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## Major Plateaus

### Laurentian Plateau

The Canadian Shield, also called the Laurentian Plateau, It is a large area of exposed Precambrian igneous and high-grade metamorphic rocks that forms the ancient geologic core of the North American continent

### Central Mexican Plateau

It also known as the Mexican Altiplano, is a large arid-to-semiarid plateau that occupies much of northern and central Mexico. And It extends from the United States border in the north to the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt in the south, and is bounded by the Sierra Madre Occidental and Sierra Madre Oriental to the west and east

### Altiplano Plateau

The Altiplano, Collao or Andean Plateau, in west-central South America, is the area where the Andes are the widest. It is an intermontane plateau which is located between two ranges of Andes Mountain. Capital of Bolivia La Paz and Sucre are situated on this plateau.

### Central Russian Upland

It is an upland area of the East European Plain and is an undulating plateau with an average elevation of 230–250 m. The southeastern portion of the upland known as the Kalach Upland.

### Colorado Plateau

The Colorado Plateau includes Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, It is divided by the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon. It is the largest plateau in America, and it

covers an area of 337,000km<sup>2</sup> and its highest elevation is about 2,450m above sea level. It causes the emergence of springs called Artesian wells.

### **Columbia Plateau**

It is located in parts of Washington, Oregon, and the Idaho states of the U.S and it is surrounded by the Cascade Range and the Rocky Mountains and it is divided by the Columbia River, It has been formed as the result of volcanic eruptions with a consequent coating of basalt lava (Flood Basalt Plateau).

### **Appalachian Plateau**

It is a series of rugged dissected plateaus located on the western side of the Appalachian Mountains, they are a mountain range that run down the Eastern United States and it is the northwestern part of the Appalachian Mountains, stretching from New York to Alabama.

### **Piedmont Plateau**

It is a plateau region located in the Eastern United States. It is situated between the Atlantic coastal plain and the main Appalachian Mountains, stretching from New York in the north to central Alabama in the south, It is a physiographic province of the larger Appalachian division which consists of the Gettysburg-Newark Lowlands,.

### **Tibetan Plateau**

The Tibetan Plateau is the highest, largest, and most famous plateau in the world; It is located in South-Central Asia and stretches through the countries of Tibet, China, and India, It formed due to collision of the Indo-Australian and Eurasian tectonic plates. It is surrounded by mountains to the south by the Himalayan Range, to the northeast by the Kunlun Range, and to the west by the Karakoram Range.

### **Mongolian Plateau**

It is the part of the Central Asian Plateau and having an area of approximately 3,200,000 square kilometres. It is bounded by the Greater Hinggan Mountains in the east, the Yin Mountains to the south, the Altai Mountains to the west, and the Sayan and Khentii mountains to the north. The plateau includes the Gobi Desert as well as dry steppe regions.

### **Central Siberian Plateau**

This plateau occupies a great part of central Siberia between the Yenisei and Lena rivers. It is located in the Siberian Platform and extends over an area of 3,500,000 km<sup>2</sup>, between the Yenisei in the west and the Central Yakutian Lowland in the east.

### **Deccan Plateau**

It is a large plateau which forms most of the southern part of India. Which is bordered by two mountain ranges, the Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats. It includes the Deccan Traps which is the largest volcanic feature on Earth.

### **Yunnan Plateau**

It is a highland region located in southwest China and the region is primarily spread over the provinces of Yunnan and Guizhou.

### **Shan Plateau**

It is a crystalline massif forming the eastern part of Myanmar (Burma) and forming part of the Indo-Malayan mountain system. The plateau is crossed by the deep trench of the Salween River in the east and is bordered by the upper course of the Irrawaddy River to the west.

### **Arabian Plateau**

It is a peninsula of Western Asia, situated northeast of Africa on the Arabian Plate. Arabian Plateau is an Oligocene sub-horizontal regional planation surface, extending throughout the western half of the Arabian Peninsula.

### **Anatolian Plateau**

It is also known as Asia Minor, is a large peninsula in Western Asia and the westernmost protrusion of the Asian continent. It constitutes the major part of modern-day Turkey and It is an intermontane plateau lying between Pontic and Taurus Mountain ranges. Tigris–Euphrates Rivers flow through this plateau.

### **Guyana Highland**

These are part of the Guyana Shield, which lies in northeast South America and represent one of the oldest land surfaces in the world. The Guiana Shield is one of the three cratons of the South American Plate.

## **Brazilian Highland**

They are an extensive geographical region, covering most of the eastern, southern and central portions of Brazil, in all approximately half of the country's land area. The Brazilian Highland is divided into three plateaus - Atlantic Plateau, extending all along the eastern coast of Brazil, and including several mountain ranges. Southern Plateau, advancing inland in the southern and southern-central portions of the country and Central Plateau, occupying the central portions of Brazil, with sedimentary and crystalline formations.

## **Patagonian Highland**

It refers to a geographical region that encompasses the southern end of South America, governed by Argentina and Chile. It is a Piedmont plateau (Arid Landforms) lying in southern part of Argentina.

## **Central Massif**

The Massif Central is a highland region in the middle of southern France, consisting of mountains and plateaus. It covers about 15% of mainland France.

## **Mesata**

It is one of the basic geographical units of the Iberian Peninsula. It consists of a plateau covering a large part of the latter's interior.

## **Transylvanian Plateau**

It is a plateau in central Romania and it lies within and takes its name from the historical region of Transylvania, and is almost entirely surrounded by the Eastern, Southern and Romanian Western branches of the Carpathian Mountains.

## **The Hardangervidda Plateau**

The Hardangervidda Plateau is one of the largest plateaus in Europe located at a distance of about 200 km to the west of Oslo in the Hardanger region of western Norway.

### **Ethiopian Plateau**

It is a rugged mass of mountains in Ethiopia in northeast Africa. It forms the largest continuous area of its elevation in the continent, with little of its surface falling below 1,500 m, while the summits reach heights of up to 4,550 m.

### **East African Plateau**

It is a large plateau in the eastern part of central Africa in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. It is subdivided into a number of zones running north and south and consisting in turn of mountain ranges, tablelands, and rift valleys.

### **Table Mountain**

It is a prominent landform located in Cape Town in South Africa and it is located at the northern end of the Sandstone Mountain Range.

### **Ahaggar Plateau**

It also spelled Hoggar, large plateau in the north centre of the Sahara, on the Tropic of Cancer, North Africa.

### **The Atherton Tableland**

It is located in Queensland, Australia and it covers an area of 32,000km<sup>2</sup> and has an elevation of 500 to 1,280m above sea level.

### **The Antarctic Plateau**

It is located in Central Antarctica and cuts across parts of the South Pole and the Amundsen Scott Station.

### **The Potohar Plateau**

It is located in the northeastern part of Pakistan, and the plateau is bordered by the Jehlum River to the east, by the Indus River to the west, by the Margalla Hills and the Kala Chitta Range to the north, and by the Salt Range to the south.

### **Katanga Plateau**

The Katanga, or Shaba, Plateau is a farming and ranching region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

## Western Plateau (Australian Shield)

It is Australia's largest drainage division and is composed predominantly of the remains of the ancient rock shield of Gondwana. It covers two thirds of the continent; 2,700,000 square kilometres of arid land, including large parts of Western Australia, South Australia, and the Northern Territory.

## Kimberley Plateau

It is the plateau region of northern Western Australia, extending from the rugged northwest Indian Ocean coast south to the Fitzroy River and east to the Ord River.

