

This region lies west of the Pamir knot & goes up to the mediterranean coast. There are two inter mt. plateaus known as a) Iranian plateau b) Anatolian plateau

- a) **Iranian plateau** → It is a quite extensive plateau & lies between Elburg & Zagros mt. It stretches over Afghanistan, Iran & Iraq. The plt. is further subdivided into Baluchistan, Sistan & Iranian plt.
- b) **Plateau of Anatolian** → It is also known as the plt. of Turkeistan. It is bounded by Pontic in the north & Taurus mt. in the south. East of the Taurus lies the plateau of Kurdistan mt.

⇒ **Major Mountains Of This Belt Are As :-**

- 1) **Hindukush** → It emerge from Pamir knot & moves westward from the Northern edge of the Iranian plateau & meets with Elburg mts. The branch takes off from here towards north west & known as Caucasus range in Europe.
- 2) **Sulaiman Mt.** → Another mt. range which takes off from the south west of the Pamir knot. It takes a southern bent further west & is known as Zaskar mt. range. It merges with Zagros mt. which converge in Armenian knot. Armenian knot has an elevation of about 3700 meters.
- 3) **Pontic & Taurus Mt. Range** → On the either end of the anatolian plt. is located Pontic & Taurus mt. ranges which are high in the east & becomes lower in the west & submerged into the mediterranean.

3) **The old plt. of the Southern peninsula** → To the south of the vast east west stretching system of folded mts. are three large peninsular plts. of the south Asia made up of ancient hard crystalline rocks. The plateaus are :-

- a) **The peninsular Arabian plt.**
- b) **The Deccan plt. of peninsular India**
- c) **The peninsular plt. of Indo-China**

All of these are dissected plateaus. Of these plts. two are well defined - Arabian & Deccan plt.