SOIL CLASSIFICATION

by

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INTRODUCTION

GENERAL

People are dependent on soils and conversely, good soils are dependent on people and the use they make of the land. Soils provide the starting point for succesful agriculture.
Soils have also other meaning for humankind. They underlie the foundations of buildings and determine whether these foundations are adequate. They are also the beds for roads and highways and influence the length of life of these arteries.
Just as good soils helped to build flourishing civilization, soil destruction or mismanagement was a contributing factor in their downfall. Soils therefore are one of the main factor to construct safe and durable structures.
Long term significant of soils. They are ignorant of what soils are, what even today, many do not recognize what they have meant to past generations, and what they mean today and to future generations.

SOIL MECHANIC

Soil Mechanics is the engineering science which studies the behavior of soils and applies both theory and observational data to practical problems involving Soils.
Without knowledge of the fundamentals of Soil Mechanics, it is impossible design correctly engineering structures, like buildings, roads, hydrotechnical structures etc.
Soil Mechanics originated several decades ago under the pressure of necessity. It started simultaneously in the USA and Europe.
Some of the great contributions to the field of Soil Mechanics are:

Karl. Terzaghi (died in 1963)
A. Cassagrande
A.W. Skempton
A.W. Bishop

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