



(c) Write a short note on Paleogeomorphology.

15

Approach:

- ❖ Define Paleogeomorphology
- ❖ Conclude with suitable example of Paleogeomorphology

Answer: A systematic study of the ancient landforms is known as palaeogeomorphology.

- The term paleogeomorphic maps was first used by **Kay in 1945**. Paleogeomorphology was further defined by **Thornbury, Martin, Harris and McKee**.
- **Paleogeomorphology** is that subsience of geomorphology which deals with all buried ("fossil") geomorphic phenomena which are recognizable in the subsurface and in outcrops of previously buried and newly exhumed formations. Hence, paleogeomorphology is the science of buried relief features of the earth. This includes both buried landscapes and buried submarine features, such as fossil submarine canyons, fossil reefs and fossil volcanic islands.
- The landforms of the earth crust are millions of years old. The question what is ancient landform is not easy to be answered. The geomorphologist's make this difference on the basis of the processes involved.
- In other words, whether a landform is the product of the existing processes or it has been the product of the processes which acted in the past and no longer operative upon them at present.
- **Relict landform, buried landforms and Exhumed or resurrected surfaces** are example of Paleogeomorphology
- **Relict landforms** are those which formed on a pre-existing landscape and have escaped destruction as parts of the present-day topography. For example, during the Pleistocene Period many parts of the Eurasia were covered by thick ice-sheets which resulted into the development of glaciated landform and deposited big boulders in countries like Denmark, Germany, Belgium, Poland, Ukraine, Finland and Siberia, though no permanent ice is found in these areas today.
- **Buried topography** includes both the erosional and depositional landforms which have been buried beneath some type of cover-mass, commonly marine or terrestrial sediments.
- **Exhumed landforms** are those which formed as surface topographic features and then were buried beneath a cover. Exhumed surfaces are found in Canadian shield, the Columbian Plateau, the Plateau of Brazil, South Africa, Australia, the Chotanagpur Plateau and the Deccan Lava Plateau of India