

B. A. Part-01. (Hons)

PAPER-01 - Physical Geography

Unit - 05 - Topic: Salinity of Ocean Water.

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Salinity of Ocean Water

Mineral salts in one form or another (chloride or bicarbonate) universally present in varying quantity into all forms of naturally occurring waters. The presence of salts makes water saline or potable.

Salinity: The general meaning of salinity is the total content of dissolved salt in sea water. It is calculated as the amount of salt (in gm) dissolved in 1,000 gm (1kg) of seawater. It is usually expressed as parts per thousand (‰) or ppt.

Factors affecting salinity of sea water

- (i) The salinity of water in the surface layer of oceans depends mainly on evaporation and precipitation.
- (ii) Surface salinity is greatly influenced in coastal regions by the fresh water flow from rivers and in polar regions by the

processes of freezing and thawing of ice.

(iii) Wind also influences salinity of an area by transferring water to other areas.

(iv) The Ocean currents contribute to the salinity variations. Salinity, temperature and density of water are interrelated. Hence any change in the temperature or density influences the salinity of water in an area.

Highest salinity in water bodies.

(i) Lake Van Turkey ($330^{\circ}/_{\infty}$)

(ii) Dead Sea ($238^{\circ}/_{\infty}$)

(iii) Great salt lake ($220^{\circ}/_{\infty}$)

Qamar

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Geography.