

MAPPING DOCUMENT - PART 2/4



WORLD MAPPING (STATIC AND CURRENT) (FOR UPSC PRELIMS 2024)



STATIC-

- 1) Tropics
- 2) Continent wise details
- 3) Oceans and surrounding countries
- 4) Straits

CURRENT AFFAIRS-

- 1) Vision IAS Magazine extracts
- 2) Conflict regions of the world

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to help fellow aspirants

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(https://t.me/UpscWithNeelesh_AIR442)
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4. FREE CSAT PROGRAM – ON YOUTUBE CHANNEL – CIVIL SERVICES WITH
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5. INTEGRATED MENTORSHIP FOR 2025 (PRELIMS AND MAINS) – YEARLONG
MENTORSHIP
6. SHORT NOTES FOR ALL SUBJECTS (HANDWRITTEN)

UPCOMING INITIATIVES

1. PRELIMS TEST SERIES FOR 2025
2. MAINS TEST SERIES FOR 2025
3. ESSAY VIDEO BATCH FOR 2024 AND 2025
4. ETHICS VIDEO BATCH FOR 2024 AND 2025
5. SOCIOLOGY VIDEO BATCH FOR 2025 BASED ON PYQ
6. CSAT VIDEO BATCH
7. MAINS MARATHON 2024 AND MUCH MORE

Equator (0° latitude)

- fixed position w.r.t. sun throughout the year, therefore, no seasons on equator and "no extreme variations in temperature diurnally throughout the year"
- As the sun's rays fall perpendicularly therefore there is intense vertical convection on equator. Therefore equatorial locations are where we have intense rainfall throughout the year (cumulonimbus clouds) and hence equatorial regions are characterised by Dense Evergreen Rainforest.

② countries through which equator passes -

→ now it became net carbon emitter → Reasons?

South America → equator does not pass through PERU

- Ecuador
- Peru
- Colombia
- Brazil

◦ Amazon Rain forest (locally aka SELVAS)

◦ Macapa in Brazil → @ mouth of Amazon

◦ Iquitos in Peru → Amazon River is navigable by boat.

supply around 17% of world's fresh O₂ b.i.e., lungs

◦ @ Manaus → madeira meets amazon

↳ Biggest tributary of Amazon.

↳ world's Biggest floating Agriculture.

◦ Deforestation

due to cattle Ranching

• Ani Husi cattle Ranching

• Agro forestry

• Palm oil/pod cultivation (invasive species)

• cultivation of Cocoa (cacao) Indonesia

◦ Congo Basin

↳ River Ubangi - Biggest Tributary (DR Congo & Congo)

↳ deadliest viruses usually originates in this region.

(ex Margberg, Ebola, White Encephalitis)

↳ Russia Ukraine War

- West has imposed sanctions on Russia

↳ need for oil/coal reserves?

↳ European countries have migrated towards Africa for fulfilling their need for coal (for thermal power plant)

↳ Dem. Rep. of Congo is opening up its Congo basin for coal exploration

↳ in Dem. Rep. of Congo → world's biggest Gorilla National Park "Virunga Nat' Park"

capital shift

Jakarta → Nusantara
Is of Borneo

- Bali → in news for Volcanic Tsunami (Volcano Anak Karakatao)
- Record flooding (triple dip La-Nina)

Island Countries

- Galapagos (Ecuador) gave here, his theory of evolution
- Sao Tome & Principe (Africa)
- Palau
- micronesia only oceanic country through which
- Kiribati ← equator is cutting across.

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Topics

• Tropic of Cancer & Tropic of Capricorn denotes the ~~so~~ Northern most & southernmost extremities of Sun's migration. (apparent migration)

21st June

summer solstice

Tropic of Cancer

• countries through which Tropic of Cancer passes -

North America → • Hawaii

Tropic of
Cancer does
not pass through USA

- capital

Honolulu

- Highest mt. in world

• Mona Kiya
Mona Lua more than 10 km



- Tallest peak in Solar System is on Mars (mt. Olympus) 220 km

• Mexico

↳ tropic of cancer cuts through two mt. ranges Western Sierra Madre & Eastern Sierra Madre → b/w them is Mexican Plateau (altiplano)

West Indies → • Bahamas

↳ capital - Nassau

Africa → • western Sahara

• Mauritania

• Mali

• Algeria

• Niger

• Libya

• Chad

Tropic of Cancer does not pass through Chad.

• Libya

• Egypt

• Below SAHARA

SAHEL BELT

SUDAN BELT

• World's biggest desert → Not Sahara

↳ it exists in Pockets
↳ last year snowfall in Sahara

• Algerian Sahara

- Erg Igoudi

- Tassili-N-Ajjer (above Ahaggar Mt)

• Libyan Sahara

- Fezzan Desert

- Libyan Desert

• Egypt

- Western Desert

- Eastern Desert

- Egyptian Desert

- Nubian Desert (Boundary of Egypt & Sudan)

These are basically the

encroachment of SAHARA into Africa

↳ ranks poorest

in HDI

↳ SAHARA is expanding due to land degradation & increasing desertification.

West Asia → • Saudi Arabia

• UAE

• Oman

↳ capital - Muscat on Tropic of Cancer

Al Nafud Desert

Tropic of Cancer

Rub Al Khali Desert (World's Biggest)

↳ Land of great emptiness

Rub Al Khali Desert (World's Biggest)

↳ Land of great emptiness

Asia → • INDIA

(total 8 states)

Gujarat → Rajasthan → MP → chhattisgarh → Jharkhand → WB → Tripura → Mizo

- Myanmar
- China
- Bangladesh
- Taiwan

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Tropic of Capricorn

• countries through which tropic of capricorn passes -

South America → • Chile → • Atacama Desert - world's driest desert

- Argentina
 - Paraguay
 - Brazil
- Arica Iquique) → world's driest cities

Africa → • Namibia → • Namib Desert

• Botswana → • Kalahari Desert

• South Africa

• Mozambique

• Madagascar

↓ → • Great Karoo (extension of Kalahari into S.Africa)

cancer

* Africa is a continent through which Equator & both the latitudes Capricorn passes. So Africa can be considered for the study of variation in vegetations.

Australia - 2/3 of the Australia is a Desert territory

↓ i.e., Australian outback



- Great Victoria Desert
- Gibson Desert
- Great Sandy Desert
- Simpson Desert
- Sturt Stony Desert

66½° N

Arctic circle OR Tree line → bcz beyond 66½° North, these will be no trees. (Tundra vegetation)

- region primarily attributed as perma frost

→ Rhododendrons
 → mosses
 → lichens

North America → • Alaska (USA) → Brooks Range

Arctic circle

• Canada

(below sea)

• Greenland → Icelandic Iceland do extend till Arctic circle

• Iceland → Arctic circle does not pass

through Iceland

Europe → • Norway

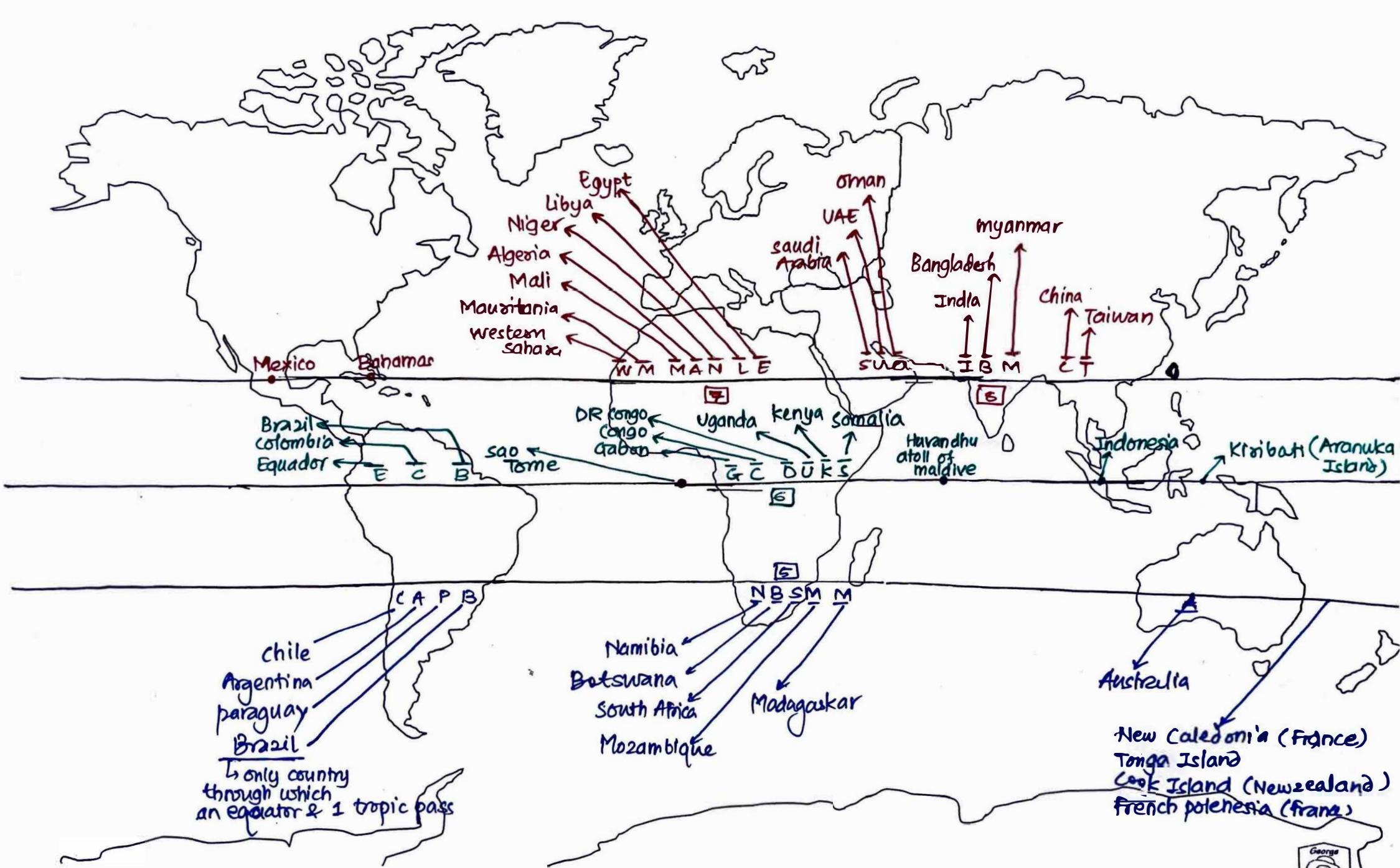
• Sweden

• Finland



effect of CC on laplands ?

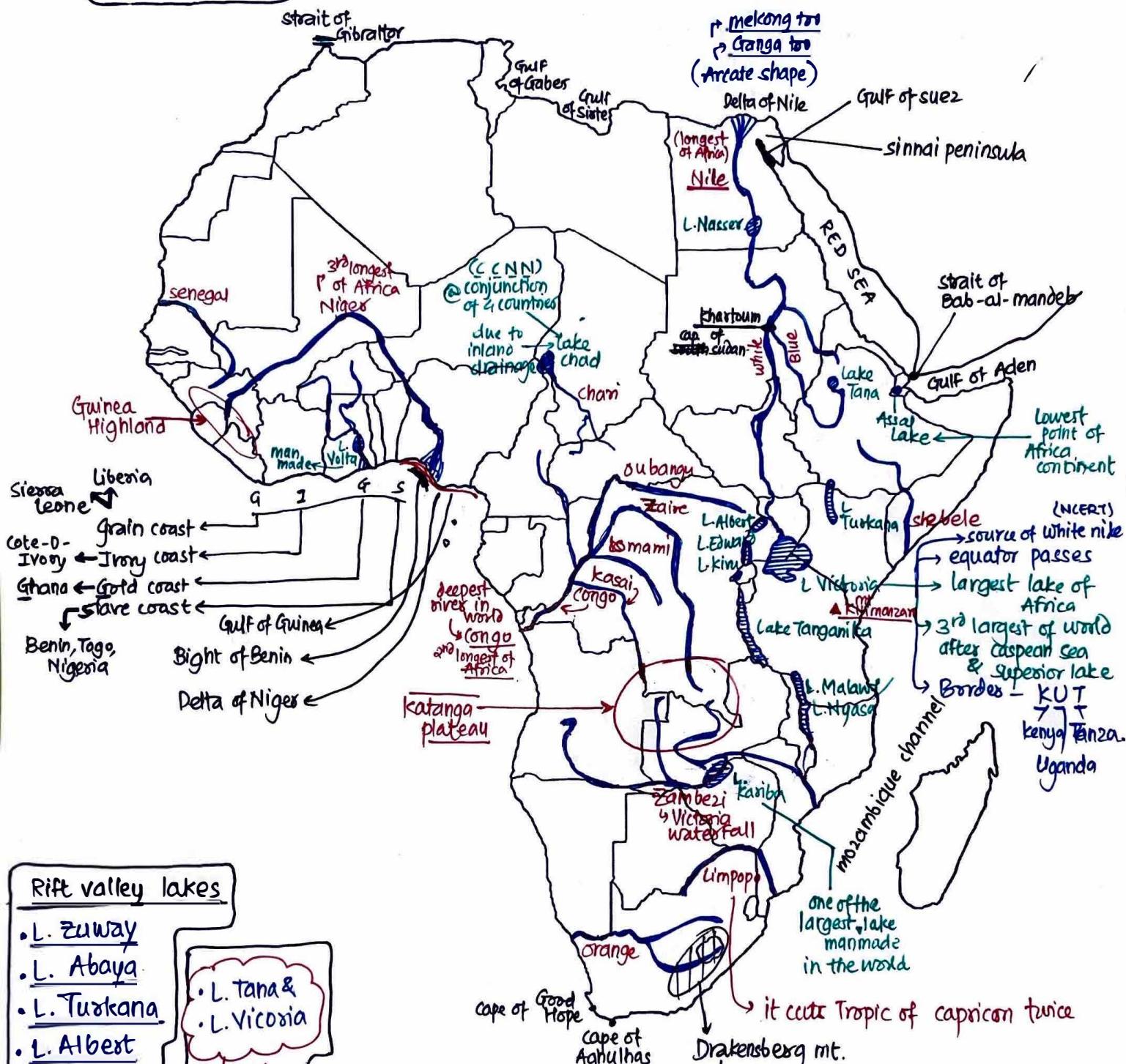
Asia → • Russia



• Aborigines of Africa

- local ethnics of sahara → Touregs
- local horsemen (caravan traders) of sahara & Arabia → Bedouins
- countries of Maghrib → Maghribis
Morocco / Algeria / Tunisia

