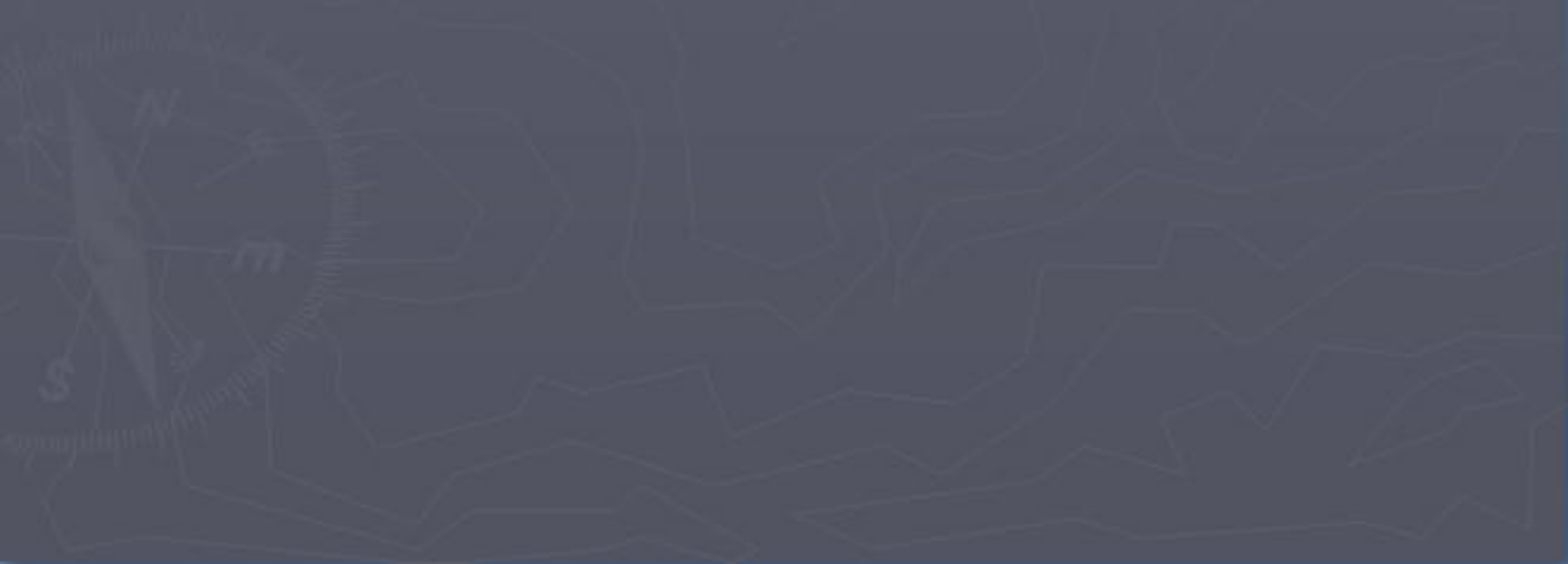# Introduction to Urban Geography

Urbanization

- The large scale migration of people from rural to urban areas

Push Factors
- Rural Areas have less opportunities
  - Education
  - Jobs
  - Entertainment
  - Services
- Natural Disasters
- Decline of Family Farming
- Poor Infrastructure
- Security

Pull Factors
- More Opportunities
- Higher density of services
- Entertainment destinations
- Perceived potential economic benefit
- Infrastructure
- Social Services

Problems of Urbanization

- Overpopulation
- Unemployment
  - Leading to higher rates of crime
- Squatter Settlements
- Traffic
- Pollution
  - Noise, Light, Air, Water
- Stress

Parts of the City

- <u>Central Business District (CBD)</u> – The main center of business and commerce in the city

- <u>Suburbs</u> – The areas surrounding the city. Typically reserved for the middle class

