

What is Glacier

 A slowly moving mass or river of ice formed by the accumulation and compaction of snow on mountains or near the poles.





Types of Glacier

- There are two main types of glaciers: continental glaciers and alpine glaciers. Latitude, topography, and global and regional climate patterns are important controls on the distribution and size of these glaciers.
 - Continental glaciers cover vast areas of land. Today, continental glaciers are only present in extreme polar regions: Antarctica and Greenland . Historically, continental glaciers also covered large regions of Canada Europe, and Asia, and they are responsible for many distinctive topographic features in these regions..



Types of Glacier

 Alpine glaciers originate high up in the mountains, mostly in temperate and polar regions, but also in tropical regions in high mountains (e.g. in the Himalayas and Andes Mountains of South America).



Erosional Landforms

- U-Shaped Valleys
- Hanging Valleys
- Cirques

- Aretes
- Horn
- Nunataks
- Roches moutonees
- Fiords

U-Shaped Valley

 The cross-section of glacial valley is U-Shaped which is characterized by steep valley walls





Hanging Valley

 The valleys of tributary glaciers which join the main glacial valleys of much greater depth





It is an armchair shaped steep walled depression representing a glaciated valley head





Horn and Aretes

 A pyramidal or triangular faceted peak formed due to recession and intersection of three or more cirques.



Nunataks

- The higher peaks and mounds surrounded by ice from all sides
- They look like scattered small islands
- Therefore also called glaciai islands





Rouches Moutonnees

 These are streamlined asymmetrical hillocks, mounds or hills having one side smoothly moulded with gentle slope and the steepened and craggy lee ward side





⁽c) Dr. Pranjit Kumar Sarma

Fiords

• These are glacial troughs which are occupied by the sea.

•Characterized by steep side walls and several hanging valleys



Depositional Landforms

- Moraines
- Drumlins
- Esker

- Kames
- Kettles
- Outwash Plain



These are ridge like depositional features of glacial tills



Moraines

- Terminal Moraine: The materials dropped at the end of a mountain glacier.
- Lateral Moraine: Materials deposited at either of the two sides of a glacier.
- Medial Moraine: When two glaciers join, the two lateral moraines also join and form a single moraine at the confluence of the two glacier is called medial moraine.
- Ground Moraine: When glacial sediments are deposited at the floor of glacier valleys.



Drumlins

 A smooth egg shaped hummock of glacial debris. Drumlins looks like an inverted boat or spoon.





These are long, narrow and sinuous ridges of sands and gravels.







 Small hills or irregular mounds of bedded sands and gravels which are deposited by melt water



Outwash Plain

An extensive land surface covered with gaciofluvial sediments





Kettles

These are deposition in outwash plain.





