

Map Class 03

9th May, 2024 at 9:00 AM

INTRODUCTION (09:30 AM)

- A Brief Overview Of The Previous Class.

ANTARCTICA (09:30 AM)

- Antarctica is estimated to be between 25-30 million years old and is covered by ice.
- It was formerly connected with Africa and later with South America.
- In 1820, Russia made the first landing on Antarctica.
- Initially, it was known as Terra Australis Incognita.
- Antarctica is considered the coldest place on Earth.
- Orca killer whales are among the top predators in its surrounding waters.
- The highest peak in Antarctica is the Vinson Massif.
- The Antarctic Treaty, signed in 1959 by 12 countries, established Antarctica as a zone of peace and scientific research.
- This treaty prohibits military activities, nuclear testing, and mineral mining while promoting scientific cooperation and environmental protection.
- The Antarctic Treaty System now comprises 54 member countries, including India.
- India adheres to the principles of the treaty and participates in scientific research expeditions.
- India has established research stations in Antarctica.

These are:

- **Dakshin Gangotri, Maitri, and Bharati.**
- The South Magnetic Pole is located near Dumont d'Urville, a French research station in Antarctica.

ARCTIC REGION: (10:00 AM)

- The Arctic region is characterized by its vast expanses of ice and water, with no landmass beyond the Arctic Circle.

Arctic Council:

- The Arctic Council is a significant intergovernmental forum established in 1996 to facilitate cooperation among Arctic states and indigenous communities.

Membership: The Arctic Council consists of eight Arctic states, namely:

- Canada, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the United States.
- Additionally, it includes six indigenous organizations representing the Arctic indigenous peoples.

Objectives:

- The Arctic Council focuses on addressing issues related to sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic region.
- These issues encompass climate change, biodiversity conservation, and pollution prevention.
- The Council aims to promote cooperation and coordination among member states and indigenous communities.
- Notable Initiatives: Norway's Svalbard Global Seed Vault serves as a vital facility for preserving plant genetic resources.
- India also maintains a research station named Himadri in the Arctic region, contributing to scientific research and collaboration.
- Moreover, India has established the INDARC, an underwater observatory, to study various aspects of the Arctic environment and its impact on global climate patterns.

COUNTRIES PASSING THROUGH IMPORTANT LINES (10:20 AM)

Equator

Brazil
Colombia
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Ecuador
Gabon
Indonesia
Kenya
Somalia
Uganda

Tropic of Cancer

Mexico
Bahamas
Western Sahara
Mauritania
Mali
Algeria
Niger
Libya
Egypt
Saudi Arabia

Tropic of Capricorn

Brazil
Paraguay
Argentina
Chile
Namibia
Botswana
South Africa
Mozambique
Australia

- Prime Meridian and Equator: Meet at the Gulf of Guinea.
- Prime Meridian and Tropic of Cancer: Intersect in Algeria.
- Prime Meridian and Tropic of Capricorn: The intersection point is in the South Atlantic Ocean.

The Greenwich meridian passes through eight countries in Europe and Africa from north to south:

- United Kingdom (specifically, only England)
- France.
- Spain.
- Algeria.
- Mali.
- Burkina Faso.
- Togo.
- Ghana.

MOUNTAINS OF THE WORLD (10:32 AM)

Precambrian Mountains (560 mya):

- Location: Laurentian Plateau.
- Type: Old fold mountains.

Caledonian Mountains (400 mn years ago):

- Locations:
- Appalachian Mountains (eastern coast of USA): Rich in iron and coal.
- Scandinavian Mountains.
- Scottish Mountains.
- Greenland Mountains.
- Aravalli Mountains (India).
- Type: Old fold mountains.

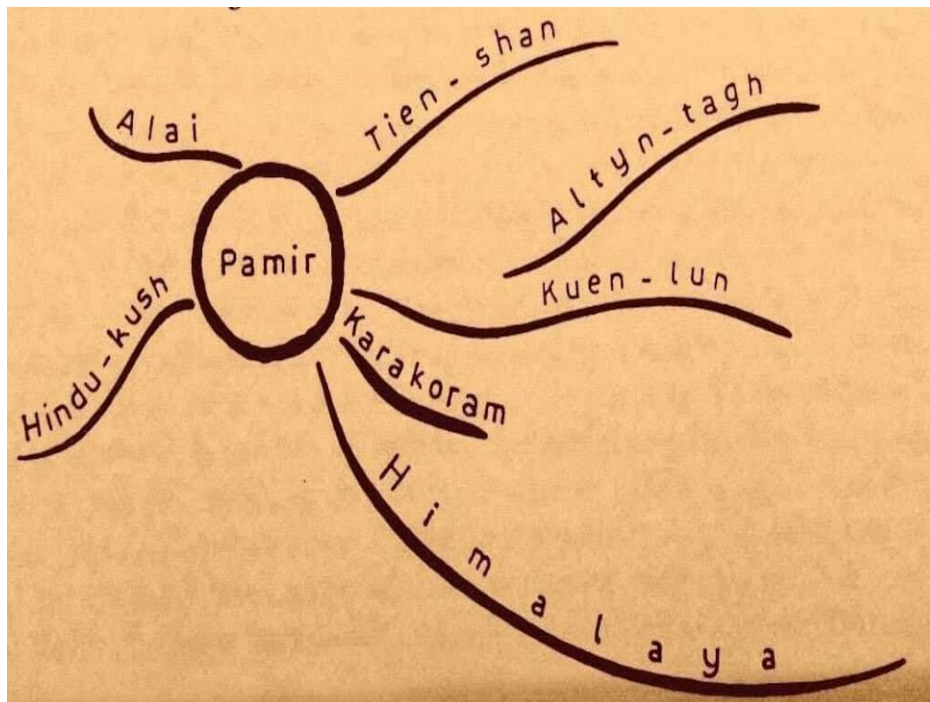
Hercynian Mountains (250 - 300 mya):

