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FEBRUARY-MARCH 2025

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Preface

Mapwork is one of the most complicated learning requirements of many of the present-day examinations. It demands great attention to detail across a large volume of information. Not only is Mapwork a challenge for exam aspirants, it is also a difficult proposition for authors and publishers.

While it is not a viable option to leave out information, packing too much of it is also not conducive to learning.

We have tried our best to make the maps given in the book visually appealing and content-rich.

The most obvious and effective way of learning is a little bit at a time. So rather than confounding the student with broad and wastefully general maps we have taken smaller and specific regions in this book for greater understanding and retention.

Furthermore, we have tried to ensure that the student has an opportunity to practice the newly acquired learning with relative ease by providing practice maps.

All this in the book is supplemented by the corresponding video-lectures provided on a dedicated YouTube channel for more detailed explanations and reinforcement.

But the primary feature that sets our effort apart is something else. Almost all examinations these days are gravitating towards a more Current-Affairs-centric approach. Not matter what the topic or subject, the questions framed these days are mostly related to the current happenings across the globe. We have identified this pattern and set our questions relevant to the most important current-affairs topics of the present time. This is sure to benefit the examinees in a major way.

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IMPORTANT MOUNTAIN RANGES OF THE WORLD & INDIA

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A-1 Consider the following:

1. Russia
2. Georgia
3. Iran
4. Turkmenistan
5. Armenia

How many of the above countries border the Caspian Sea?

- a) Only two
- b) Only three
- c) Only four
- d) All five

A-2 Consider the following statements regarding Caspian Sea:

1. It is the world's largest water body that is enclosed or bordered by land on all sides.
2. The mean salinity of the Caspian Sea is several times that of the oceans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

A-3 Caspian Pipeline Consortium (CPC) is a project consisting of a crude oil pipeline that connect which of the following countries?

- a) Russia and Iran
- b) Kazakhstan and Iran
- c) Kazakhstan and Russia
- d) Azerbaijan and Russia

! **Significance:** Russia said oil flows through the Caspian Pipeline Consortium (CPC), a major route for supplying Kazakhstan and exporting to the global market, were reduced by 30-40% recently after a Ukrainian drone attack on a pumping station.

! **Significance:** Environmental activists are quite concerned and alarmed over the rapidly declining water levels of the Caspian Sea.

A-40 Consider the following statements about South Sudan:

1. It is a landlocked country located in East-Central Africa.
2. It gained independence from Sudan in 2011, making it the youngest country in the world.
3. It shares its borders with six countries, including Kenya and Ethiopia.
4. The White Nile flows through the country from south to north.

Which of the above statements are correct?

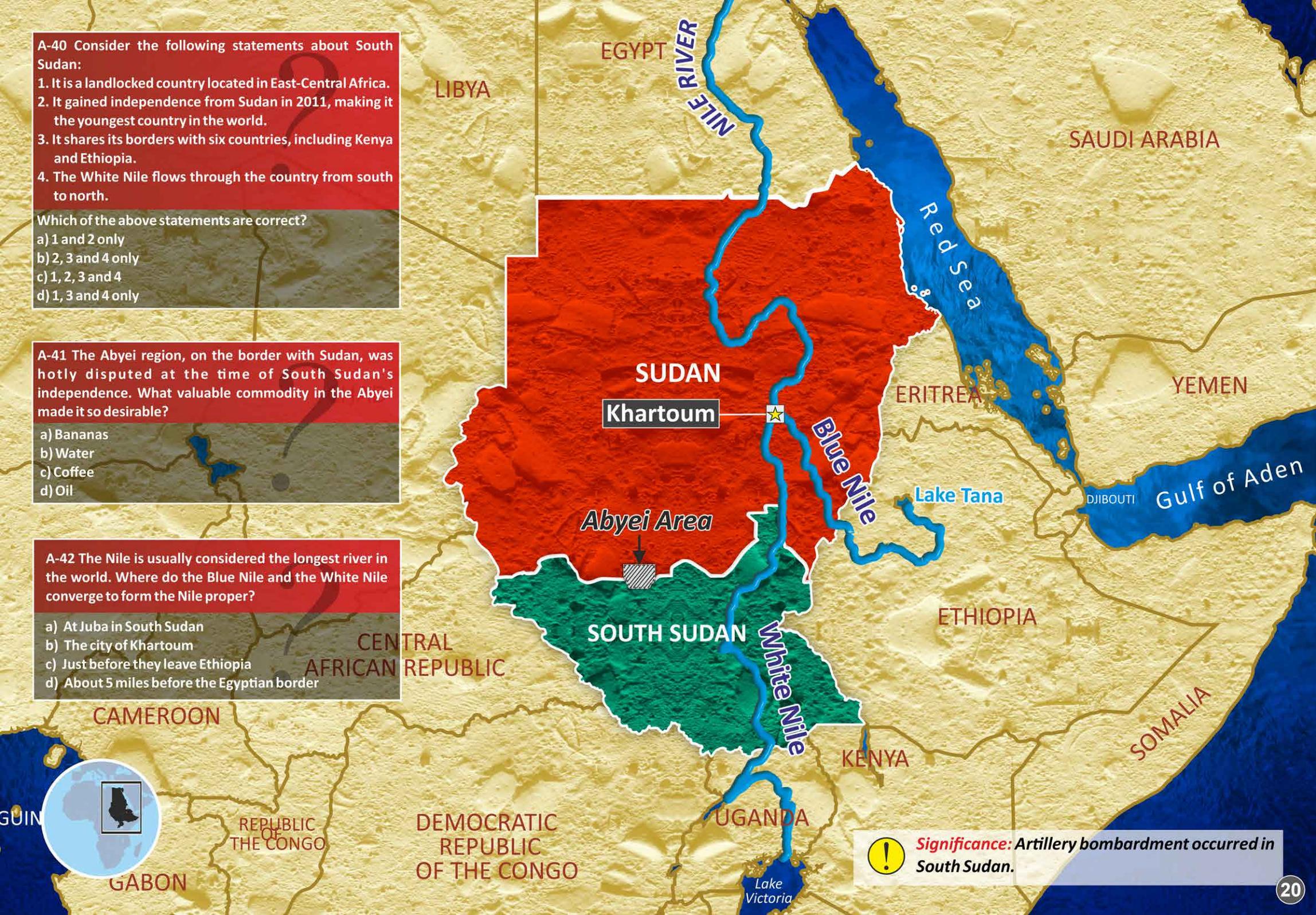
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) 1, 3 and 4 only

A-41 The Abyei region, on the border with Sudan, was hotly disputed at the time of South Sudan's independence. What valuable commodity in the Abyei made it so desirable?

- a) Bananas
- b) Water
- c) Coffee
- d) Oil

A-42 The Nile is usually considered the longest river in the world. Where do the Blue Nile and the White Nile converge to form the Nile proper?

- a) At Juba in South Sudan
- b) The city of Khartoum
- c) Just before they leave Ethiopia
- d) About 5 miles before the Egyptian border



 **Significance:** Artillery bombardment occurred in South Sudan.



A-43 Consider the following statements about the Farakka Barrage:

1. It is constructed across the Ganga River in the state of Bihar.
2. The primary objective of the barrage was to divert water to the Hooghly River to maintain the navigability of Kolkata Port.
3. The barrage lies close to the international border between India and Bangladesh.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Significance: Farakka Barrage was commissioned in 1975, and the 50th anniversary of its operation is being observed in 2025.



South
Pacific
Ocean

COSTA RICA

PANAMA

Galapagos
Island
ECUADOR

ECUADOR

VENEZUELA

GUYANA

SURINAME

FRENCH GUIANA

COLOMBIA

PERU

BRAZIL

BOLIVIA

PARAGUAY

Ojos del Salado
(6,893 m)

Mount Aconcagua
(Highest Point in
South America, 6,962m)

CHILE

ARGENTINA

URUGUAY

Falkland Islands
(Islas Malvinas)
(administered by U.K.,
Claimed by ARGENTINA)

South Georgia and
South Sandwich Islands
(administered by U.K.,
Claimed by ARGENTINA)

B-9 Select the correct statements:

1. Andes are the longest continental mountain range in the world.
2. Ojos del Salado is the highest volcano on the earth which is found in the Hawaiian archipelago.
3. Andes is the world's highest mountain range.

Select the correct answer based on codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 2 only

B-10 Consider the following statements:

1. Peru and Falkland Cold currents flow along the western boundaries of the Andes.
2. The Andes spread across six South American countries only.

Which of the given statement(s) is/ are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-11 Which of the following statements regarding the Andes mountains range is/ are correct?

1. The Roaring Forties and Furious Fifties flow across the Andes.
2. Both the Line of Equator and Tropic of Capricorn cut through the Andes mountains.

Select the correct code based on statements above:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

South
Atlantic
Ocean



A-1 The Correct Answer is: b) Only three

Explanation: - Caspian Sea the **world's largest inland body** of water, covering a total surface area of about 386,400 sq. km.

- It is **located** between **Asia and Europe**.
- It lies to the east of the **Caucasus Mountains** and to the west of the vast **steppe of Central Asia**.
- **Bordering countries:** It is bordered by **Russia** and **Azerbaijan** on the west, **Kazakhstan** and **Turkmenistan** on the north and east, and **Iran** on the south.
- **Formation:** Going by the definition of a sea, the Caspian Sea is a lake and not a sea, as it is an **enclosed water body without any direct outlet to the ocean**.
- However, 5.5 million years ago, it was part of the ancient Parathethys Sea (an ancient sea in the Tethys Ocean) and got landlocked as a result of tectonic uplift and sea-level fall.
- Hence, the seafloor of the Caspian Sea is composed of oceanic basalt and not continental granite.
- The **composition of the water** of the **Caspian Sea** also **varies** from almost **fresh** in the **northern parts** of the lake to **saltier southwards**.

Significance: *The Caspian Sea has been shrinking since the mid-1990s, but the rate at which it's disappearing has sped up since 2005.*

A-2 The Correct Answer is: a) 1 only

Explanation: -It is the **world's largest water body that is enclosed or bordered by land on all sides**.

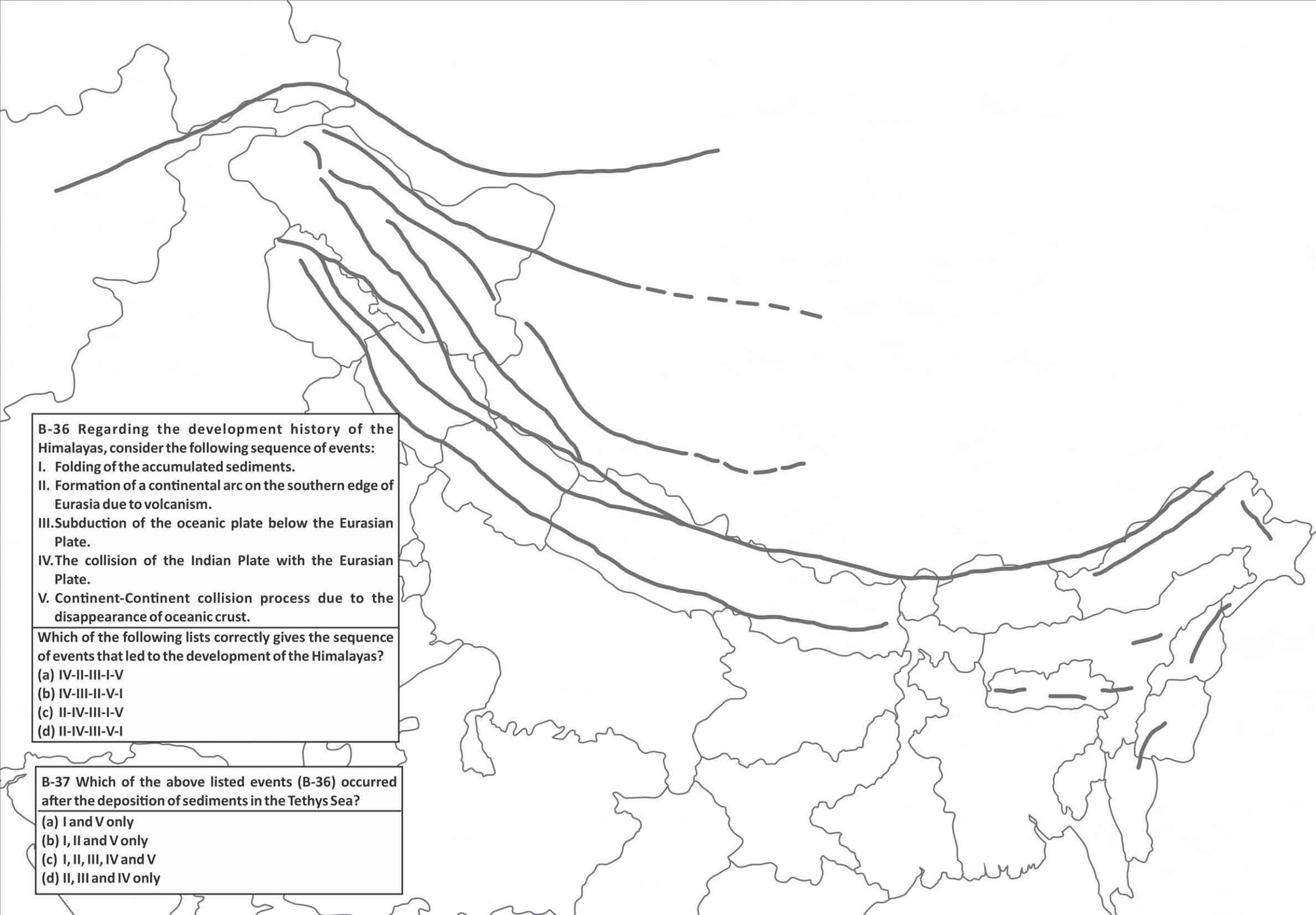
- This **massive lake** is located between **Asia** and **Europe**. The sea's name derives from the ancient **Kaspi peoples**, who once lived in **Transcaucasia** to the west.
- It is an **endorheic basin** (drainage basin without an outflow). It covers a total surface area of about 386,400 sq.km.and is about 1,200 km long and 320 km wide.
- **Bordering countries:** It is bordered by **Russia** and **Azerbaijan** on the west, **Kazakhstan** and **Turkmenistan** on the north and east, and **Iran** on the south.
- The composition of the water of the Caspian Sea also varies from almost fresh in the northern parts of the lake to saltier southwards.
- The **mean salinity** of the Caspian Sea is now about **one-third that of the oceans**.
- Three major rivers—the **Volga**, the **Ural**, and the **Terek**—**empty into the Caspian from the north**.
- **Baku**, the **capital of Azerbaijan**, is the **largest city on the Caspian**. Another important city along the Caspian is Iran's Nowshahr.
- The sea contains as many as **50 islands**, most of them small. The largest are **Chechen, Tyuleny, Morskoy, Kulaly, Zhiloy, and Ogurchin**.
- The sea is also known for its **abundance of energy resources** (oil and natural gas reserves in offshore fields and onshore on the coast of the sea).
- It is the **source of most of the world's caviar**.

