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Chapter 7 (Continue)Physical Features of Europe(1) Northwestern Highlands:

→ It includes following mountain system:

(a) Ural Mountains:

→ It separate Asia from Europe.

→ It is very low in height and are 220 kms long.

(b) Scandinavian Mountains:

→ These mountains are eroded by Glaciers and has low and rounded peaks.

→ Due to large scale erosion these mountains have been reduced to sea level in some areas.

→ In the area of the mountains Glacial Lakes are found in abundance.

(c) British Mountains:

→ They are made up of Old Crystalline Rocks.

→ They possess rounded peaks and has U-shaped valleys.

→ The hills of these mountains rise near the coast.

(d) Baltic Shield:

→ These highlands are located near Baltic Sea.

→ They are made up of ancient igneous and metamorphic rocks.

→ They have Undulating Surface.

(2) North European Plains:

They are studied in two parts

(a) Russian Plain:

- This plain is located in Southern part of Russia.
- It has deposits of loess soil which is very fertile.
- The soil of Russian plains are almost black in colour.
- It is also ideal for growing wheat.

(b) Western and mid-European Plains:

- It extends from Prussia to England.
- They are made up of deposits brought by rivers and Glaciers.
- eg: London and Paris basin, Plains of Lombardy, Lowlands of Andalusia, Hungarian plain and Wallachian plain.
- These plains are drained by Rhine, Seine, Don, Volga, Danube, Dnieper and Thames.

(3) Central Uplands:

- They are lower than Alpine Mountains.
- They are broken remains of Hercynian system.
- They lie between North European plain and Alpine Mountain system.
- They extend from Spain to Poland.
- They include plateaus like Meseta, Central Massif, Black Forest, Ardennes, Plateau of Bohemia etc.
- Rivers Rhine and Rhone flow through this region.

(4) Southern Mountain System:

It is studied in two parts.

(a) Alpine Mountain System:

- These mountains are formed in Tertiary period.
- They are young folded mountains.
- These mountains have high peaks and steep valleys.
- They also have volcanic mountains.

- Alps forms the centre of Alpine System and to the west lies the Pyrenees, to the north lies the Cantabrian Mountains, to the south lies the Sierra Morena mountains.
- The Apennines lies in Italian Peninsula.
- To the east lies the Cyprian Mountains and Balkan Mountains.
- Thus, the Caucasus mountains are located between Black Sea and Caspian Sea.

(b) Southern chain of Peninsula:

- The peninsula of Italy and Greece have penetrated into the Mediterranean Sea.
- The peninsula of Spain is surrounded by Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean.
- The Balkan Peninsula is surrounded by Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea.