



SETTLEMENT GEOGRAPHY



URBAN SETTLEMENTS



Urban settlements

- The origin and development of urban settlements
- Urbanisation of the world population
- Concepts of:
 - Urbanisation
 - Urban growth
 - Urban expansion
 - Urban sprawl
 - Rate of urbanisation
 - Level of urbanisation
 - Interpretation of graphs and statistics
- How site and situation affect the location of urban settlements
- Classification of urban settlements according to function:
 - Central places
 - Trade and transport towns
 - Break-of-bulk points
 - Specialised towns
 - Junction towns
 - Gateway/Gap towns



The origin and development of urban settlements

- Farming produced surplus storage food
- Many people did not have to farm did other activities e.g. making goods, education, building infrastructure etc.
- They lived in nucleated settlements so that they could trade with one another
- Towns were developed along transport routes
- Villages, towns and cities developed





- **Pre-industrial towns and cities** which was mainly concerned with commerce, trade and craft industries.





- **Industrial towns and cities** developed and was concerned mainly with manufacturing





Post-industrial towns and cities developed and main focus was services





Urbanisation of the world population

Definition

Urbanisation refers to an increasing proportion/percentage of people living in urban areas.



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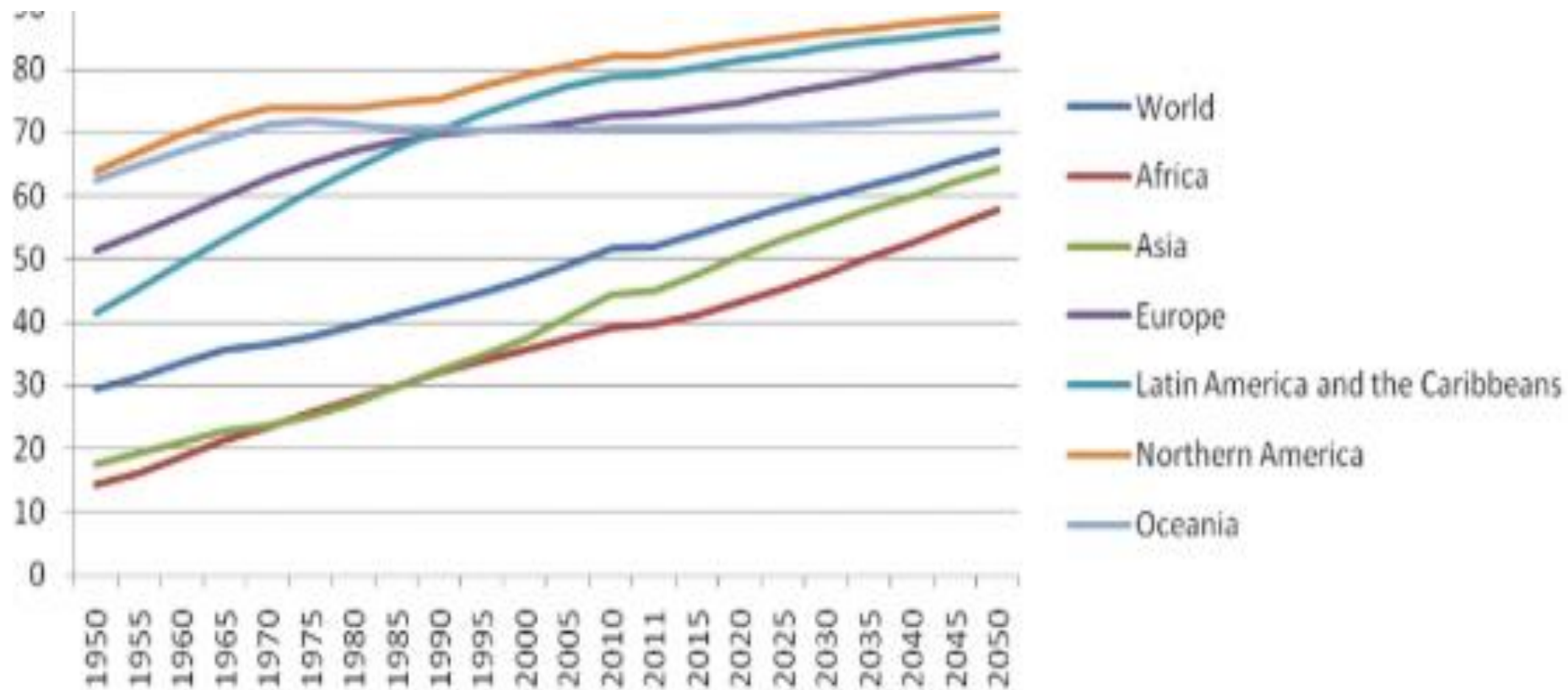
Point to note

