

Topic: Bird Migration
Class: B.Sc Part –I (Hons.)
Paper- II
Group – A

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Migration may be:

- (i) Latitudinal,
- (ii) Longitudinal,
- (iii) Altitudinal or Vertical,
- (iv) Partial,
- (v) Total,
- (vi) Vagrant or Irregular,
- (vii) Seasonal,
- (viii) Diurnal and
- (ix) Nocturnal.

(i) Latitudinal migration:

- The latitudinal migration usually means the movement from north to south, and vice versa.
- Most birds live in the land masses of the northern temperate and subarctic zones where they get facilities for nesting and feeding during summer.
- They move towards south during winter.

- An opposite but lesser movement also occurs in the southern hemisphere when the seasons are changed.
- Cuckoo breeds in India and spends the summer at South-east Africa and thus covers a distance of about 7250 km.

- Some tropical birds migrate during rainy season to the outer tropics to breed and return to the central tropics in dry season.
- Many marine birds also make considerable migration.
- Puffinus (Great shearwater) breeds on small islands and migrates as far as Greenland in May and returns after few months.

- It covers a distance of 1300 km.
- Penguins migrate by swimming and cover a considerable distance of few hundred miles.
- *Sterna paradisaea* (Arctic tern) breeds in the northern temperate region and migrates to the Antarctic zone along the Atlantic.
- It was observed that *Sterna* covers a distance of 22 500 km during migration!