Map of Africa

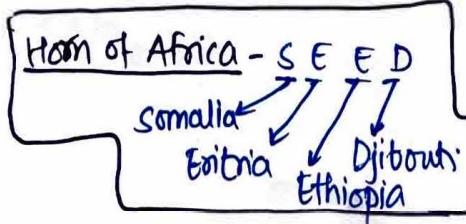


Rift valley lakes

- L. Zuway
- L. Abaya
- L. Turkana
- L. Albert
- L. Edward
- L. Kivu
- L. Tanganyika
- L. Malawi/Nyasa

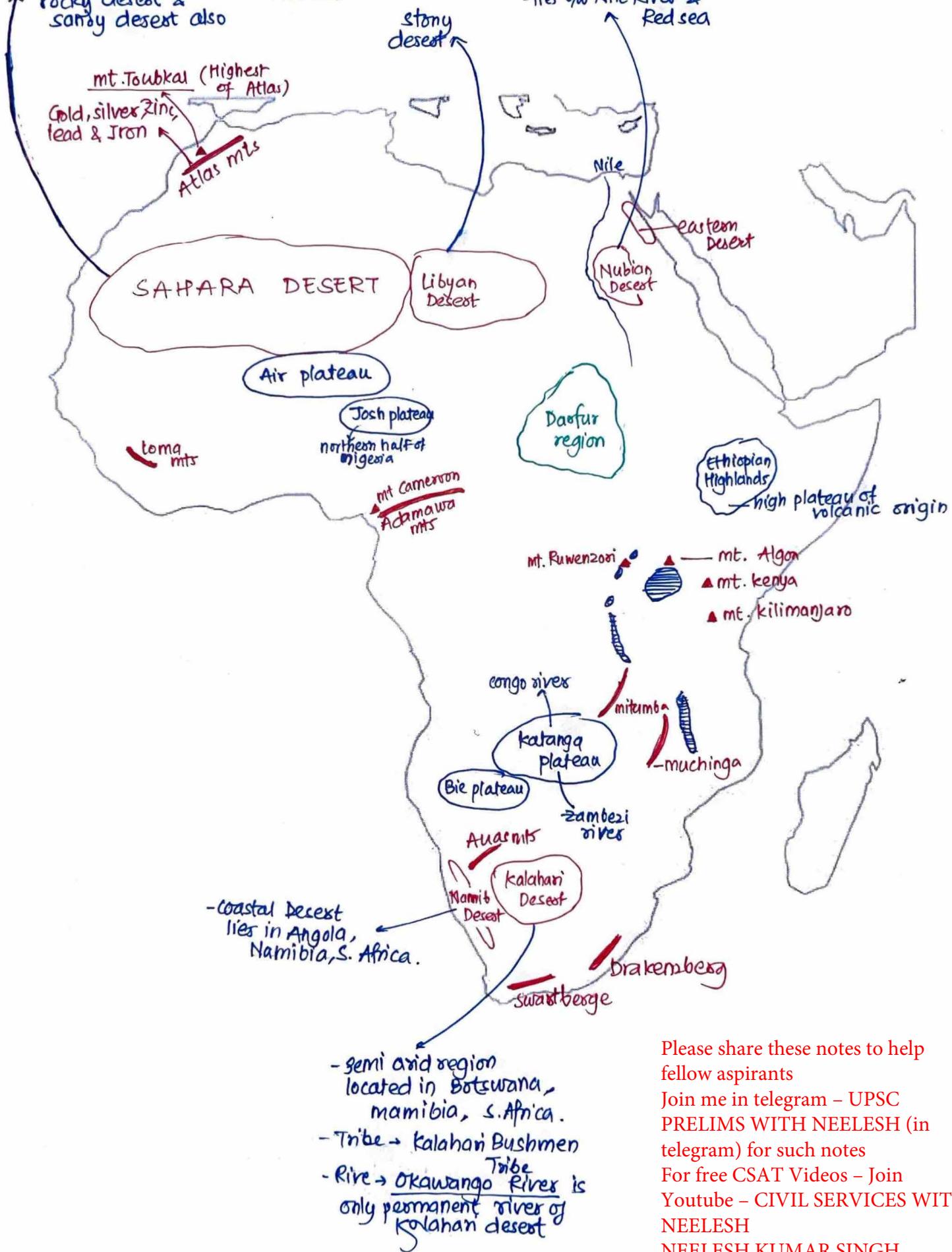
L. Tana &
L. Victoria

not a
rift valley lakes



(25*)

- lies 5°N to 30°N
- world's third largest desert after Antarctica & Arctic
- world largest hot desert
- include mountain desert (Ahaggar & Tibesti),
rocky desert &
sandy desert also



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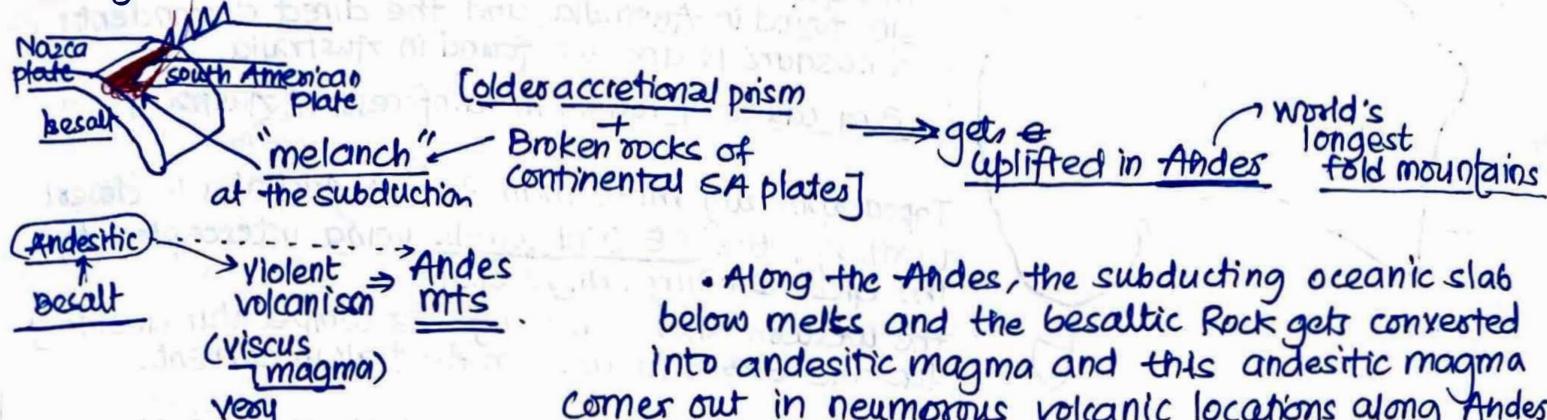
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South America

Tectonics of South America

On the western shores of S America lies the subduction zone of Nazca plate underneath the south american plate & bcz of this subduction zone chile-peru trench is evident along this shores.



Along the Andes, the subducting oceanic slab below melts and the besaltic Rock gets converted into andesitic magma and this andesitic magma comes out in numerous volcanic locations along Andes hence the name ANDES or (Andean-type of fold mt.)

These eruptions are very violent as the viscosity is high and the magma flows very slowly.

The NE and south of south america is tectonically stable as there are no subduction margins & hence atlantic sea board of south America has very wide continental shelf whereas pacific sea board has no continental shelf at all and the andes plummet into the pacific directly.

Tropical Grasslands of South America

The Brazilian region is characterised by driest grasslands of world such as Campos, Catingas and Mato Grosso where the topography is semi arid to arid

The tropical grasslands of paraguay - Gran chaco is where the local vegetation is replaced by Alfalfa grass for cattle ranching. Gran chaco along with Entre Rios (they are referred to as mesopotamia - parana & uruguay) are some of the best cattlegrounds of the world and hence no.1 beef exporting region of the world. And the Rio de la Plata region becomes very important from trade perspective.

Temperate Grasslands of South America - PAMPAS

temperate Australia → Downs
grasslands N2 → cantaboury

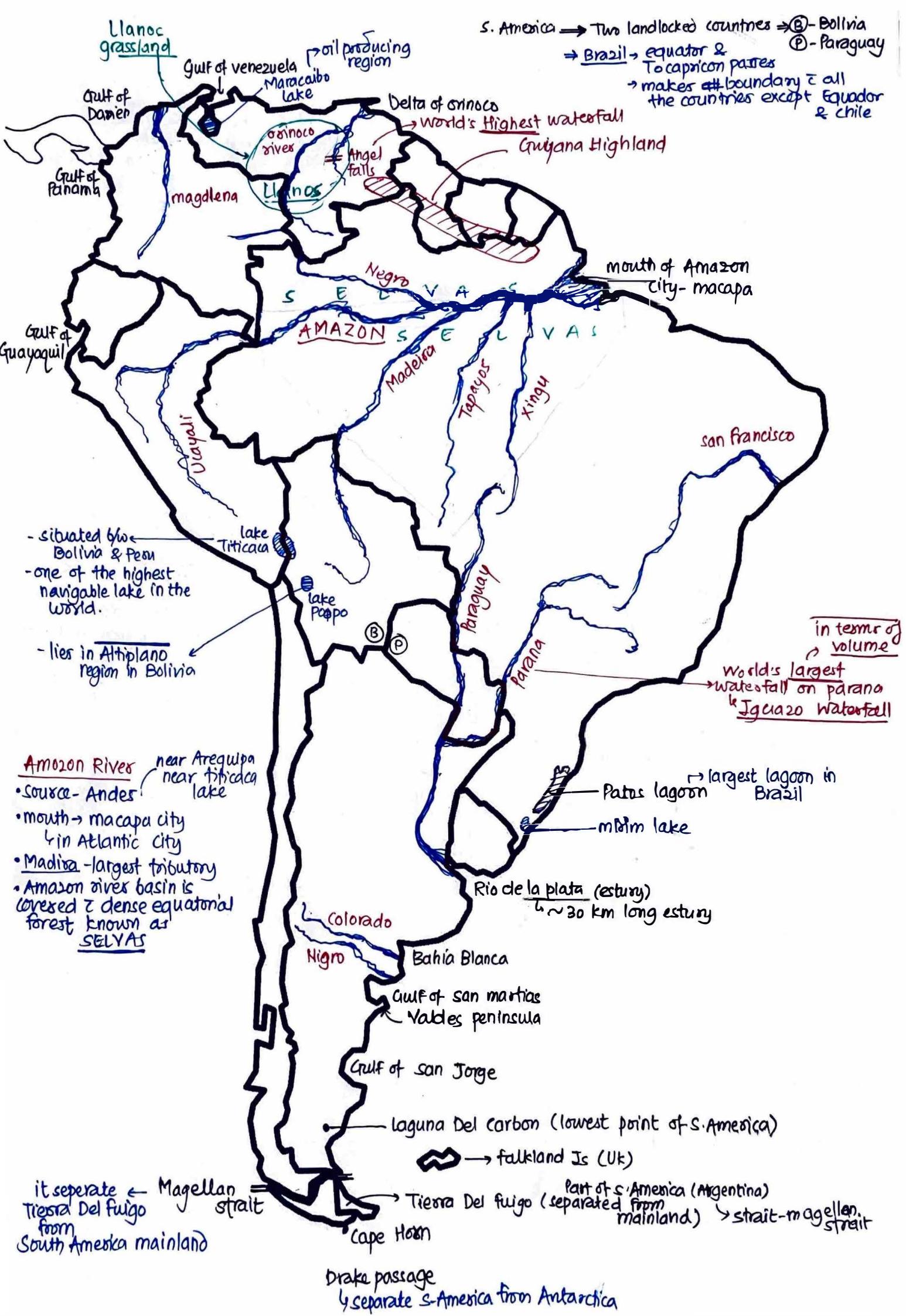
Pampas have the most fertile soil bcz of the 'Loasic deposits' that are brought by the westerlies into the pampas. The eastern part of pampas is relatively wetter bcz of precipitation brought by trade winds from southern atlantic whereas the western pampas are relatively drier bcz of leewardness of the andes. Hence, in the eastern pampas cattle are reared whereas in western pampas sheep are reared.

local sheeps:- Alpaca → wool sells highest in world
Guanamo

[lines made in atlas]

along these lines climate & vegetation of south America changes from equatorial evergreen to savannah grassland topography to xerophytic atacama to tropical grasslands to short temperate grasslands & finally to tundra type of vegetation in patagonia. (decrease in temp. from tropics to temperate region)

Argentinean heatware & its connection with La-nina.



