Principles of petrology (232 G)

Main topics & Course teaching: 1- Introduction. 2- The earth zones 3- Composition of the earth 4- Rock-forming minerals 5- Classification of rocks 6- Igneous petrology 7- Sedimentary petrology 8- Metamorphic petrology

Introduction:

Petrology (from Greek: Petra, rock; and logos, knowledge) is the branch of GEOLOGY that studies rocks, and the conditions in which rocks form.
Where as PETROGRAPHY deals with the descriptive part of rocks and PETROGENESIS deals with the mode of formation of rocks. These two together makeup Petrology.

- Petrology comprises the

Origin, Association Occurrence Mineral composition Texture Structure Physical properties of rocks

The earth zones

- Crust
- Mantle
- Core



Crust

Upper mantle

Outer core

Inner core

-Mantle

The earth zones

Earth is a sphere of unknown material surrounded by a number of thin envelopes:

(1) Barysphere (2) Pyrosphere (3) Asthenosphere (4) Lithosphere (5) Tectonosphere (6) Hydrosphere (7) Atmosphere (8) Biosphere



The earth zones

- The heavy interior is known as the *barysphere*. This is followed outwardly by the *lithosphere*, the thin, rocky crust of the earth; then by a more or less continuous skin of water, the *hydrosphere* " and finally by the outermost envelope of gas and vapour, the *atmosphere*.

- Other zones have been distinguished and named for special purposes:
- The zone of igneous activity and lava formation, situated between the lithosphere and the barysphere, is the *pyrosphere*,
- the living envelope which permeates the outermost zones, as the *biosphere*,.
- A zone towards the base of the lithosphere which can sustain little or no stress has been called the *asthenosphere* (sphere of weakness);
- the zone in which crustal movements originate has been named the *tectonosphere*, by certain Continental geologists.

Composition of the earth shells

The earth has been called a projectile of nickel-steel covered with a slaggy crust.

Meteorites or shooting stars:

They are divided into three main groups which pass gradually one into the other:

I. Siderites: - *The* iron meteorites, consisting almost entirely of iron alloyed with nickel.



II. Siderolites: - Mixtures of nickel-iron and heavy basic silicates, such as olivine and pyroxene.

III. Aerolites: - The stony meteorites, consisting almost entirely of heavy basic silicates, olivine and pyroxenes, and resembling some of the rarer and most basic types of terrestrial igneous rocks

Classification of rocks









Erosion SEDIMENT Weathering Transport Deposition Volcanic IGNEOUS Plutonic Crystalli Uplift