- Urbanisation is growing rapidly
- At present approximately 71% of most economically developed countries are urbanised
- At present approximately 34% of less economically developed countries are urbanised
- Main factors responsible are natural growth and rural-urban migration



Related concepts

- **Rate of urbanisation** refers to the pace at which urbanisation is occurring





- **Level of urbanisation** refers to the percentage of the number of people living in urban areas



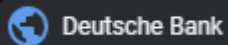


- **Urban growth** refers to increase in the number of people living in urban areas





Urban expansion refers to the physical expansion of an urban area





Urban sprawl refers to the formless expansion of an urban area





How site affects the location of urban settlements



Site refers to the exact location on which the settlement develops.

Some factors are:

- Water supply
- Relief
- Underlying structure of the rock and soil
- Drainage
- Resources e.g. raw material



How situation affects the location of urban settlements



Situation refers to location of the settlement in relation to the surrounding area.

Some factors are:

- Transport
- Access to market



Classification of urban settlements according to function



John A. Dutton e-Education Institute - Penn State

Central place is an urban area that provides urban functions to the surrounding rural area e.g. Beaufort West
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Trade and transport towns are towns that developed as a result of trade and transport e.g. East London. These are towns or cities which develop at a point where transport routes meet.

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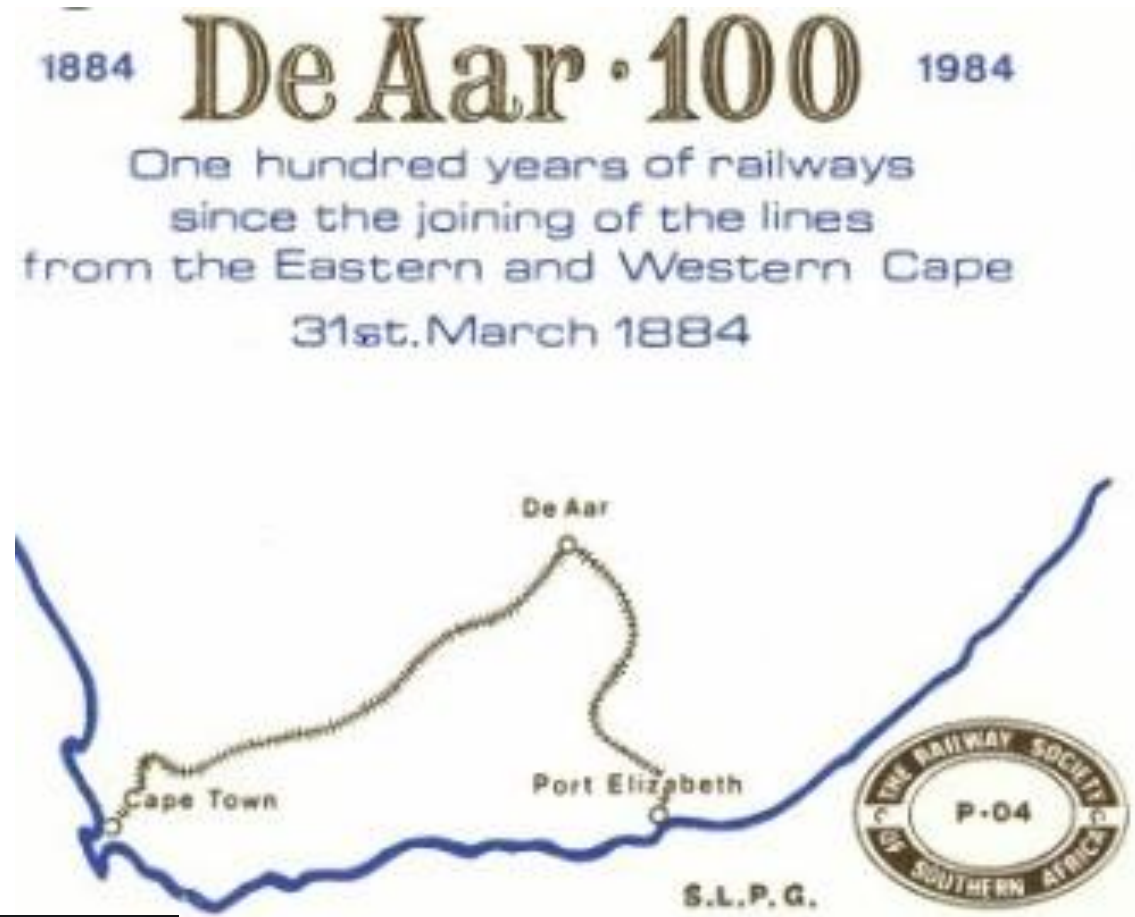