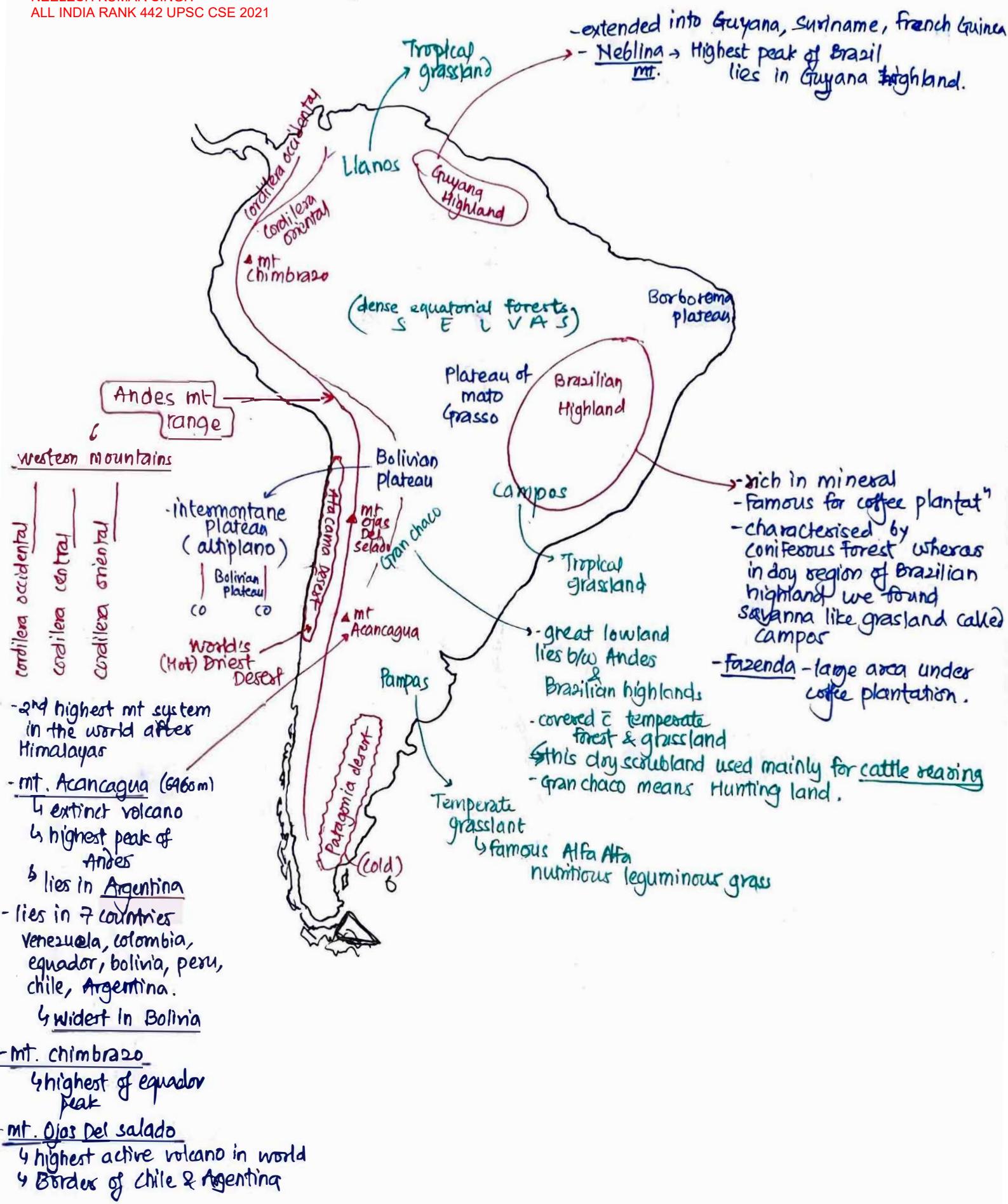
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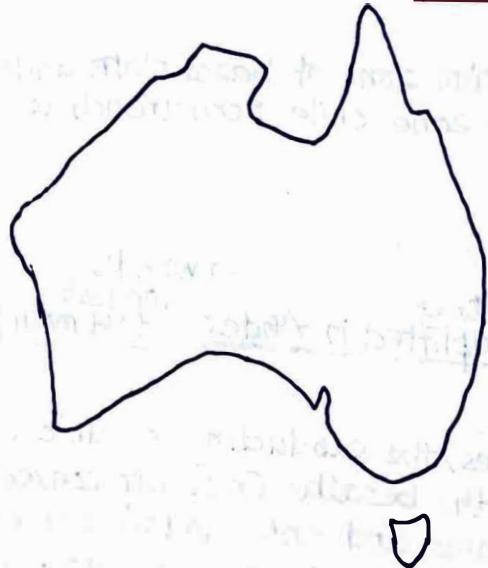
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AUSTRALIA



• Australia, the world's largest continental island got separated from Gondwanaland and it largely remained as it is for majority of its geological history. Therefore, the world's oldest tropical rainforests are found in Australia and the direct descendants of dinosaurs are also found in Australia.

→ Bird Cuckoo roams in rainforest of Australia

• Topographically more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of Australia is desert territory, the SE tradewinds being intercepted by the Great Dividing Range and the western shores having -ve temperature anomaly due to the ~~cold~~ cold Western Australian current.

• The tropical monsoon & influence the climate & weather of Northern & NW Australia primarily around Darwin. Rest of the Australia is outside the monsoonal influence.

• As the western Australia along w/ Northern Territory and south Australia being desert territory called as the Australian Outback. Entire population of Australia is concentrated in the east and the southeast.

• The underlying rock structure of the Great Dividing Range is such that it has got a layer of porous/sedimentary /~~aq~~ aquifer rock sandwiched b/w layers of impervious granitic rocks. Therefore, all of the rainwater get saturated b/w these impervious rock layers resulting into formation of very big deep wells called as Artesian Wells.

• Murray-Darling basin today
is completely dried out bcz of CC → . Australia is dependent
on Tasmania for vegetable production

• Bindibu - Aborigines of Australia (Arnhem land)



↳ ... called Gardon state!

Economy

- As of today CC has completely altered economic scenario of Australia. Agriculture which was once mainstay of SE Australia today remains largely insignificant.
- Today Australia largely relies on export of coal & thorium as major industrial drivers
- Bcz of coral reef bleaching where as of 2023, more than 60% of the Great Barrier Reef is permanently bleached, Tourism prospects in Australia are also dwindling

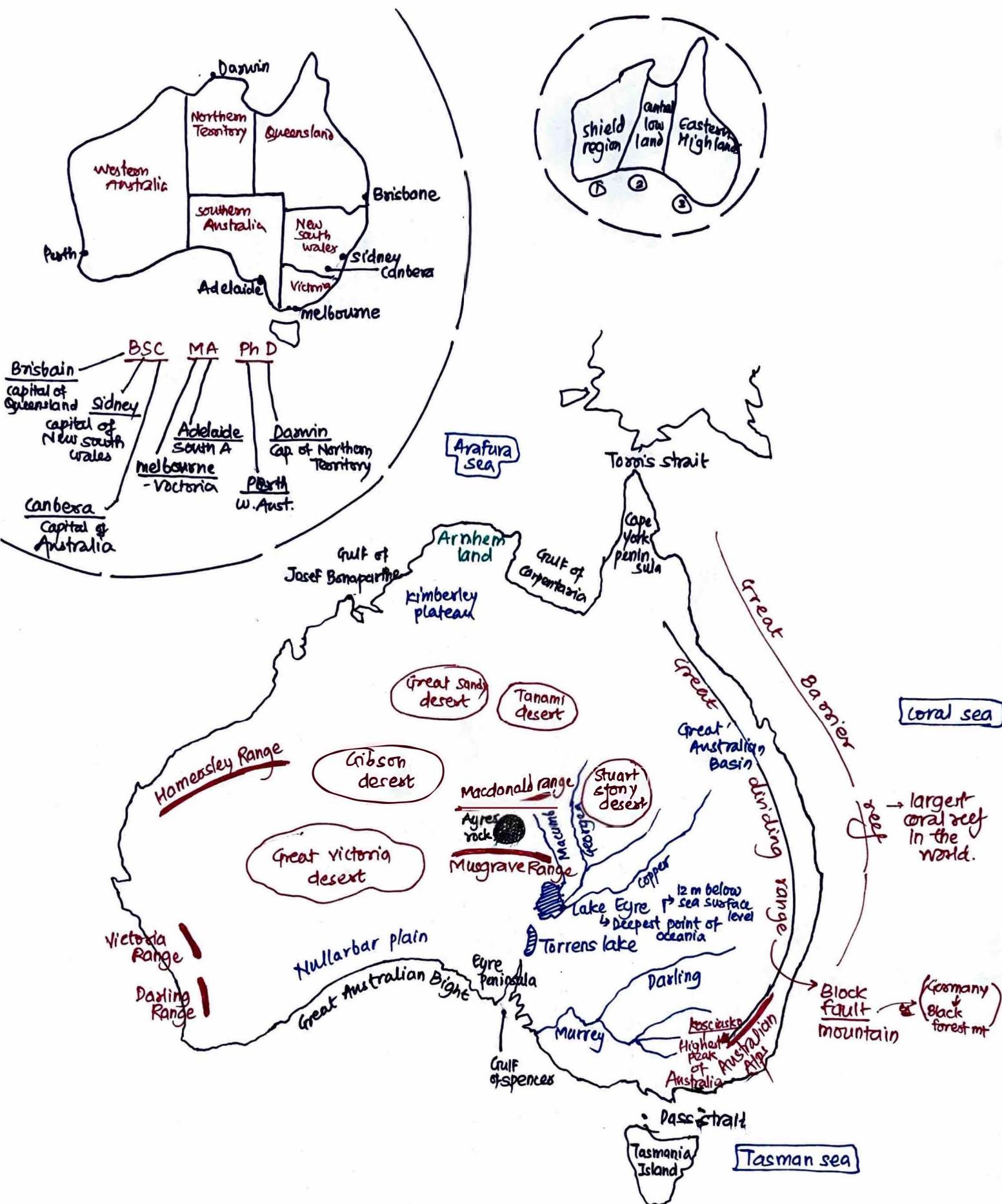
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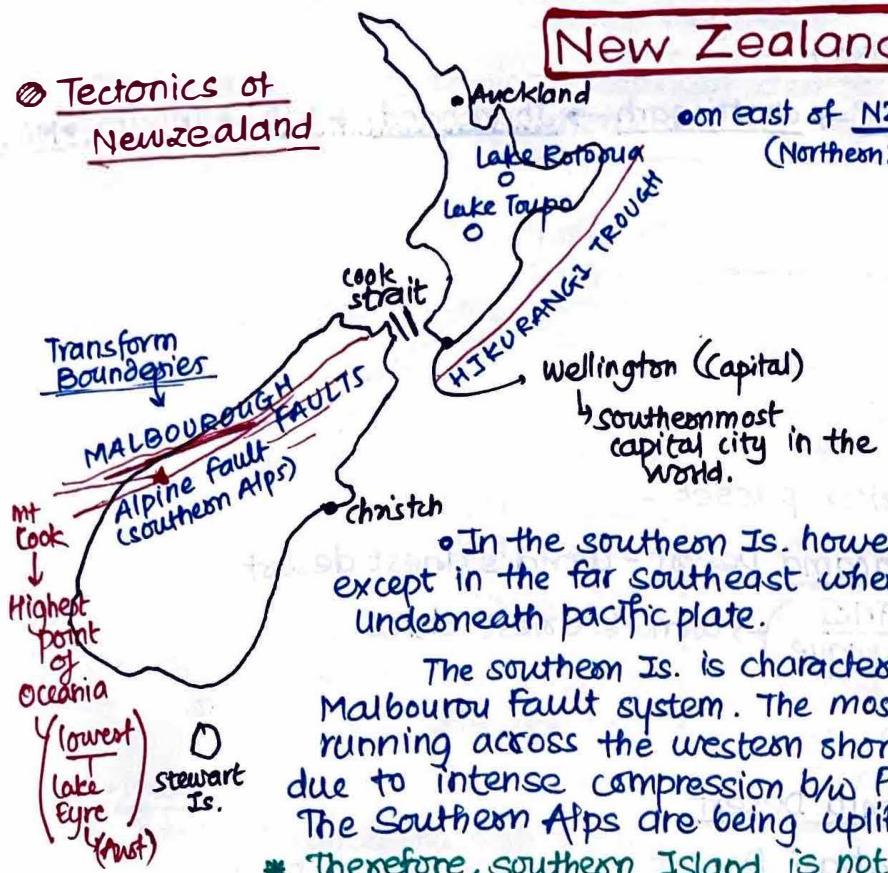
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New Zealand

Tectonics of New Zealand



On east of N2 → subduction of Pacific plate below Indo Australian plate
 - subduction along Hikurangi trough
 therefore Northern Island of N2 is more tectonic than southern Island & characterised by volcanic topography & numerous volcanoes, craters & calderas.
 The largest caldera of New Zealand being 'Lake Taupo', another caldera being 'Lake Rotorua'

- In the southern Is. however, there is no active subduction zone except in the far southeast where Indo Australian plate subducts underneath Pacific plate.

