisation; or factors—such as migration, fertility rates, and healthcare—all of which are fertile areas for investigation.

Lastly, we deeply appreciate the reviewers' support in this endeavour.

Nina Singh

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¹ Corresponding Author

² Invited Article