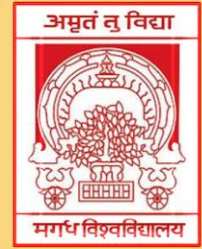




**DAUDNAGAR COLLEGE**

**MAGADH UNIVERSITY**



**Topic**

**GENERAL CHARACTERS OF PHYLUM - CHORDATES**

Contact : 9910098997

[Pksingh1976@gmail.com](mailto:Pksingh1976@gmail.com)

[Zoology.daudnagarcollege@gmail.com](mailto:Zoology.daudnagarcollege@gmail.com)

By:-

Dr. Praveen kumar singh

Assistant professor

HoD - Dept of zoology

Daudnagar college, Daudnagar

Magadh university



## General characters of Phylum - chordates

- (1) Aquatic, aerial or terrestrial. All free-living with no fully parasitic forms.
- (2) Body small to large, bilaterally symmetrical and metamerically segmented.
- (3) A *postanal tail* usually projects beyond the anus at some stage and may or may not persist in the adult.
- (4) Exoskeleton often present; well developed in most vertebrates.
- (5) Bodywall *triploblastic* with 3 germinal layers : ectoderm, mesoderm and endoderm.
- (6) *Coelomate* animals having a true coelom. enterocoelic or schizocoelic in origin.
- (7) A skeletal rod, the notochord, present at some stage in life cycle.
- (8) A cartilaginous or **bony**, living and jointed *endoskeleton* present in the majority of members (vertebrates).
- (9) *Pharyngeal gill slits* **present at some stage**; may or may not be functional.
- (10) *Digestive system* **complete with digestive glands**,
- (11) *Blood vascular system* closed. Heart ventral with dorsal and ventral blood vessels. **Hepatic portal system well developed.**
- (12) *Excretory system* **comprising proto-or meso-or meta-nephric kidneys.**
- (13) *Nerve cord* **dorsal and tubular. Anterior end** usually enlarged to form brain.
- (14) **Sexes separate with rare exceptions.**