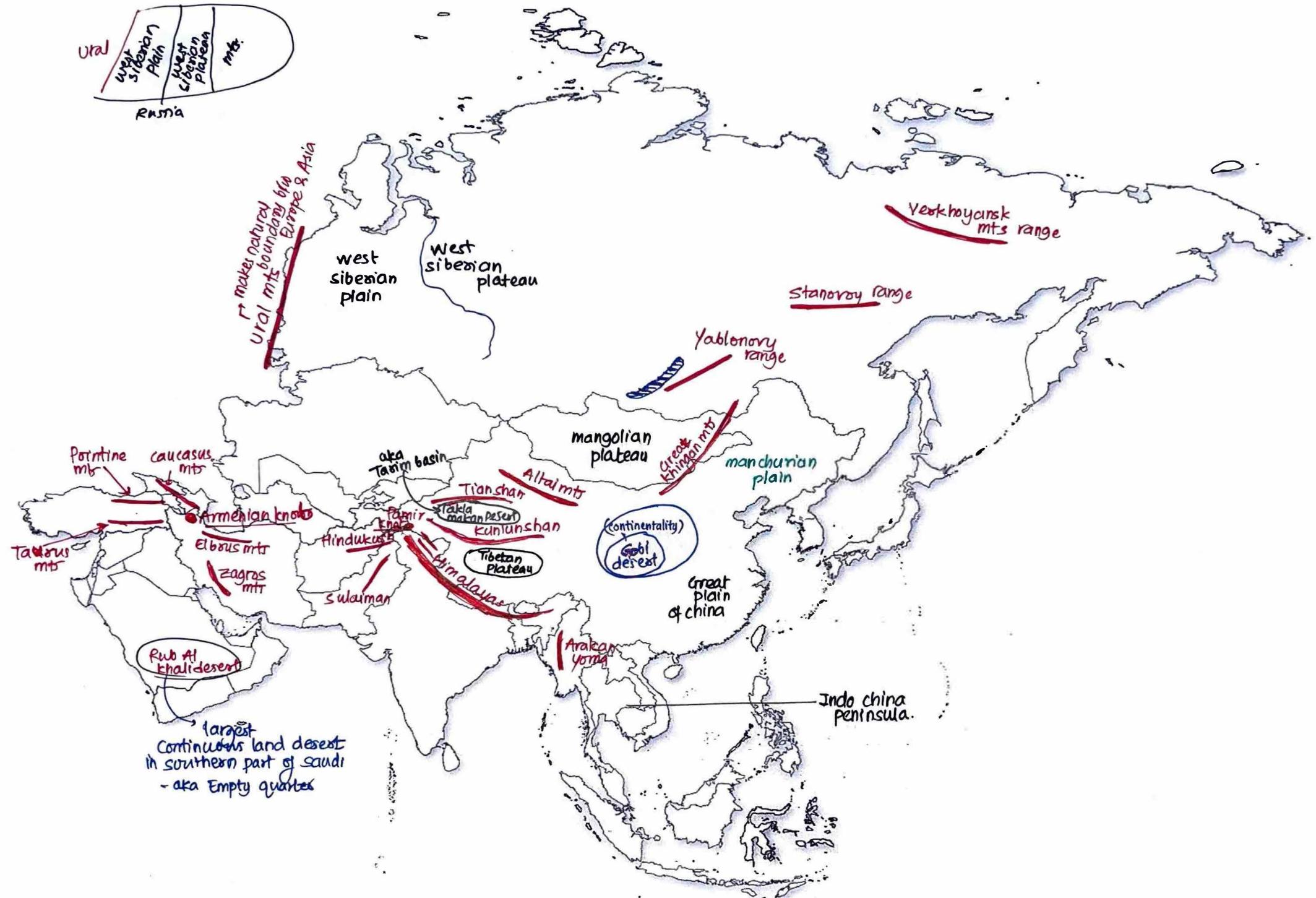
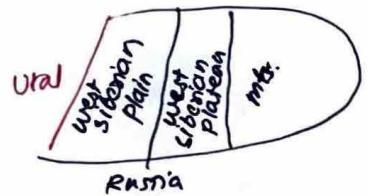
The southern Is. is characterised by numerous faults as a part of Malborough Fault system. The most prominent fault being the alpine fault running across the western shore end of Southern Is. This is where due to intense compression b/w Pacific plate & Indo Australian plate, The Southern Alps are being uplifted.

* Therefore, southern Island is not as tectonic as Northern Island.

- discovered by Sir James Cook in 1746 (Dutch) → cook strait b/w N. Is & S. Is
- Aborigines of the new Zealand are called 'MAORI' people, which were displaced internally when the New Zealand was discovered by Captain James Cook in 1750s. Cook entered into New Zealand through Bay of Islands. Today MAORIES are largely inhabiting the Northern Island along the Taranaki Bight, the region is referred to as Taranaki Wanghui Plains.
- Due to the unique orographic nature of the Southern Alps, the western shores are characterised by 'Temperate' Evergreen Rainforest also mangroves (interception of moisture laden westerly winds). Whereas the leeward side is characterised by temperate grassland called as 'Canterbury Plains'.

↳ will support Agriculture Dairy Industry → RCEP → Amul pressured goI to not sign this agreement. but why?
 N2 bcz of its unique topography & resource utilisation contributes to ~35% of global milk prod" (monoculture company)
 Amul is frightened that, if market access is allowed → Milk prices in India → huge loss to our farmers

- # News
- New Zealand was once part of very big continent called ZEALANDIA and New Zealand is the only floating part of that plate and all other plate is submerged
 - in 2023 → Record Breaking Rainfall bcz of tropical cyclone called Gabrielle
 - Dominant industries of N2 → Dairy → Agriculture → Tourism & Viticulture (grapes for wine)





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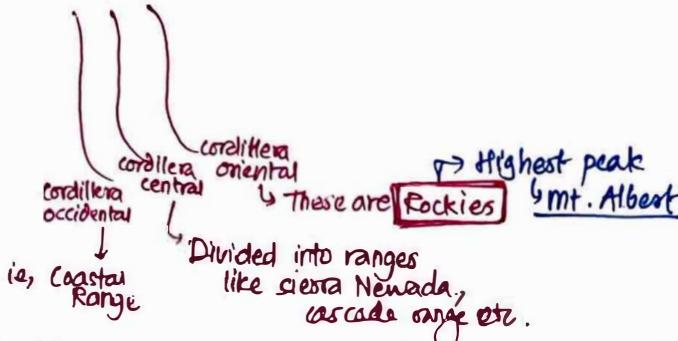
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+ Great Lakes

- ① Lake Superior - 2nd largest lake in world (after Caspian) - largest freshwater lake in the world
- ② Michigan - lies entirely in USA - 3rd largest lake of N. America
- ③ Huron - 2nd largest lake of N. America
- ④ Erie - b/w them → Niagara waterfall
- ⑤ Ontario → smallest of Great Lakes in N. America
↳ 1/4 th of Superior.

Western Cordilleras



Rockies - longest mt. chain of N. America extend from British Columbia in Canada to Mexico.

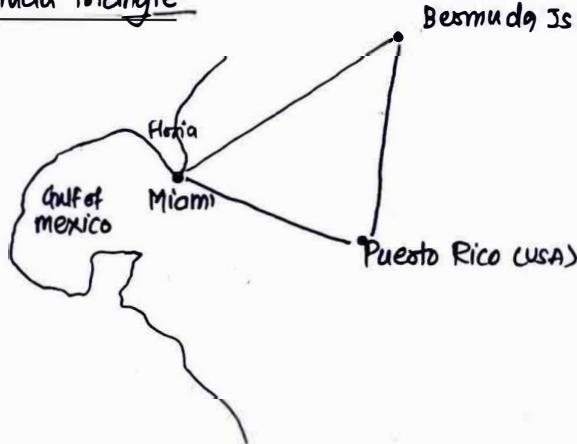
Sierra Nevada - part of cordillera central
- Mt. Whitney → Highest peak of Sierra Nevada

• Central lowland - formed by Mississippi & Missouri River basin
- major of wheat & maize producing region of N. America.

• Eastern Highlands
↳ Appalachian mountains → highest peak Mt. Mitchell bold fold mountains

• Mississippi - Missouri - largest river system in N. America

Bermuda Triangle



Grand Banks - It lies in the eastern coast of N. America where Gulf Stream (warm) and Labrador current (cold) meet.
↳ fishing ground.

N. America

- ↳ Highest point → Mt. McKinley / Denali in Alaskan range
- ↳ lowest point → Death Valley
↳ lies in ^{south} California in USA
↳ b/w Great Basin & Mojave Desert
- Great Basin -
- It is intermontane plate on west cascade, sierra nevada on east Rockies.
(range)
- Colorado Plateau -
- It is intermontane plateau -
- Mt. Mojave desert & Death Valley lies in west of Colorado Plateau

Yukatan Peninsula

- lies in Mexico
- famous for limestone topography

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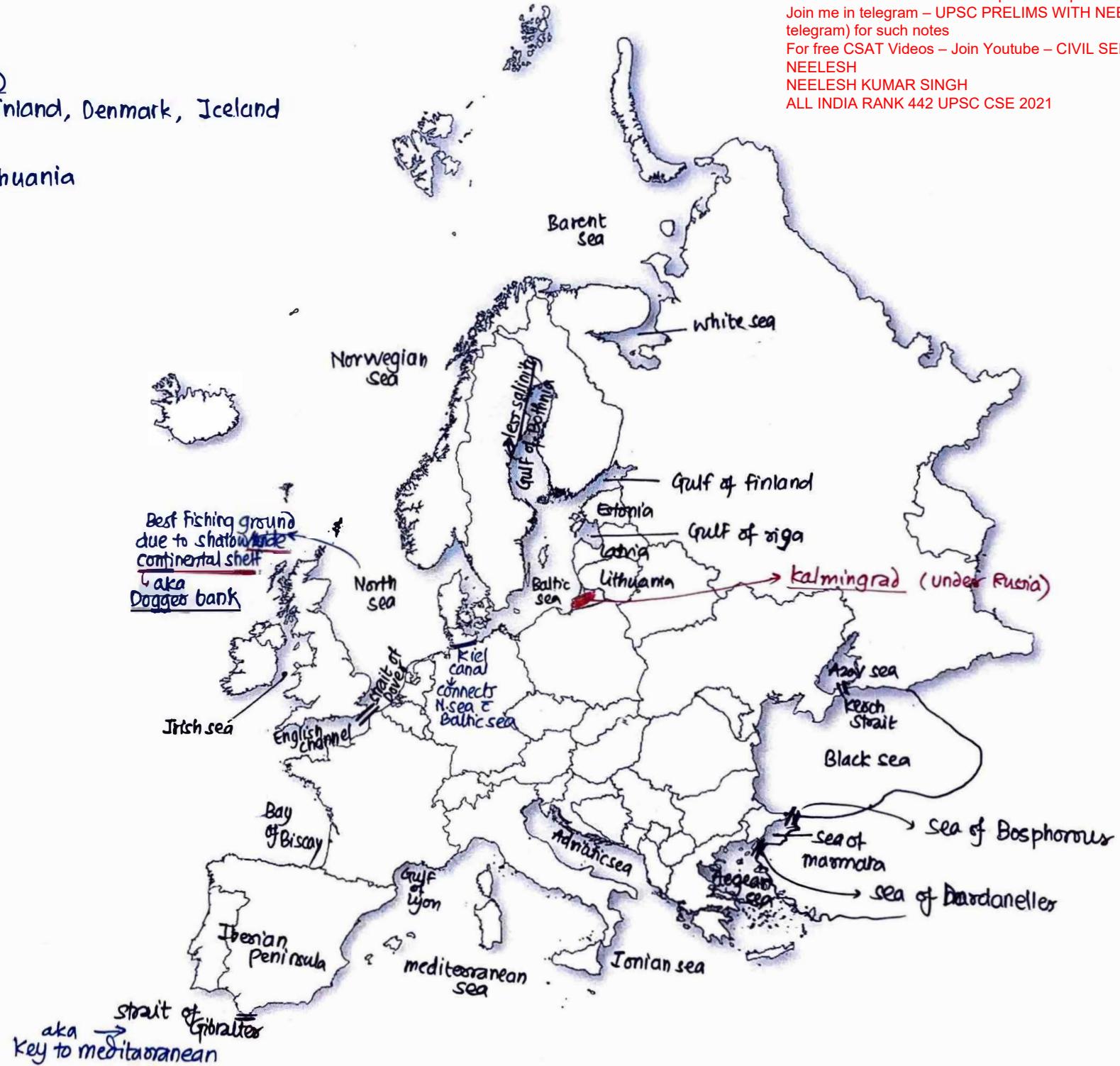
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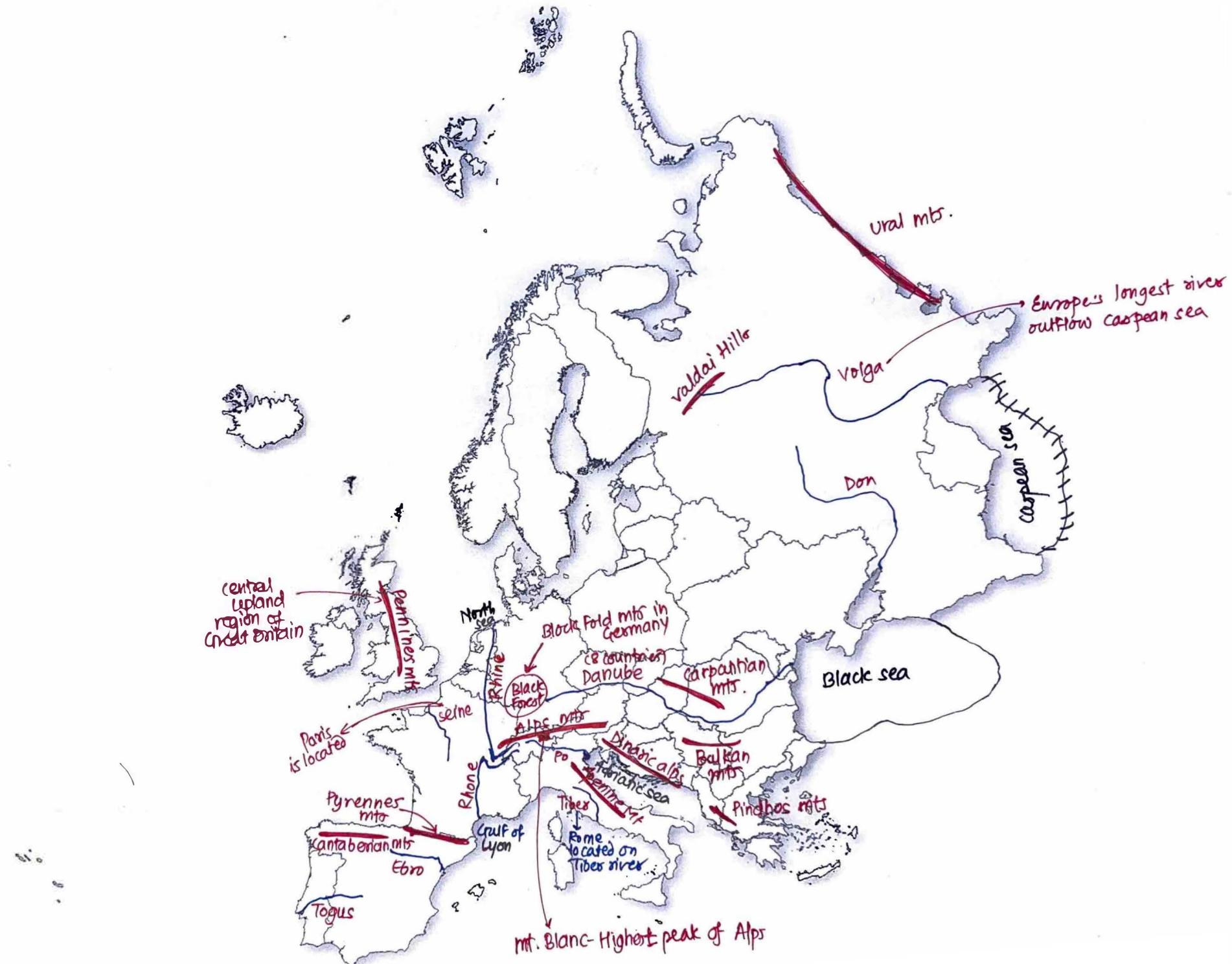
- scandinavian countries(5)