Break-in-bulk point is a place where goods are transferred from one mode of transport to another, for example the docks where goods transfer from ship to truck. e.g. Durban

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Specialised towns these towns develop due to one main function e.g. Umhlanga Rocks **R. Davechand 2020**



 old STEAM LOCOMOTIVES in South Africa

Junction towns these towns develop at important transport intersections e.g. De Aar

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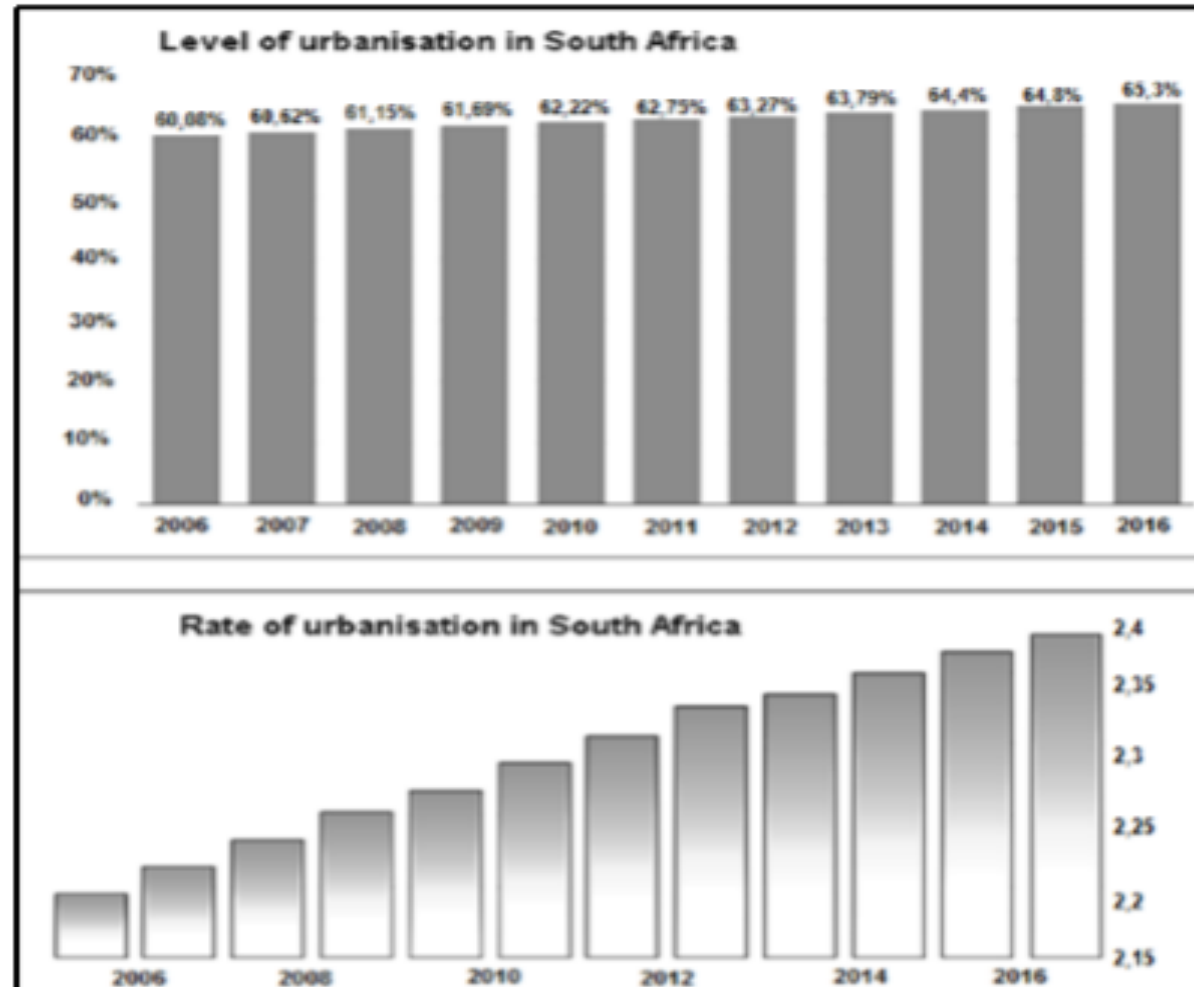