Significance: *Environmental activists are quite concerned and alarmed over the rapidly declining water levels of the Caspian Sea.*

A-3 The Correct Answer is: c) Kazakhstan and Russia

Explanation: - **Caspian Pipeline Consortium (CPC)** is a \$2.6 billion project consisting of a 935-mile crude oil pipeline that runs from the Tengiz oil field in **Kazakhstan to the Russian Black Sea port of Novorossiysk**.

- Construction on the CPC pipeline began in **1999**.
- It was commissioned in 2001, and a \$5.1 billion expansion project was completed in 2018.
- It is a key East-West pipeline that will carry oil from the Caspian Sea region to international markets.
- **CPC includes the Russian and Kazakh governments, as well as Western energy majors Chevron, ExxonMobil, and Shell**.
- This pipeline accounts for **two-thirds of Kazakhstan's oil exports**.



B-36 Regarding the development history of the Himalayas, consider the following sequence of events:

- I. Folding of the accumulated sediments.
- II. Formation of a continental arc on the southern edge of Eurasia due to volcanism.
- III. Subduction of the oceanic plate below the Eurasian Plate.
- IV. The collision of the Indian Plate with the Eurasian Plate.
- V. Continent-Continent collision process due to the disappearance of oceanic crust.

Which of the following lists correctly gives the sequence of events that led to the development of the Himalayas?

- (a) IV-II-III-I-V
- (b) IV-III-II-V-I
- (c) II-IV-III-I-V
- (d) II-IV-III-V-I

B-37 Which of the above listed events (B-36) occurred after the deposition of sediments in the Tethys Sea?

- (a) I and V only
- (b) I, II and V only
- (c) I, II, III, IV and V
- (d) II, III and IV only

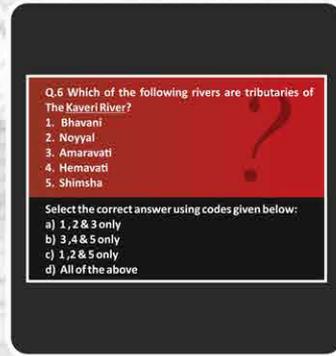
HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

STEP-1



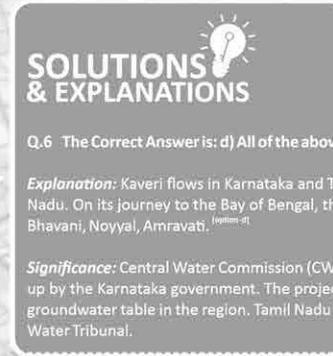
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Attempt the Questions
Map based questions
specific to current affairs
and ongoing events.

STEP-3



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Clear solutions with
detailed explanations for
optimal understanding.

STEP-4



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by attempting the practice
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-ABHISHEK TIWARI
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