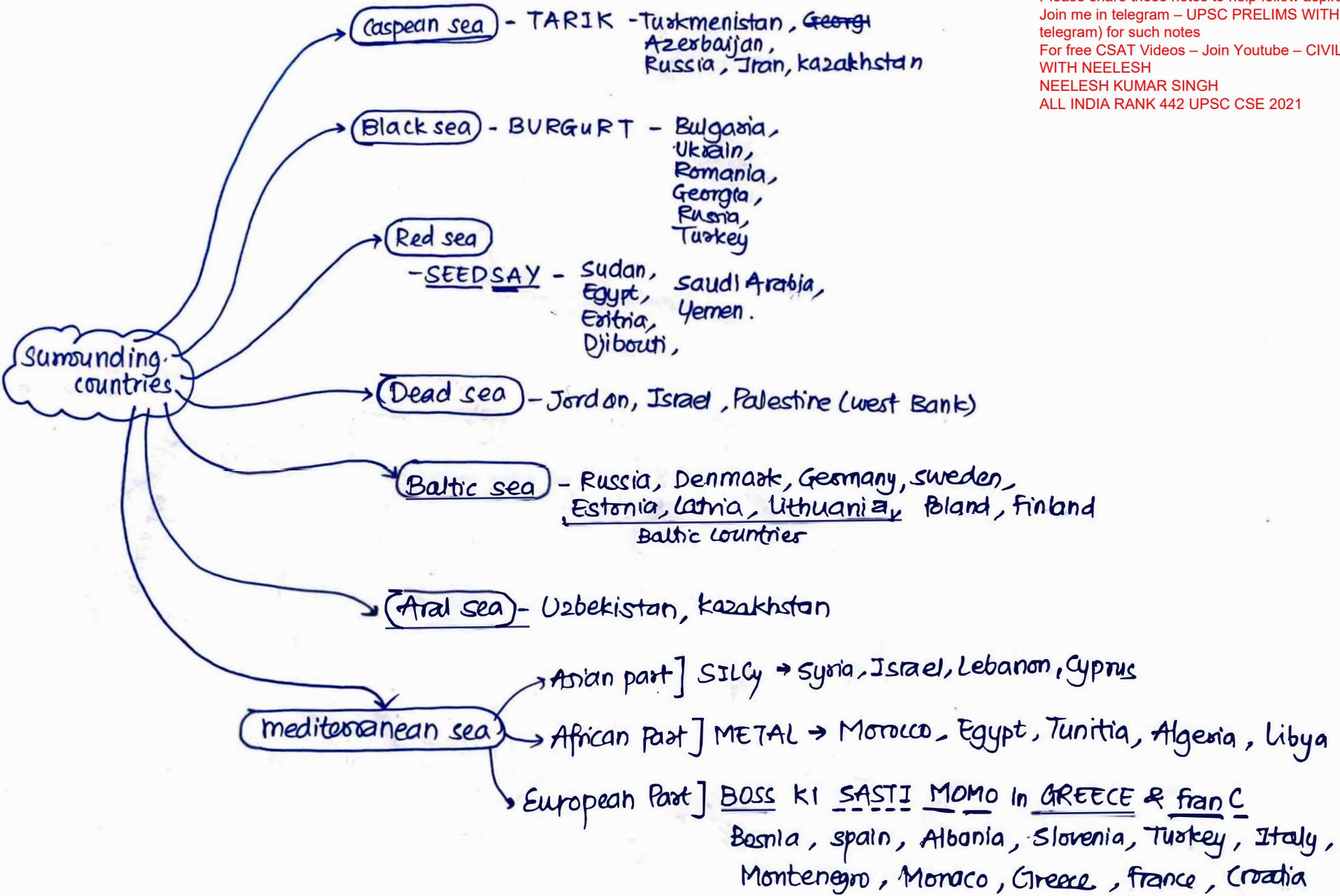
- Norway, Sweden, finland, Denmark, Iceland

