

Topic :- Darwinism

Introduction :-

(1) Charles Darwin was an English naturalist. He was born on 12th February 1809 and died on 19th April 1882. At first he was admitted to a school of medicine at Edinburgh but on finding no interest in it he discontinued this course. Later on he joined Christ College of Cambridge from where he graduated in 1831. During study at Cambridge he came in contact of many scientists. One of them was Dr. John Stevens Henslow. The latter provided him an opportunity to go on a voyage as a naturalist on the ship named H.M.S. Beagle. This vessel explored South America, Atlantic island, Newland, Australia, Tasmania, Galapagos island and many other regions. The journey began on 27th December 1831 and continued up to 2nd October 1836. During this five years of scientific expedition around the world he collected numerous biological living and fossil specimens and recorded various information.

2020/09/22 16:14

* Darwinism consist of five Principles.
These are the following:-

(i) Over Production:- Each living organism is in possession of power of reproduction in so much large number which is too enough than required to maintain its generation. All of them multiply their number in geometric ratio.

(ii) Struggle for existence: on the basis of above mentioned two observations, Darwin concluded that there must be some kind of check which keeps the population more or less constant for a long period though rate of production is very high. He suggested that competition for food, space and mates among individuals serves as check. This was called Struggle for existence.

(a) Intraspecific Struggle :- This type of struggle occurs among the individuals of the same species.

(b) Interspecific Struggle :- This type of struggle occurs between the individuals of different species. This occurs mostly due to similar food habits as well as one may serve as the food of the other i.e. it is struggle between an aggressor and a prey.

(c) Struggle with environment :
The struggle of organism against natural calamities such as drought, famine, extreme cold, extreme heat, earth quake, volcanic eruptions, lightening etc is known as struggle with environment or extraspecific struggle.