Gateway/gap towns it develops around a gap in a physical feature like a mountain e.g. Harrismith



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FIGURE 3.3: LEVEL AND RATE OF URBANISATION IN SOUTH AFRICA



[Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/455931/urbanization-in-south-africa/> and <https://tradingeconomics.com/south-africa/urban-population-growth-annual-percent-wb-data.html>]

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3.3 FIGURE 3.3 shows bar graphs indicating the level and rate of urbanisation in South Africa between 2006 and 2016.

3.3.1 Define the term *urbanisation*. (1 x 1) (1)

3.3.1 A process whereby an increasing percentage of people live in urban areas (1)
[CONCEPT] (1 x 1) (1)



3.3.2 State the relationship between the level and the rate of urbanisation
between 2006 and 2016. (1 x 2) (2)

3.3.2 As the rate of urbanisation increases the level of urbanisation increases (2)
It is a directly proportional relationship (2)
[ANY ONE] (1 x 2) (2)



3.3.3 Discuss TWO physical factors in the rural area that could have contributed to the rate of urbanisation shown in FIGURE 3.3. (2 x 2) (4)

- 3.3.3 Drought frequency in rural areas increases rural-urban migration (2)
Flood frequency destroy crops causing people to leave rural areas (2)
Stronger El Niño increases droughts and/or floods (2)
Soil erosion decreases production on farm lands forcing people to leave (decrease in soil fertility/desertification) (2)
Stock/crop diseases/pests and stock losses/decreases in crop yields forces farmers to abandon farm lands and move to urban areas (2)
Adverse weather conditions e.g. hail storms destroy crops and this negatively affects production and leads to decreased profits (2)
[ANY TWO. LISTING ALONE CANNOT BE ACCEPTED – MUST BE QUALIFIED] (2 x 2) (4)



3.3.4 Write a paragraph of approximately EIGHT lines discussing the reasons why the rate and level of urbanisation has led to increased protests against service delivery in urban areas. (4 x 2) (8)

3.3.4 Urbanisation (percentage increase of people) has increased the demand for housing in urban areas (2)
The inability of the local government to meet this demand has led to protest actions (2)

Lack of planning from the local government to meet demands for services (2)

Lack of services (electricity, water, sanitation) in informal settlements and people are not happy about this (2)

Unreliable service delivery impacts on daily activities (2)

Services are not properly maintained, therefore quality deteriorates (2)

Urbanisation increased unemployment rates which has frustrated people (2)

There is an increased demand on services such as clinics and hospitals reducing accessibility for people (2)

Traffic congestion as there are not enough roads/unmaintained roads (2)

Lack of space in schools due to high population numbers (2)

Protest due to forced removals and demolition of informal settlements which leaves people without shelter (2)

Protests due to lack of land ownership and access to land (2)

Protests due to competition with foreigners for houses and employment (2)

People are unhappy about nepotism and corruption which is preventing them from accessing government services e.g. housing (2)

[ANY FOUR. REASONS FOR PROTEST ACTIONS MUST BE GIVEN]

(4 x 2) (8)

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