- Baltic countries

- Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania

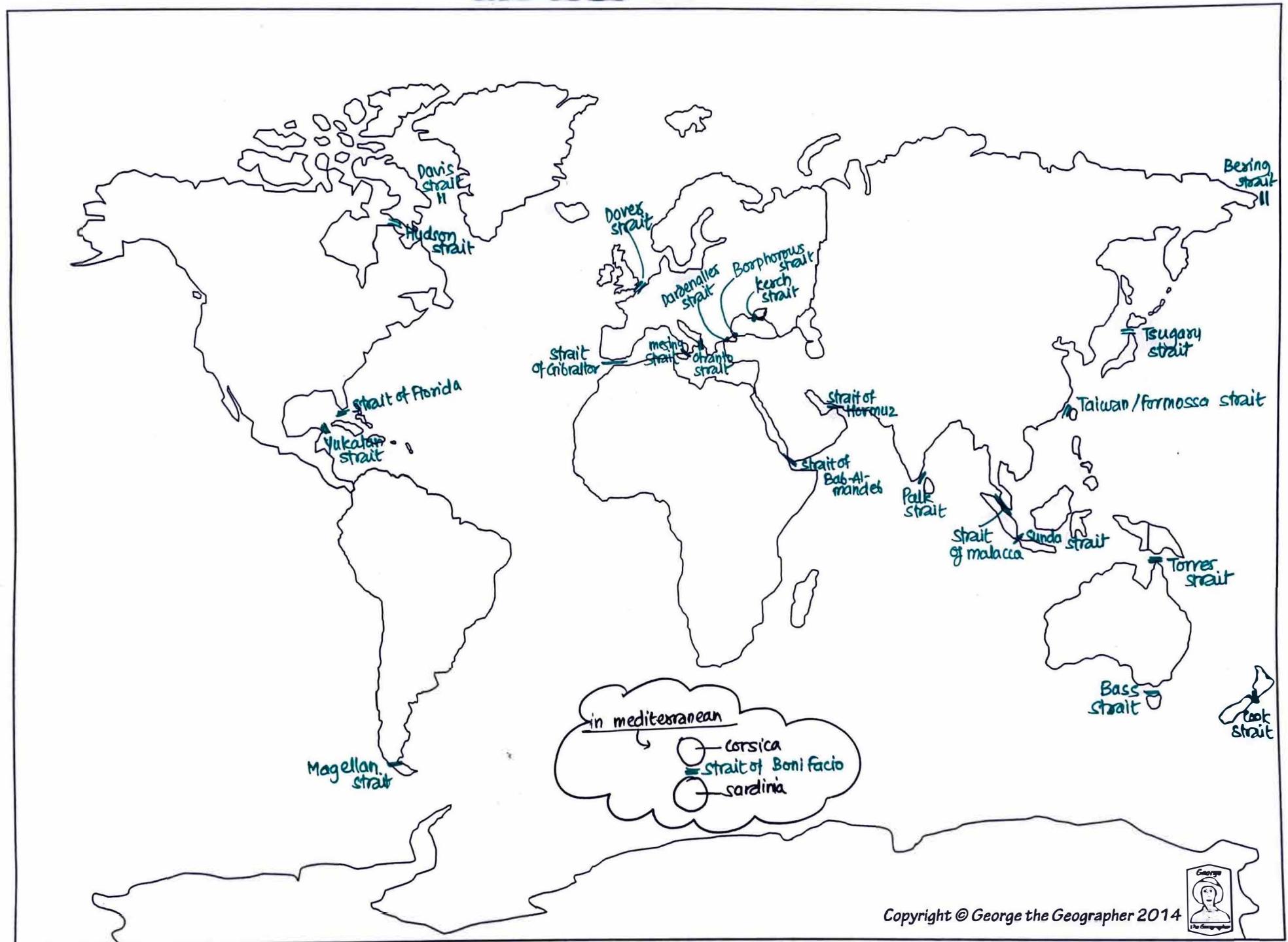




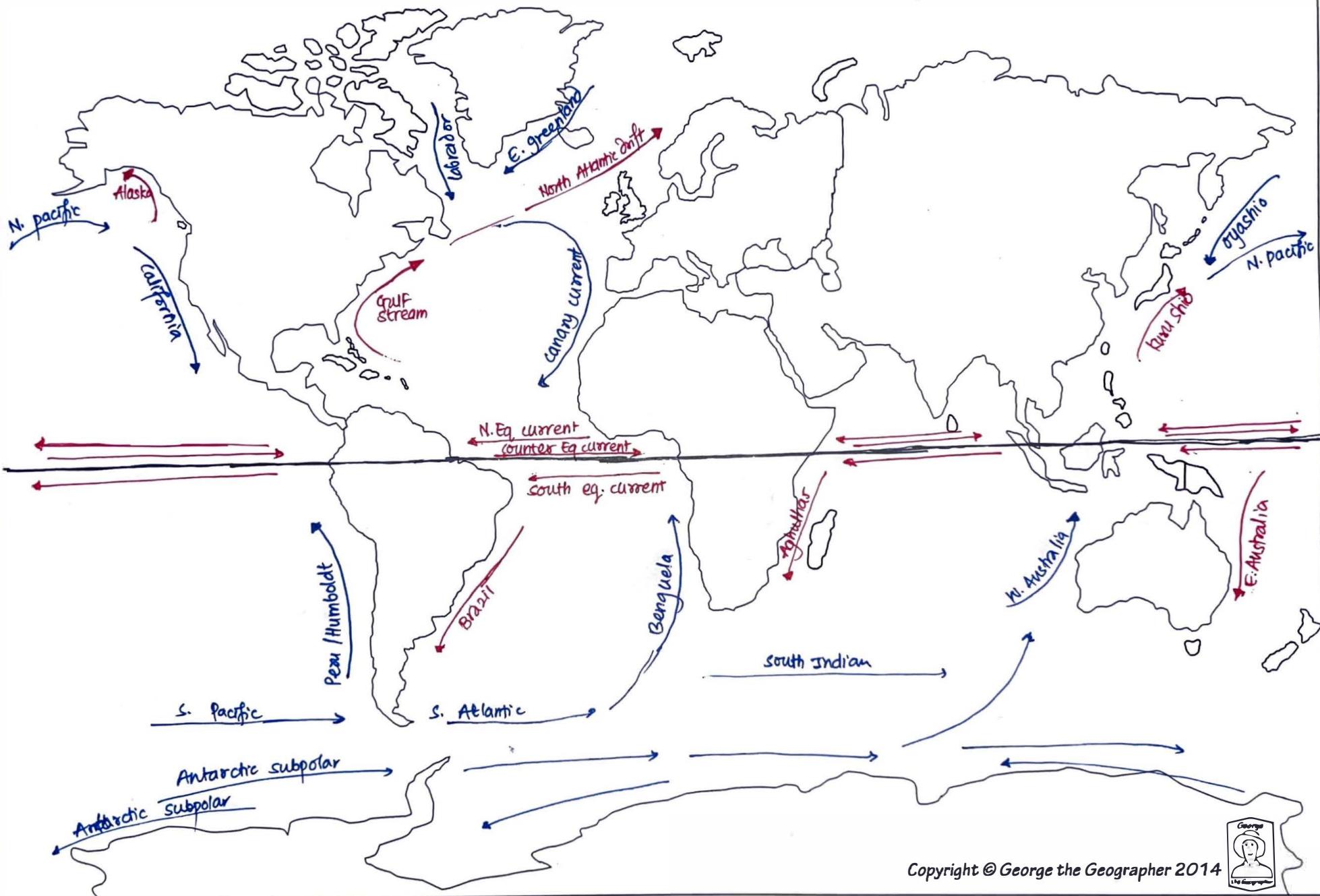


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major straits of the world



Ocean currents



Places in News: World

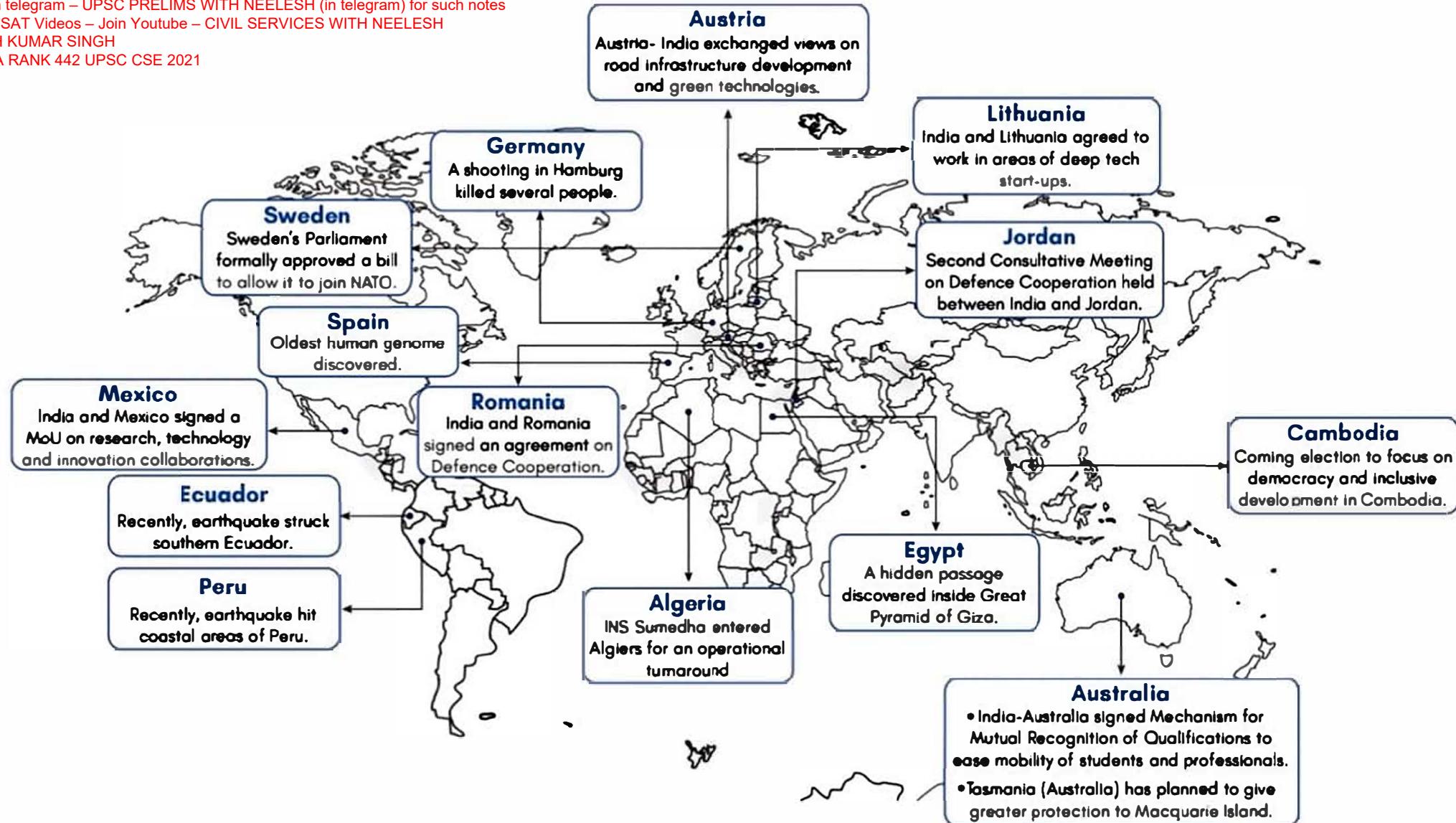
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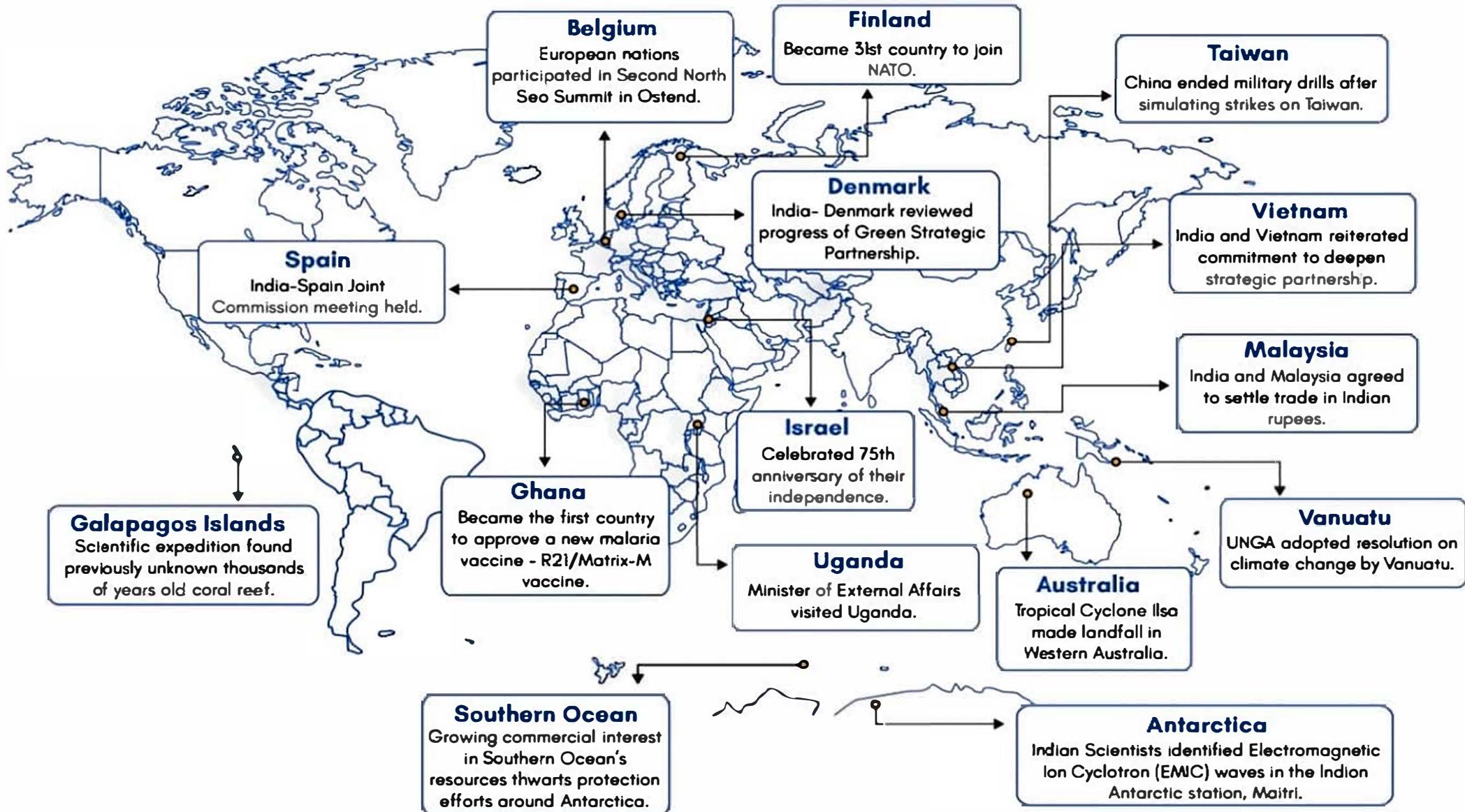
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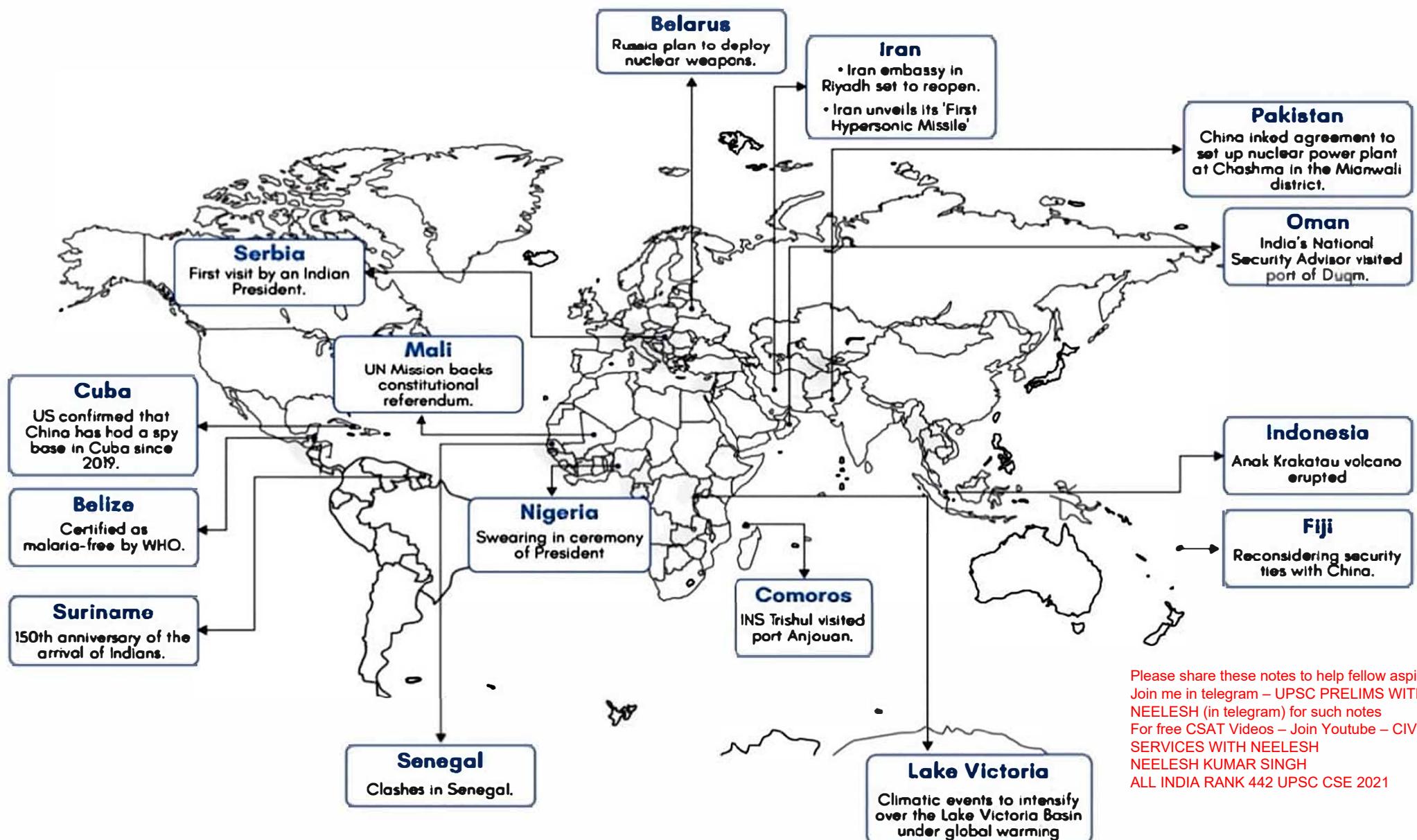
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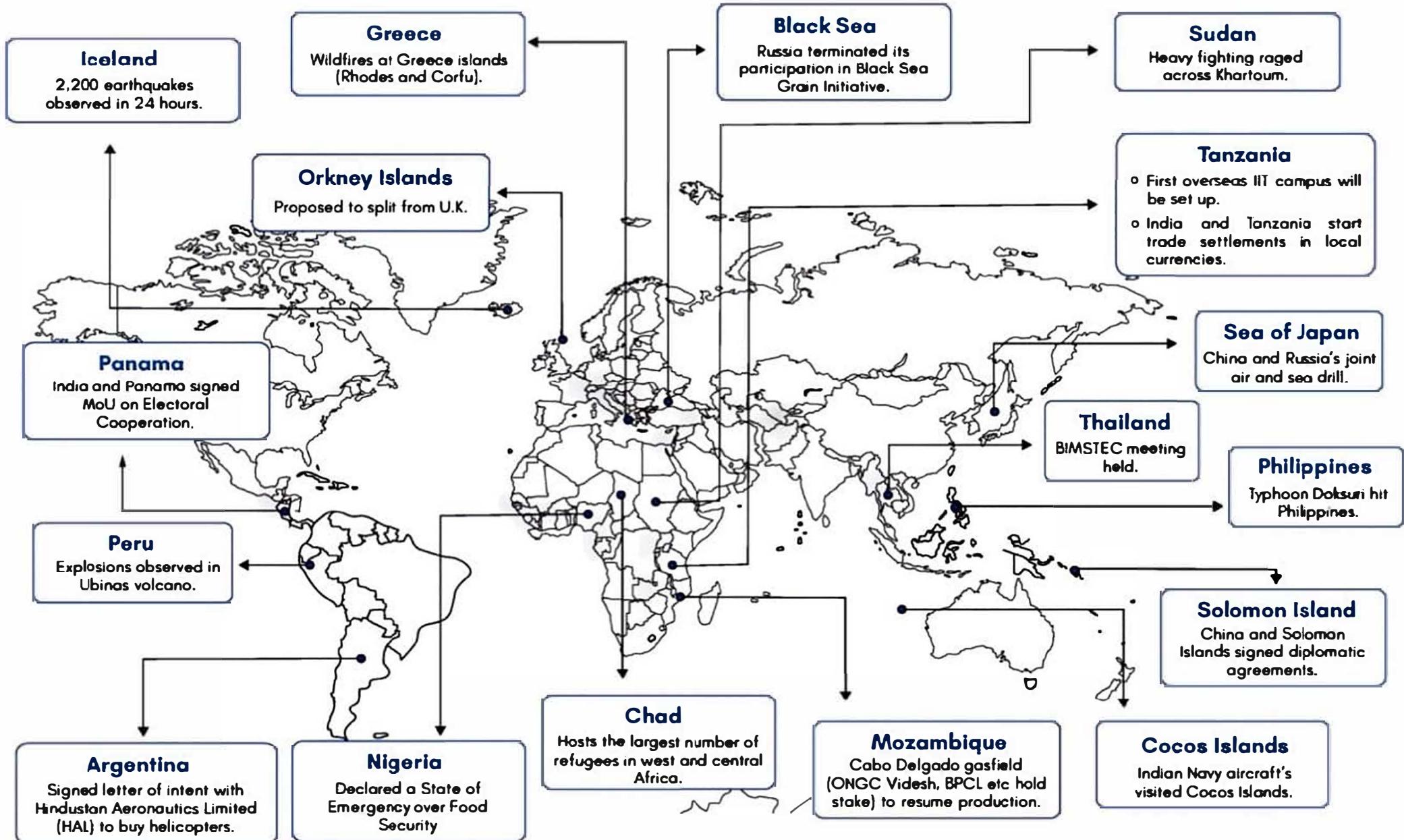


