

ZOOGEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS

Lecture 9



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Subject: Zoology

Course Title: Zoogeography

&

Paleontology

M.Sc. II (Evening) Semester III

ZOOGEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS

- A zoogeographical region is an area having a particular assemblage of animals which include species which are unique to that region.
- A zoogeographical region is a portion of earth surface having an assemblage of fauna, particularly mammalian fauna, which possess characteristic features distinguishing it from other areas.

- The first attempt to divide the earth horizontally into zoogeographical regions, based upon the distribution of birds, was made by Dr. P. L. Sclater in 1857.



- He divided the earth into six regions:
 - i. Palaeartic Region
 - ii. Ethiopian Region
 - iii. Indian Region
 - iv. Nearctic Region
 - v. Neotropical Region
 - vi. Australian region



NEARCTIC REGION

PALAEARTIC REGION

INDIAN REGION

ETHIOPIA REGION

NEOTROPICAL REGION

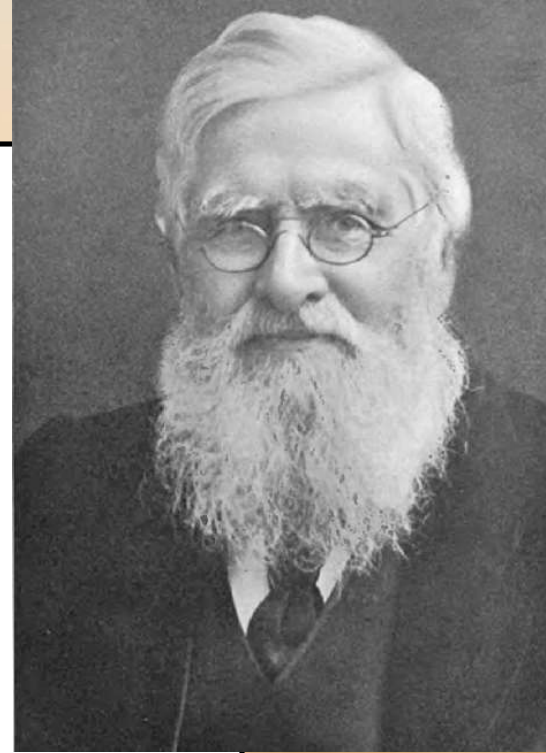
AUSTRALIAN REGION

P. L. SCLATER-1858

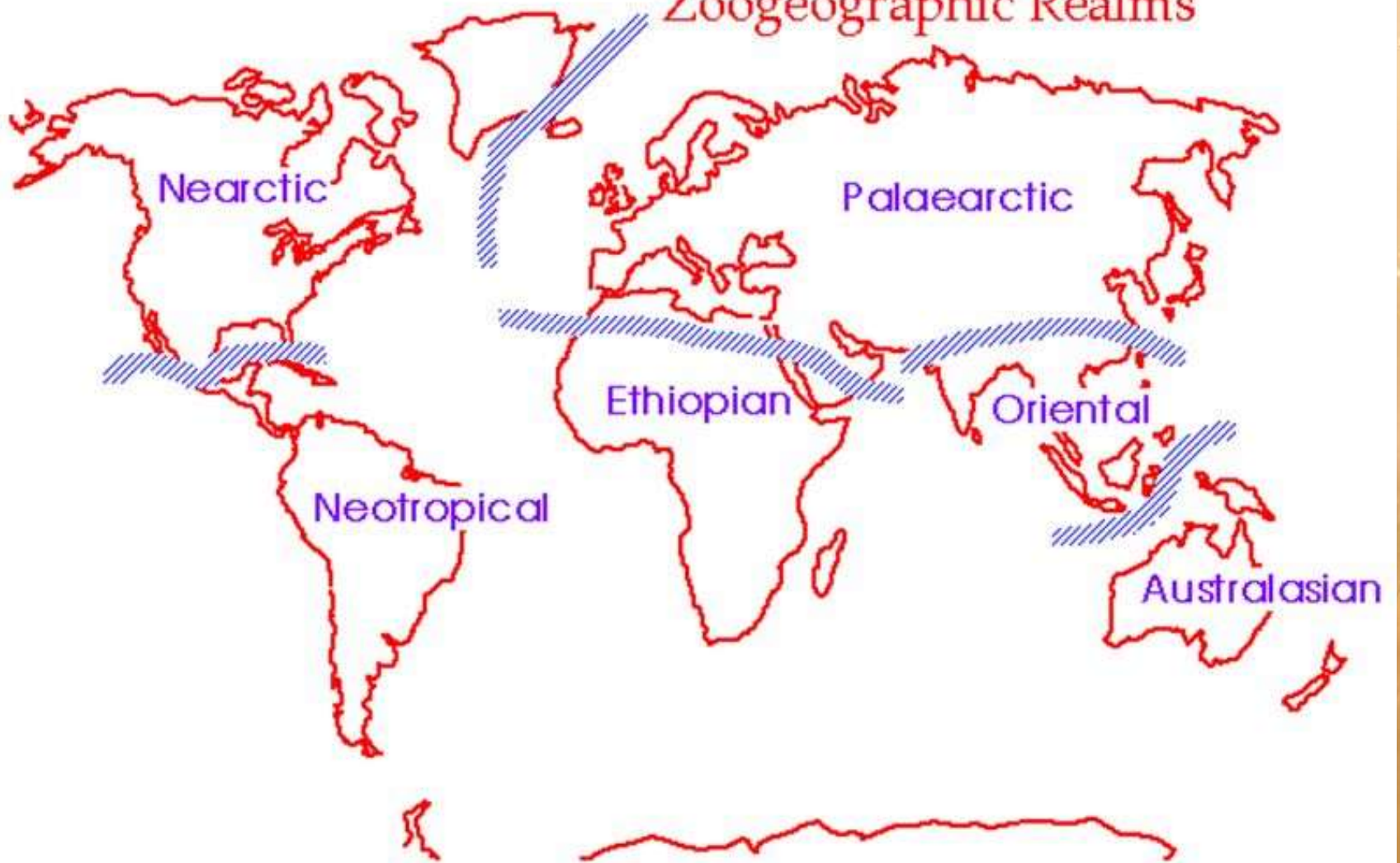
- In 1868 Huxley divided the earth into two main regions, the northern ARCTOGEA and the southern NOTOGEA.
- Arctogea was sub- divided into:
 - i) Palaeartic
 - ii) Nearctic
 - iii) Ethiopian
 - iv) India
- Notogea was sub-divided into:
 - i) Austro-columbia
 - ii) Australasia
 - iii) New Zealand



- In 1876, Alfred Russel Wallace published his classical work on zoogeographical regions based on distribution of mammals.
- Wallace retained the same classification as proposed by Sclater, except the name **ORIENTAL** was substituted for **INDIAN** region.
- Wallace classification is considered to be the most appropriate one.



Zoogeographic Realms



PALAEARCTIC REGION

- Sub-regions:

European

Mediterranean

Siberian

Manchurian

ETHIOPIAN REGION

- Sub-regions:

East Africa

West Africa

South Africa

Malagasy (Madagascar)

ORIENTAL REGION

- Sub-regions:

Indian

Ceylonese

Indo- Chinese

Indo- Malayan

AUSTRALIAN REGION

- Sub- regions:

Austro- Malayan

Australian

Polynesian

New Zealand

NEOTROPICAL REGION

- Sub- regions:

Chilean

Brazilian

Mexican

Antillean

NEARCTIC REGION

- Sub- regions:

Californian

Canadian

Alleghany

Rocky mountains