

# The Hashemite Kingdom of JORDAN



# Map of Jordan



# Current Status

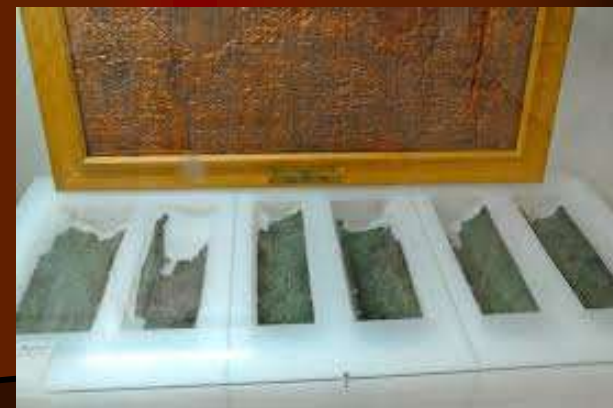


- Government : Unitary parliamentary Constitutional monarchy
- Capital : Amman
- Population : 6.5 million 98% Arab, 1% Circassian, 1% Armenian. 92% Muslim, 6% Christians
- Official Language : Arabic
- GDP per capita : US\$5899, classified by the World Bank as an upper middle income country with 13% people living in less than US\$3 per day
- Currency : Jordanian Dinar
- Economic activities : agriculture, tourism & trade
- Natural resources : insufficient supply of water & oil
- Climate : semi dry in summer at 30C & cool in winter at 13C

# Key Historical time lines



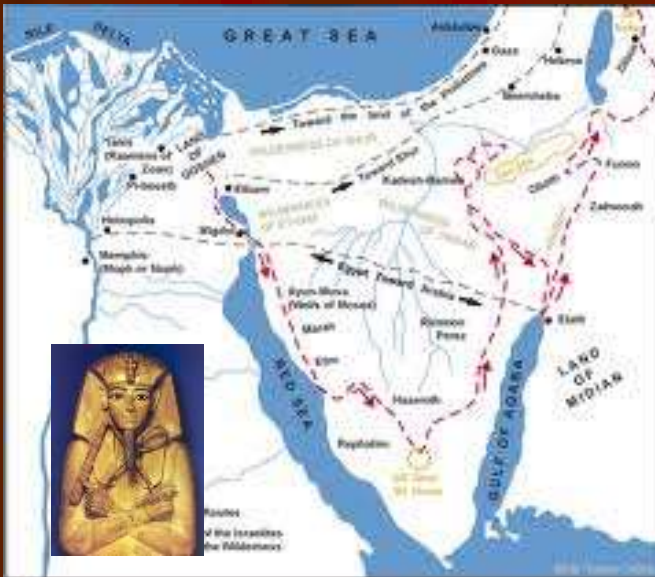
- 90,000 BC : first evidence of human activity in the region
- 7000 BC : settlement in Jericho, now the oldest surviving town in the world



# Key Historical time lines



- 3,000 BC : Pharaohnic Egypt
- 1,280 BC : The Exodus & death of Moses at Mt. Nebo



# Route of the Exodus, view of the Promised Land & Mount Nebo





# Mount Nebo where Moses died & accented to Heaven



# Key Historical time lines



- 1200-332 BC : The Old Testament Biblical Kingdoms of Edom, Moab & Ammon. The cities of Sodom & Gomorrah destroyed by God are rumored to be sunken under the Dead Sea