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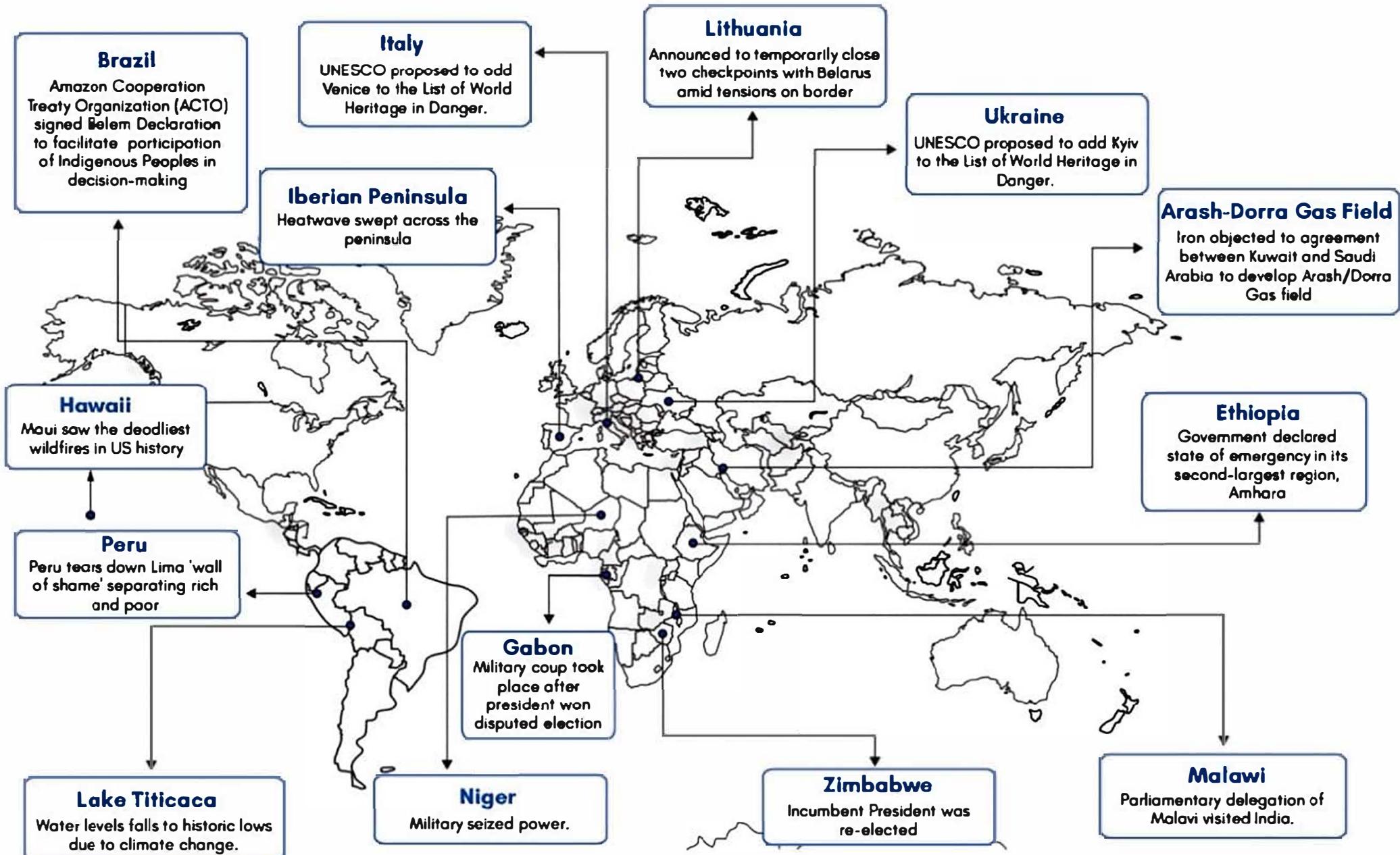


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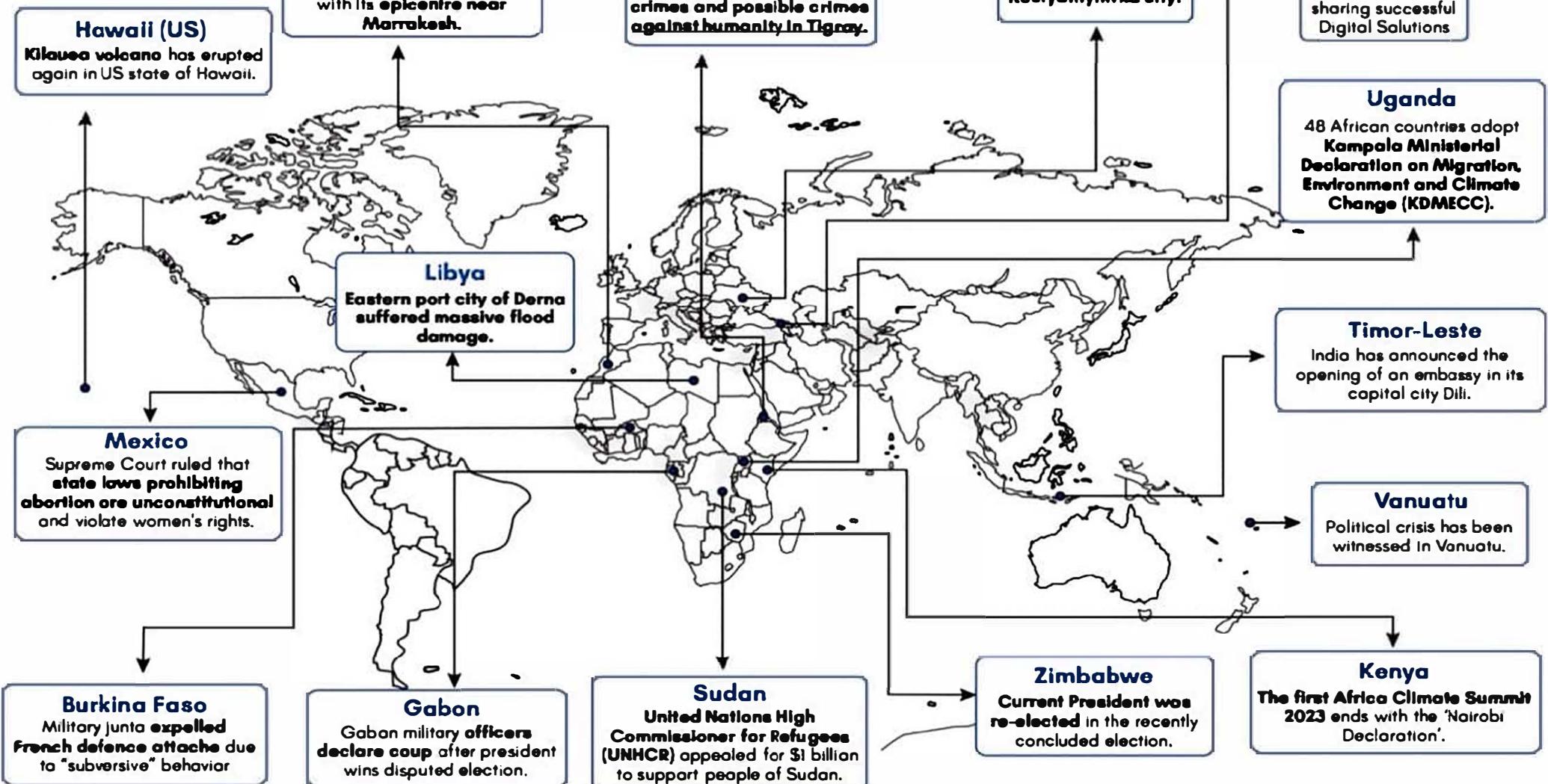
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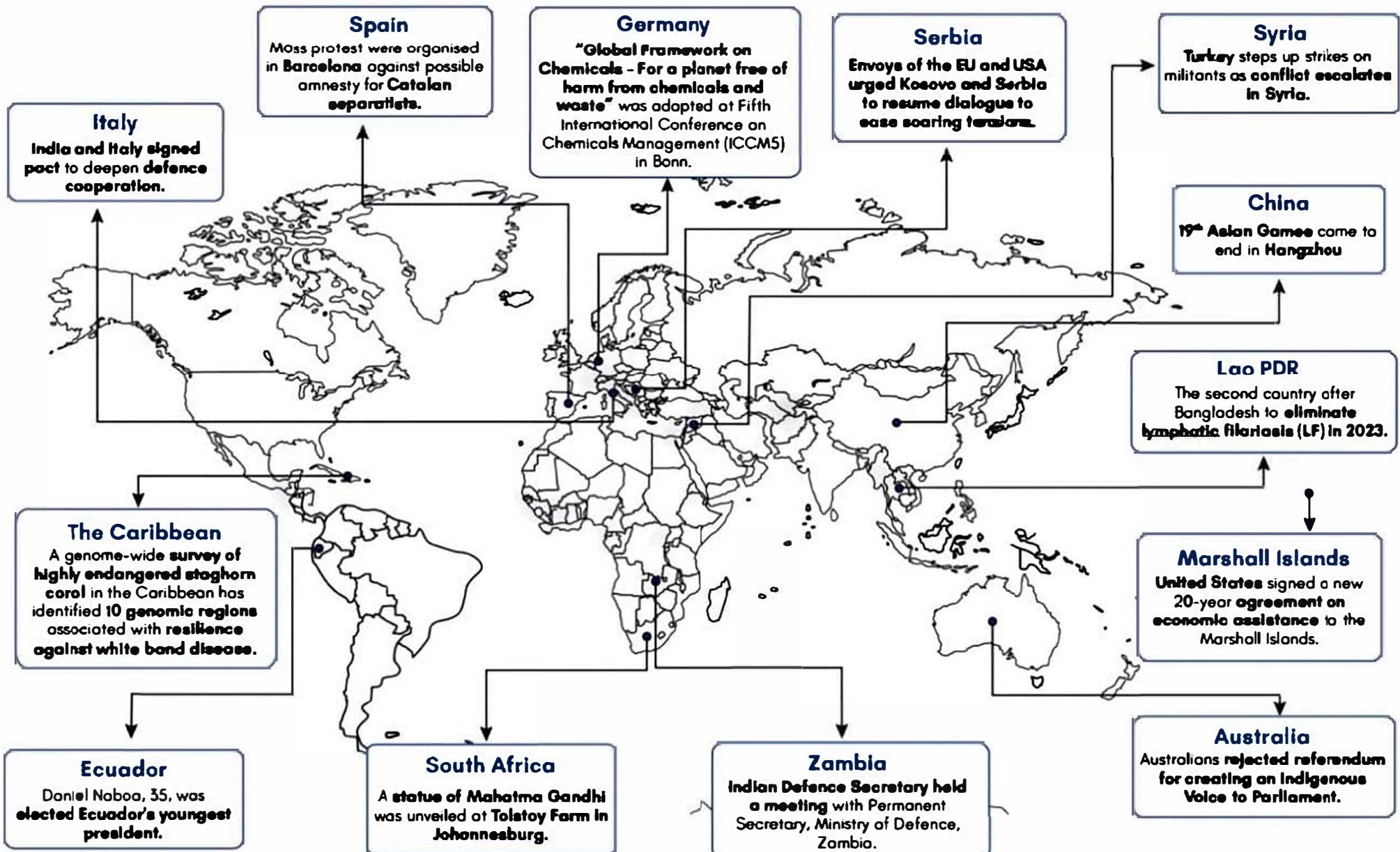
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Places in News: World



Places in News: World

Bering Sea
A recent study revealed a link between declining Bering Sea ice and increasing wildfire hazard in northeast China.



Iceland

Prime Minister of Iceland joined the women on strike over equal pay.

Switzerland

Fifth meeting of Conference of Parties (COP 5) to Minamata Convention held in Geneva.

Italy

Mount Etna Volcano began erupting again on Island of Sicily.

Bahrain

The Kingdom of Bahrain has recalled its ambassador from Israel.

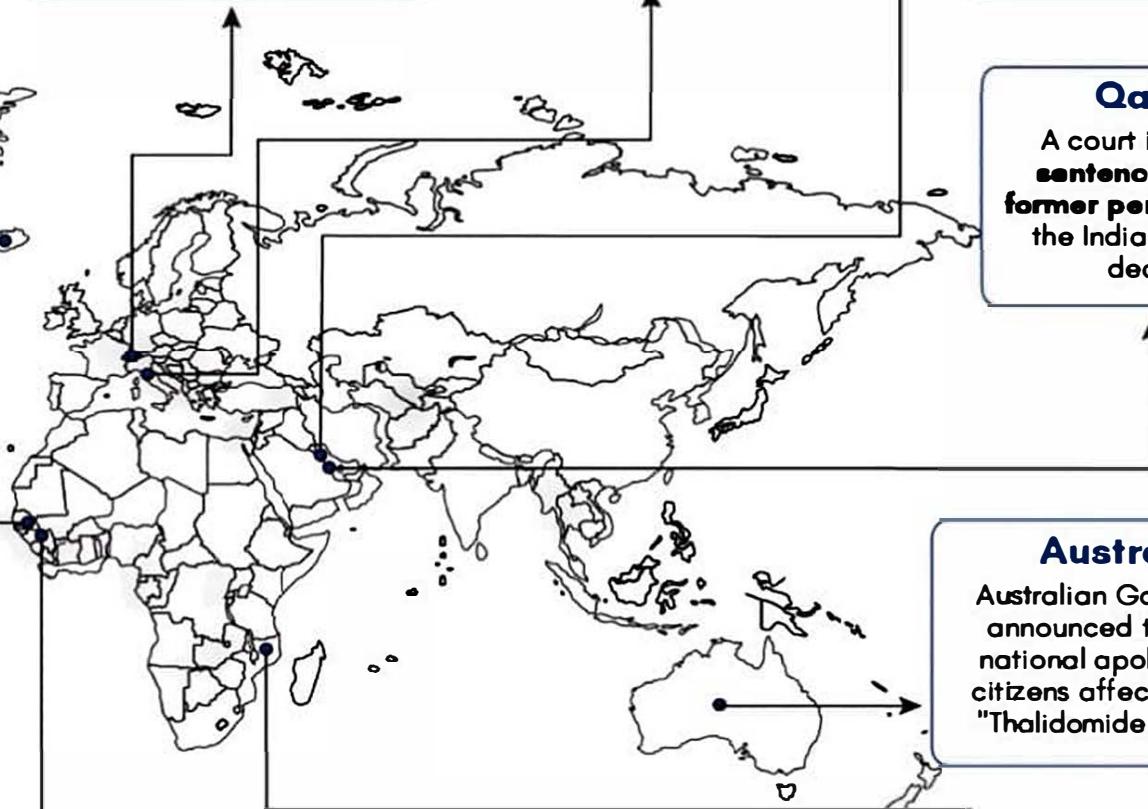
Qatar

A court in Qatar sentenced eight former personnel of the Indian Navy to death.