- <u>Edge Cities</u> – Suburbs that become large cities themselves

- <u>High-Tech Corridors</u> – Industrial and technological centers that grow in regions of the city

Parts of the City

- <u>Squatter Settlements/Slums</u> – Very low wealth communities that grow unplanned

- <u>Ethnic Neighborhoods/ Ghettos</u> – Parts of the city inhabited by people of a certain ethnic group

shekar dharavi

Specialized Cities

- Some cities have greater importance than others and can be grouped together through special characteristics
    - Primate City
    - Gateway City
    - Megacity
    - Megalopolis
    - World City

Gateway City

- A city that controls a, or acts as a control center for a much larger area.
  - Ex. St Louis as the Gateway to the West

Primate City

- A city that is more that 2 times the size of all the other cities in the country or region
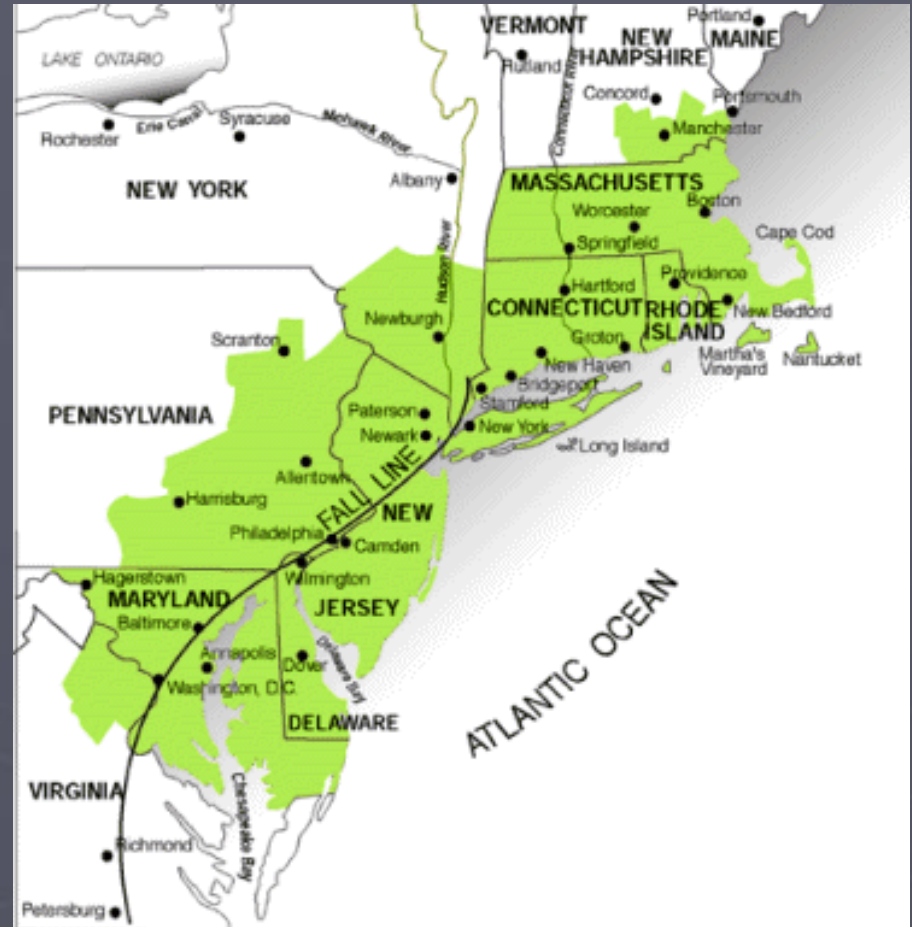 - Ex. Bangkok, Thailand

Megacity

- Any city that is over 10 million people
  - Ex. Sao Paulo, Brazil

Megalopolis

- Two or more urban centers that mold together to form one continuous urban area
  - Ex. BosNyWash Corridor

World City

- A city with international prestige and importance as an economic or cultural centers
  - Ex. London, England