

CLASS NOTES FOR B.A - PART - 01 (HONS).  
PAPER - 01 - PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY  
UNIT - 04 - CLIMATIC CLASSIFICATION - (PART - 02)  
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### DRY CLIMATES - B

- very low precipitation, desert type climates.
- These climates cover a very large area of the planet extending over large latitudes from  $15^{\circ}$  -  $60^{\circ}$  north and south of equator.
- ⇒ At low latitudes, from  $15^{\circ}$  -  $30^{\circ}$  C they occur in the area of subtropical high where subsidence and inversion of temperature do not produce rainfall.
- ⇒ On the western margins of the continents adjoining the cold current, particularly over the west coast of South America, they extend more equatorwards and occur on the coast land.

#### ⇒ Division

- (i) STEPPE or ~~sem~~ Semi Arid - BS
  - (ii) Desert climate (BW)
  - (iii) Further divided as:
    - (A) subtropical steppe - (BSH)
    - (B) subtropical desert (BWh)
    - (C) mid-latitude steppe - ~~eBSk~~ (BSK)
    - (d) mid-latitude desert - (BWk)
- } Latitudes -  $15^{\circ}$  -  $35^{\circ}$

## (A) Subtropical steppe (BSK) and Subtropical Desert (BWh) climates

- ⇒ Both of these climate types have common precipitation and temperature characteristics.
- ⇒ Located in transition zone between humid and dry climates, subtropical steppe receives slightly more rainfall than the desert, adequately enough for the growth of sparse grasslands.
- Rainfall is highly variable.
- Rain occurs in short intense thunderstorms in desert and is ineffective in building soil moisture.
- ⇒ "Fog" is common in coastal deserts bordering cold currents.
- ⇒ Maximum temperature in the summer is high.
- The highest shade temperature of 58°C was recorded in Al-Aziziyah.
- ⇒ The annual and diurnal ranges of temperature are also very high.