Dominica

Dominica has announced to create world's first sperm whale reserve.



Senegal

Senegal hosts first meeting of WHO's initiative Global Onchocerciasis Network for Elimination (GONE).

Guinea

Indian Navy has successfully conducted an Anti-Piracy patrol in the Gulf of Guinea.

Mozambique

INS Sumedha arrived at Maputo, Mozambique as a part of the Extended Operational Deployment to Africa.

Places in News: World

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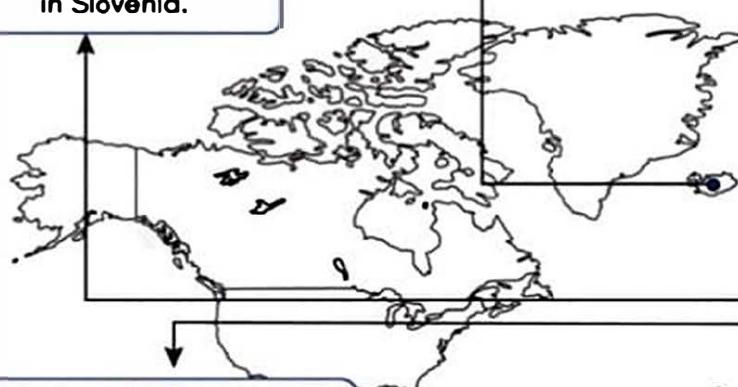
Slovenia
23rd Meeting (COP23) of Barcelona Convention took place in Slovenia.

Iceland
After weeks of intense earthquake activity, a volcano has erupted on Reykjanes peninsula in Iceland.

Cyprus
Cyprus won cheese trademark case against Indian company.

Arctic
Ministry of Earth Sciences Launched India's 1st Winter Scientific Expedition to Arctic.

Nepal
Nepal became the first South Asian nation to formally register same-sex marriage.



Italy
Italy withdrew from China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)

Peru
Peru has lost more than half of its glacier surface in last six decades.

Guyana
Venezuela, Guyana saw tensions over a border dispute around the Essequibo river, and an offshore area.



Philippines
A Strong earthquake of magnitude 7.6 sparked a tsunami warning in the Philippines.

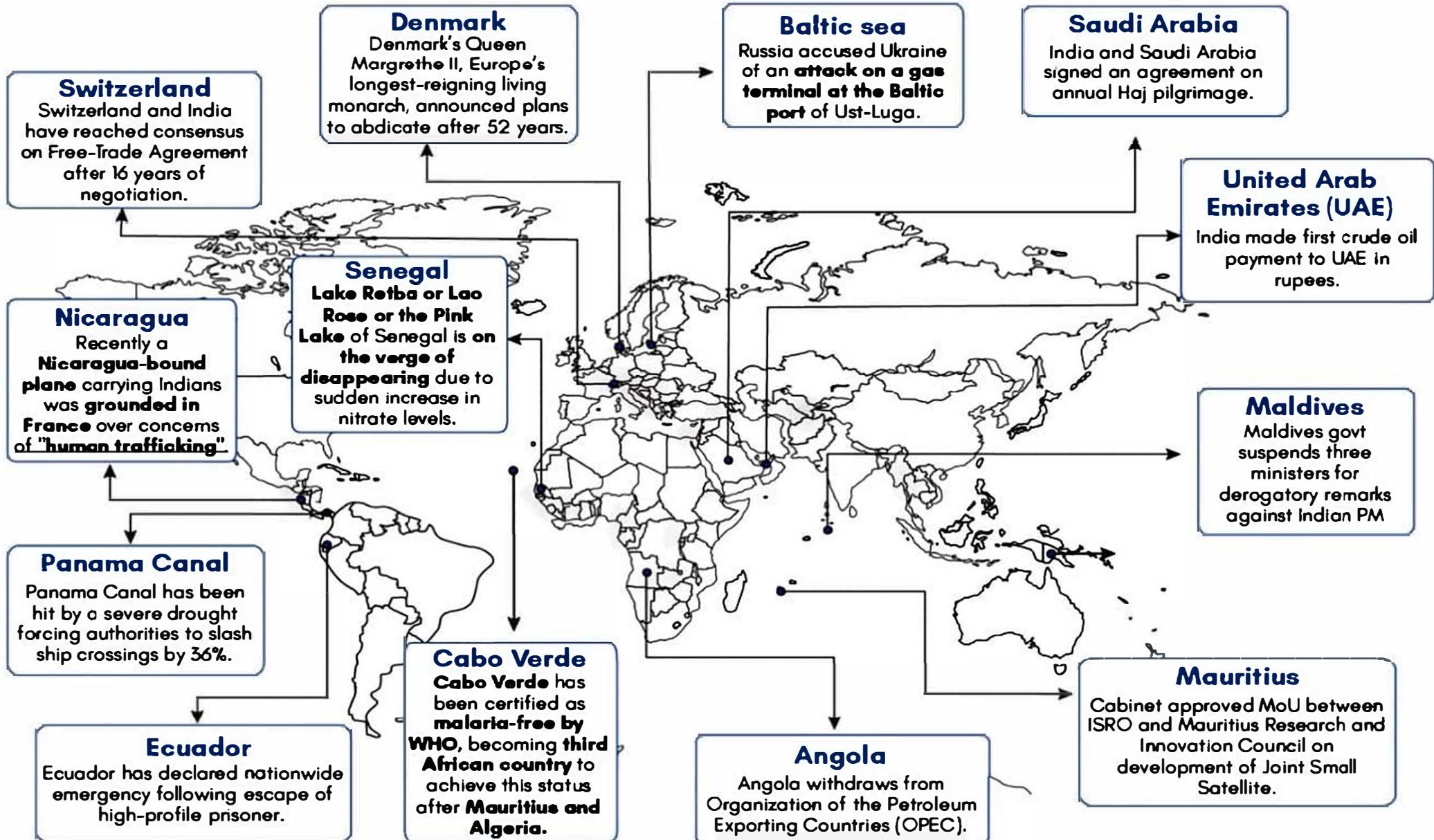
Papua new Guinea
Recently \$1 million relief assistance announced by India for the people of Papua New Guinea affected due to volcanic eruption at Mount Ulawun.

Seychelles
Seychelles declared state of emergency after explosion amid flooding.

Malta
Indian Navy extended help to MV Ruen, a ship of Malta hijacked in Arabian Sea.

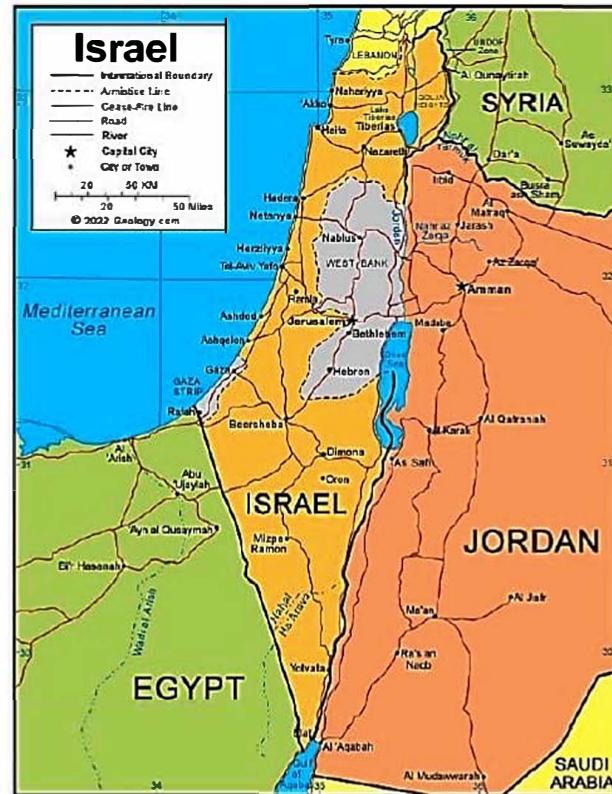
Antarctica
India celebrated 40th years of its permanent residence in Antarctica.

Places in News: World



1. ISRAEL PALESTINE CONFLICT

- Hamas attack "Operation Toofan Al-Aqsa
 - Israel war on Hamas - Operation Iron Swords
 - Places in news
 - Gaza
 - West Bank
 - Sinai Peninsula
 - Ra'afah Crossing
 - Jerusalem
 - Golan Heights
 - Sea of Galilee
 - Dead sea
 - Countries bordering Israel
 - Peace initiative
 - Camp David accord
 - Oslo peace accord
 - Abraham accords
 - Arab Peace Initiative
 - Two state solution
 - Operation Ajay
 - Humanitarian Pause



2. RED SEA CRISIS

- Extends from Suez, Egypt to the Bab el-Mandeb Strait and connects with the Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea.
 - It connects the Mediterranean Sea via the Suez Canal
 - Bab el-Mandeb a choke point
 - It separates the coasts of Egypt, Sudan, and Eritrea from those of Saudi Arabia and Yemen to the east
 - Ships attacked by Houthi militants from Yemen
 - Horn of Africa



3. PERSIAN GULF

- Countries bordering Persian Gulf- Oman, UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia , Kuwait, Iraq and Iran
- Eight Indian Navy veterans, who were sentenced to death in Qatar, have been released
- Strait of Hormuz - choke point
- Gulf of Oman

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4. RUSSIA UKRAINE CONFLICT

- Countries bordering Russia
- Countries bordering Ukraine
- Donbass region
- Kakhova Dam, on the Dnipro River
- The Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant
- Sulina Channel and Ukraine Grain Trade
- Danube river- the second longest river in Europe after the Volga.
- Kerch strait- Crimean Bridge
- Port of Sevastopol
- Wagner Group - Prigozhin



5. BLACK SEA

- Countries bordering Black sea- Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, Turkey, Bulgaria and Romania
- The Black Sea connects to the Mediterranean Sea through the Bosphorus Strait, the Sea of Marmara, the Dardanelles Strait, the Aegean Sea, and the Sea of Crete.
- Kerch Strait links the Black Sea to the Sea of Azov
- Montreux convention



6. SERBIA KOSOVO

- Currency dispute
- Clashes between Albanian and ethnic Serbs
- Kosovo since it declared independence in 2008
- Serbia describes Kosovo as a renegade territory
- Balkan region

7. NAGORNO KARABAKH

- Azerbaijan claimed full control of the breakaway Nagorno-Karabakh region
- On 1 January 2024, Nagorno-Karabakh was formally dissolved

8. CASPIAN SEA

- world's largest inland body of water
- Endorheic basin
- Five countries have a shoreline on the Caspian Sea - Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Iran, and Azerbaijan

9. UZBEKISTAN

- Referendum to rewrite Constitution
- Uzbekistan is a landlocked country located in Central Asia
- CAR countries
- The Fergana Valley lies in the east, surrounded by mountain ranges



10. SOUTH SUDAN

- South Sudan continues to face human rights and humanitarian crises.
- South Sudan is a landlocked country
- South Sudan is bordered by six countries
 - Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic

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11. TIGRAY REGION OF ETHIOPIA

- Tigray is the northernmost regional state in Ethiopia, bordered by Eritrea, Sudan
- It is facing famine and on the verge of a humanitarian catastrophe



12. GABON

- Gabon is in Central Africa, along the west coast of the continent.
- It is bordered by Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Republic of Congo and the Atlantic Ocean to the west.
- Despite being a major oil producer, a third of Gabon's population lives in poverty, according to the World Bank.
- It is a member of OPEC



13. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- Battling some of the worst cholera outbreaks seen in decades.
- DRC is the second-largest country in Africa
- It is centered on the Congo Basin



14. SOUTH CHINA SEA

- Connects Indian Ocean with Pacific Ocean
- 9-dash line
- Disputed regions
 - Spartley
 - Paracel
 - The Scarborough Shoal
- Malacca strait - Choke point
- Grey zone warfare



15. TAIWAN

- Republic of China
- Elections held recently
- One China Principle
- One China Policy
- Silkworm Eating Strategy'
- Porcupine strategy



16. SEA OF JAPAN

- China and Russia conducted joint naval and air drills in the Sea of Japan
- Sea of Japan, or East Sea bounded by Japan, by Russia and Korea
- Kuril Islands dispute - Japan Vs Russia
- The Senkaku Islands Japan vs China



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17. KOREAN PENINSULA

- The Korean Peninsula is bounded by the Sea of Japan (East Sea) to the east and the Yellow Sea to the west. To the north, it borders China and shares a small border with Russia
- North Korea and South Korea, separated by the Korean Demilitarized Zone
- The 38th parallel



18. ESEQUEIBO REGION

- Guyana and Venezuela
- Venezuela held a referendum regarding the Guyana controlled Essequibo.
- The region is resource rich

Guyana's disputed region



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**Note – All our initiatives (both free and paid) are
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OUR INITIATIVES (Running Currently)

1. PRELIMS MENTORSHIP 2024 (BOTH FREE AND PAID)
2. ETHICS AND ESSAY EVALUATION – ER NEELESH AIR 442 UPSC_CSE2021
(https://t.me/UpscWithNeelesh_AIR442)
3. SOCIOLOGY FRAMEWORK - TELEGRAM – SOCIOLOGY WITH NEELESH
(<https://t.me/SociologyWithNeelesh>)
4. FREE CSAT PROGRAM – ON YOUTUBE CHANNEL – CIVIL SERVICES WITH
NEELESH
5. INTEGRATED MENTORSHIP FOR 2025 (PRELIMS AND MAINS) – YEARLONG
MENTORSHIP
6. SHORT NOTES FOR ALL SUBJECTS (HANDWRITTEN)

UPCOMING INITIATIVES

1. PRELIMS TEST SERIES FOR 2025
2. MAINS TEST SERIES FOR 2025
3. ESSAY VIDEO BATCH FOR 2024 AND 2025
4. ETHICS VIDEO BATCH FOR 2024 AND 2025
5. SOCIOLOGY VIDEO BATCH FOR 2025 BASED ON PYQ
6. CSAT VIDEO BATCH
7. MAINS MARATHON 2024 AND MUCH MORE

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SINGH, AIR 442, UPSC
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