

GEOMORPHOLOGY: THE STUDY OF LANDFORMS

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INTRODUCTION

What is geography?

Branches of Geography

Geomorphology

MEANING

- ❑ Geomorphology is an important branch of **PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY**.
- ❑ Derived from the **GREEK** words; **GEO** meaning **EARTH**, **MORPHOS** meaning **FORM** and **LOGOS** meaning **DISCOURSE**.
- ❑ Geomorphology is the study of **FORM AND EVOLUTION**.
- ❑ It is a **SYSTEMATIC** and **ORGANISED** description and **ANALYSIS** of the landforms of the Earth.
- ❑ Study of geomorphology involves the study of the structure of the earth, nature of the rocks, diastrophism, volcanism, plate tectonics, continental drift, weathering and erosion.
- ❑ The study of landform as two-dimensional: 1. Structural dimension and 2. Erosional dimension

DEFINITIONS OF GEOMORPHOLOGY

- ❖ **WILLIAM MORRIS DAVIS** is known as The FATHER OF AMERICAN GEOMORPHOLOGY;
- ❖ Different Geographers, Geomorphologists as well as Geologists defined Geomorphology differently;
- ❖ According to **STRAHLER**, “Geomorphology is an analysis of the origin and evolution of earth features.....”
- ❖ According to **WORCESTER**, “Geomorphology is the interpretative description of the relief features of the earth. In other words, geomorphology is the science that describes the science of the lithosphere, explain origin and interpret its history.

CONT..

- According to **BLOOM**, “Geomorphology is the systemic description and analysis of landscape and the **processes** that change them”