

# IMPORTANT GEOGRAPHIC IDEAS

These important ideas may be used at any level, but development of the students' understanding of these is expected at the form levels specified.

## 4. CHANGE

Ideas and concepts developed by historical geographers help us to study such contemporary themes as the impact of management decisions on the environment, or the ways in which people respond to natural hazards.

|     |  | Level      |
|-----|--|------------|
| 4.1 | CHANGE is a normal process in both natural and cultural environments. It occurs at varying rates at different times and in different places. | 11, 12, 13 |
| 4.2 | People, individually or collectively, through their decisions and actions, may bring about change.   | 11, 12, 13 |
| 4.3 | Decisions and actions, either through intention or ignorance, may destroy elements of the natural environment.                               | 13         |
| 4.4 | Changes, such as destruction or development, may be viewed as good or bad according to the value judgements of the people involved.          | 12, 13     |
| 4.5 | Spatial patterns of change may be affected by the diffusion of ideas.  | 12, 13     |
| 4.6 | As people interact with their environment, both are changed.   | 11, 12, 13 |
| 4.7 | Some changes are predictable, recurrent, or cyclic, while others are unpredictable or erratic.   | 11, 12, 13 |
| 4.8 | Change in one part of a natural or cultural environment may induce further changes.  | 11, 12, 13 |

**Reference:** *Syllabus for Schools Geography Forms 5 – 7 (1990)*  
*Learning Media, Ministry of Education, Wellington pp. 22 – 25.*