- Locations:
- Black Forest and Vosges.
- Ural Mountains.
- Iberian Peninsula.
- Tien Shan (China).
- Altai Mountains.
- Vindhya and Satpura Ranges (India).
- Great Dividing Range: Mt. Kosciuszko (Australia).
- Type: Fold Mountains.

Alpine Mountains (50 - 20 mya):

- Also known as the Tertiary Mountains.
- Formation: Along plate boundaries.
- Locations:
- Asia: K2, Great Himalayas, Kunlun Shan..

Pamir Knot:



Armenian Knot:



EUROPE (10:30 PM)

Alps Mountains

- Matterhorn Peak (Switzerland-Italy border)
- Mont Blanc
- Jura Mountains
- Apennines (Italy)

Oceania:

- Southern Alps (New Zealand)
- Mount Cook or Mount Aoraki

Africa:

- Atlas Mountains
- Kilimanjaro Mountains
- Mount Kenya

North America:

- Rocky Mountains
- Sierra Nevada (South part of Rocky Mountains)
- Coast Mountains
- Cascade Mountains
- Mount McKinley: The highest point in the Alaska Range

Plains:

- Canadian Shield
- Great Plains: Drained by the Mississippi River
- Prairies (Grain Bowl)

Plateaus:

- Columbia Plateau
- Colorado Plateau
- Death Valley: Lowest point of North America with high diurnal temperature

South America:

- Andes Mountains: Longest mountain range on Earth's surface.
- Also, second tallest mountain.
- Mount Aconcagua, Argentina

Plateaus:

- Guyana Highlands
- Brazilian Highlands
- Altiplano Plateau

Plains:

- Selvas (Amazon Rain Basin)
- Llanos: Tropical grassland
- Mato Grosso: Tropical grassland
- Gran Chaco: Tropical grassland
- Pampas: Temperate grassland
- Pantanal: Wetland grassland.

AFRICA (10:40 AM)

- **Table Plateau:**
- Original part of Pangaea.
- **Katanga Plateau:**
- Located in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- **Drakensberg:**
- Mountain range in South Africa.
- **Darfur:**
- A region in western Sudan.
- **Sudan Savanna Grassland:** Located in Sudan.
- **Sahel Region:** Characterized by semi-arid grasslands.
- **Sahara Desert:** Vast desert region

Plateaus

- **Asia:**
- **West Asia:**
- Anatolia Plateau in Turkey.
- **South Asia:**
- Tibetan Plateau
- Potwar Plateau
- **Australia:**
- Kimberley
- Uluru (Monolith rock, the world's largest monolith sandstone)

DESERTS OF THE WORLD (12:10 PM)

North America:

- **Sonoran Desert:** Located in the southwestern United States and northwest Mexico, known for its biodiversity.
- **Mojave Desert:** Situated primarily in southeastern California and southern Nevada, famous for landmarks like Death Valley.
- **Great Basin Desert:** Encompassing much of Nevada and parts of Utah, Oregon, Idaho, and California, characterized by its arid climate and unique ecosystems.

South America:

- **Atacama Desert:** Located in Chile, known as one of the driest places on Earth.
- **Patagonian Desert:** Extending across parts of Argentina and Chile, marked by its cold and windy conditions.
- **Brazilian Highlands:** While not a desert in the traditional sense, it experiences semi-arid conditions in some areas.

Africa:

- **Sahara Desert:**
 - The largest hot desert in the world, spanning several North African countries.
- **Kalahari Desert:**
 - Stretching across Botswana, Namibia, and parts of South Africa, characterized by its sandy plains and grasslands.
- Namib Desert
- Libyan Desert
- Nubian Desert
- Danakil Desert
- Chalbi Desert
- Karoo Desert

Asia:

- Arabian Desert (Saudi Arabia, Oman, Yemen, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Jordan)
- Gobi Desert (Mongolia, China)
- Thar Desert (India, Pakistan)
- Kyzylkum Desert (Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan)
- Karakum Desert (Turkmenistan)
- Dasht-e Kavir (Great Salt Desert) (Iran)
- Dasht-e Lut (Lut Desert) (Iran)
- Syrian Desert (Syria, Jordan, Iraq)
- Dasht-e Margo (Desert of Death) (Iran)
- Rub' al Khali (Empty Quarter) (Saudi Arabia, Oman, UAE, Yemen)
- Taklamakan Desert (China).

Australia:

- Great Victoria Desert
- Great Sandy Desert
- Tanami Desert
- Simpson Desert
- Gibson Desert
- Little Sandy Desert

(TOPIC FOR THE NEXT CLASS: CONTINUATION OF PHYSICAL FEATURES AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE WORLD GEOGRAPHY)