- 558-330 BC : became part of the Persians Empire



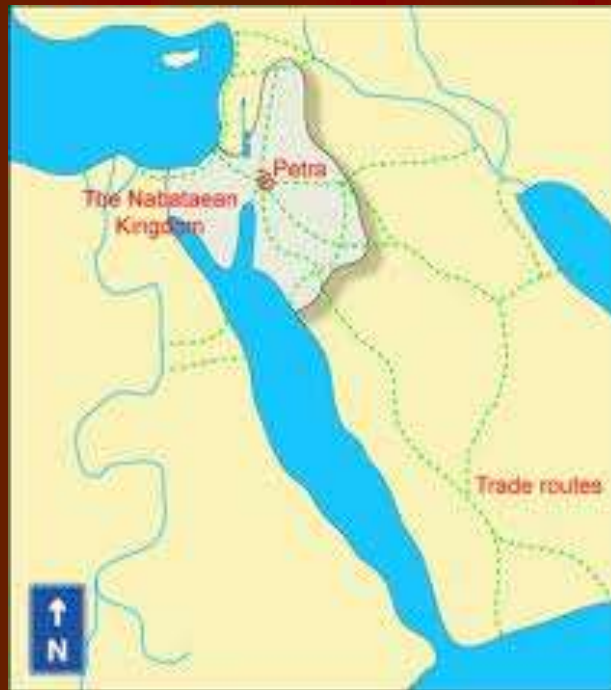


- 332 BC : Governed by Macedonia Greek under the Empire of Alexander the Great





- 312-32 BC : Nabataea Kingdom formed by nomadic tribes who settled in the present day Jordan with Petra as its capital. They became very good traders & controlled the crucial trade routes in the region





- Nabataea Kingdom : The “Rose city of Petra” is a UNESCO World Heritage site famous for its rock cut architecture & water conduits. The site was seriously destroyed by earthquake in 551AD and deserted. Remain unknown to the western world until being “rediscovered” in 1812



# Concealed passage leading to Petra

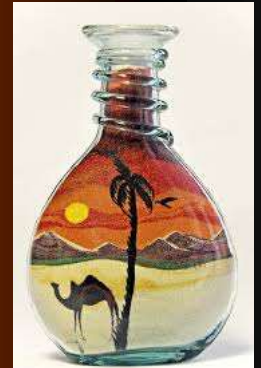


# The Treasury

Library, Tomb, Meeting Hall or movie set ?



- Nabataea Kingdom : Lower Petra – horses, camels , sand art bottles & other Jordanian souvenirs



- Nabataea Kingdom : Lower Petra, many tombs & a large Amphitheatre





- Nabataea Kingdom : Upper Petra, quite exhausting to navigate under the hot sun but worth the effort



- Nabataea Kingdom : Upper Petra





- Nabataea Kingdom : tombs & temples built by the Nabataea within their empire but outside present day Jordan





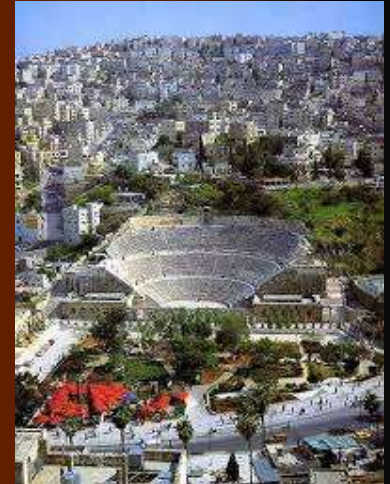
- Roman Empire : 106 AD area became part of the Judean Kingdom of Herod with Nabataea being a client state. This was the time when John the Baptist conducted his ministry in the River Jordan including Jesus's baptism



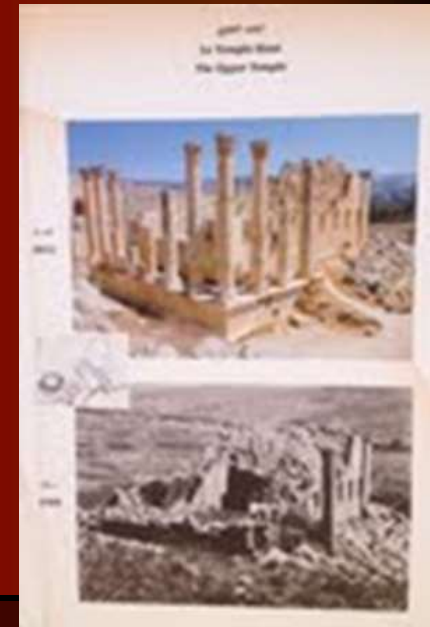
- Roman Empire : The Amman Citadel



- Roman Empire : Huge Amphitheatre in Amman



- Roman Empire : The Greco-Roman city of Jerash was largely destroyed by earthquake in 749AD presently being restored



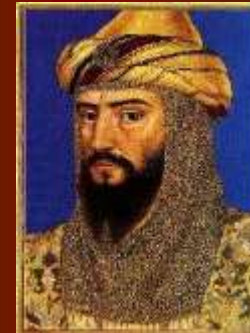
- Roman Empire : The Greco-Roman city of Jerash, note the "Benhur" style chariot racing stadium







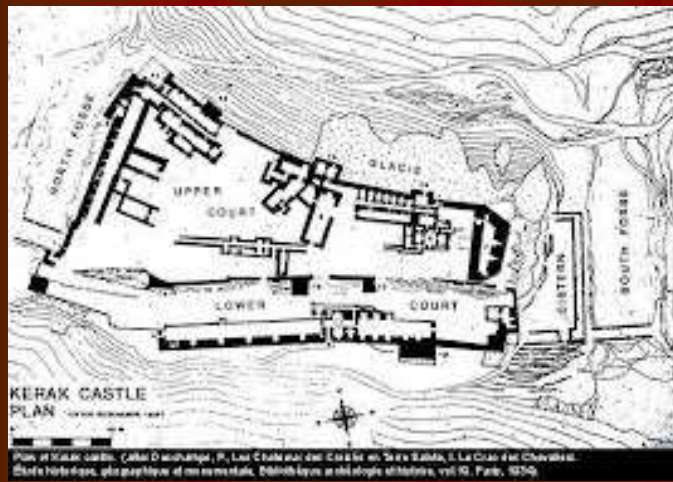
- Islam & the Crusades : 11, 12, 13 Century country conquered by the Arabs. Highlighted by the battle between King Richard the Lion Heart of England & Saladin



- Crusades Castle at Karak



Built 1132 AD it is one of the 3 largest in the region

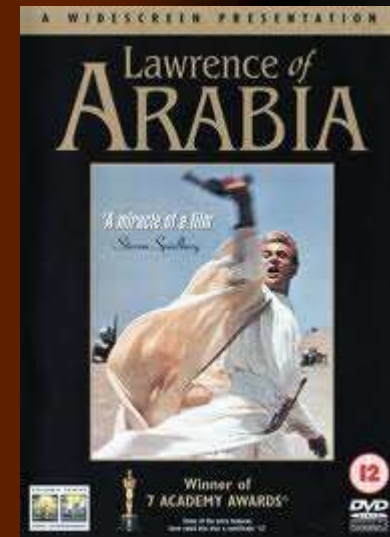


- 1299 – 1922 Ottoman Empire ruled the country for some 623 years !





- World War I - 1911 : The romantic story of Thomas Edward Lawrence akin T E Lawrence or Lawrence of Arabia. He played an important role during the Sinai & Palestine campaign & the Arab Revolt in 1916. Made famous after the movie by Peter O Toole





- 1916 : After WW I the area was taken from Turkey & allocated to Britain
- 1917 – 1922 : British Mandate of Palestine aiming to establish a national home for the Jewish people





- 1922 : New British mandate separated Palestine from the Hashemite Emirate of Trans-Jordan under Emir Abdullah





- 1939-45 : WW II – Jordan's Arab legion supported the Allies
- 1946 : Trans-Jordan became an independent state
- 1948 : First Arab/Israel War - Jordan annexed the West Bank
- 1951 : Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan declared as a sovereign state under King Abdullah I but heavily influenced by the British under the Anglo Jordan Treaty



- 1951 : King Abdullah I assassinated succeeded by grandson King Hussein



## King Hussein's famous automobile museum



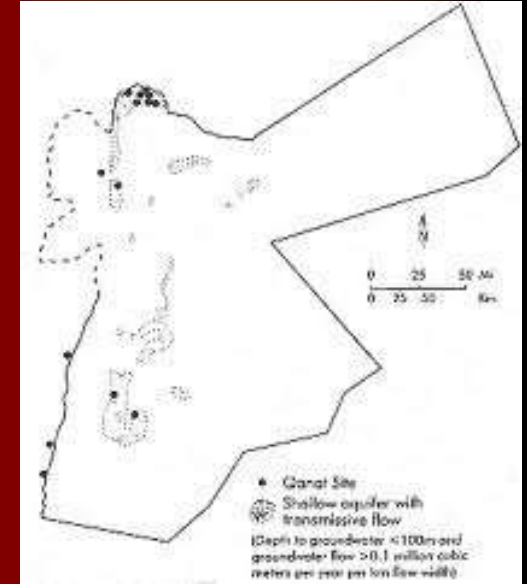
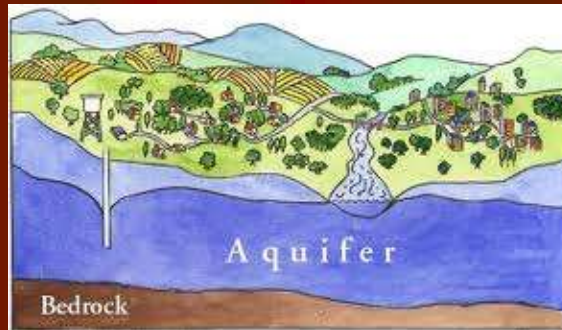




- 1957 : Anglo Jordan Treaty terminated with UK
- 1967 : Six Days War with Israel lost the West Bank to Israel



Aquifer – the usage of “fossil water” is important for Jordan noting most of it are located in the West bank which is no longer Jordan territory after the War with Israel





- 1970 : “Black September” - War against the PLO. King Hussein with his loyal Bedouin troops crushed the PLO/Al Fatah which was backed by Syria



- 1973 : Arab world's Yom Kippur War against Israel - Jordan only played a small part



- 1980s : major social upheaval at home with martial law lifted only in 1989
- 1994 : Peace Treaty with Israel



- 1999 : King Hussein died & succeeded by his son King Abdullah II . Economic liberalization was introduced



- Jordan became an “Haven” for Middle East refugees – more than half a million Iraqis, 15,000 Lebanese & many others

# The Capital City of Amman

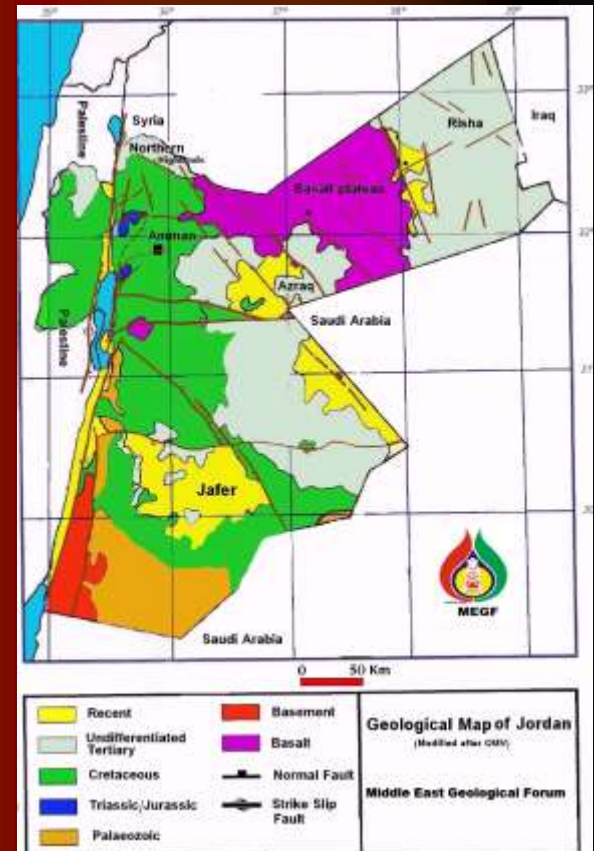


# The Capital City of Amman



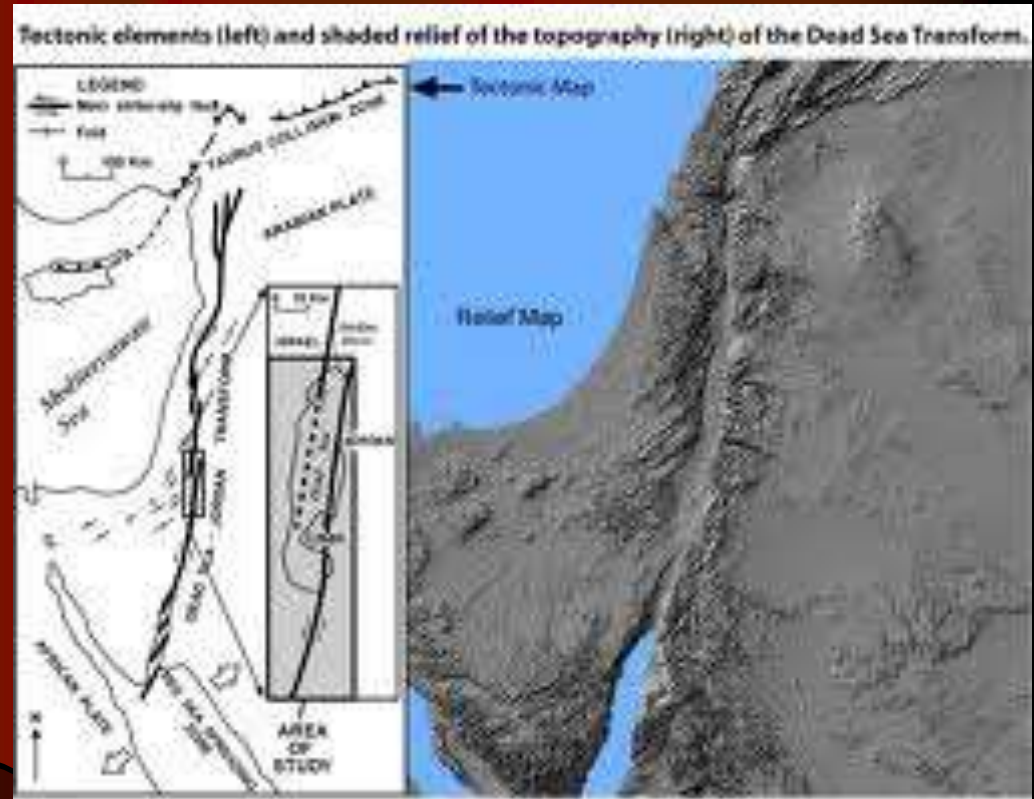
# Geology

- Limestone & flint in highland and interior desert particularly in the North
- Sandstone in the rift margin & the Wadi Rum area
- Basalt desert in the NE
- Ancient bare rocks behind Aqaba
- The Jordan Rift Valley & Dead Sea – a classic transform plate boundary
- Mineral wealth -Phosphate, Uranium, Oil shale, Natural Gas ( cannot refine uranium due to US objection )



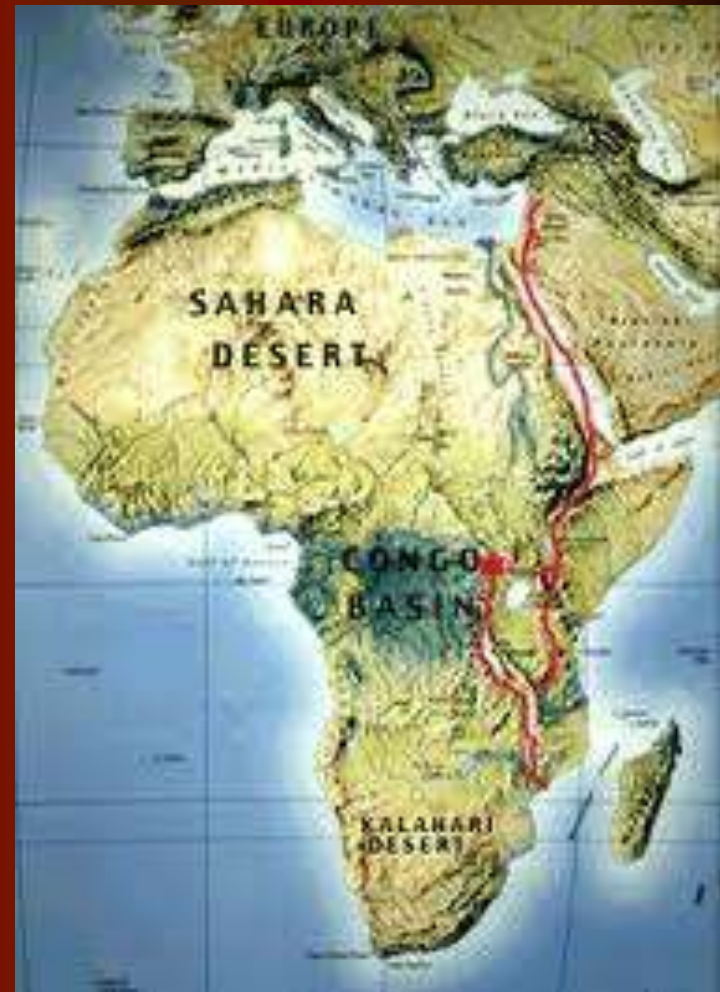
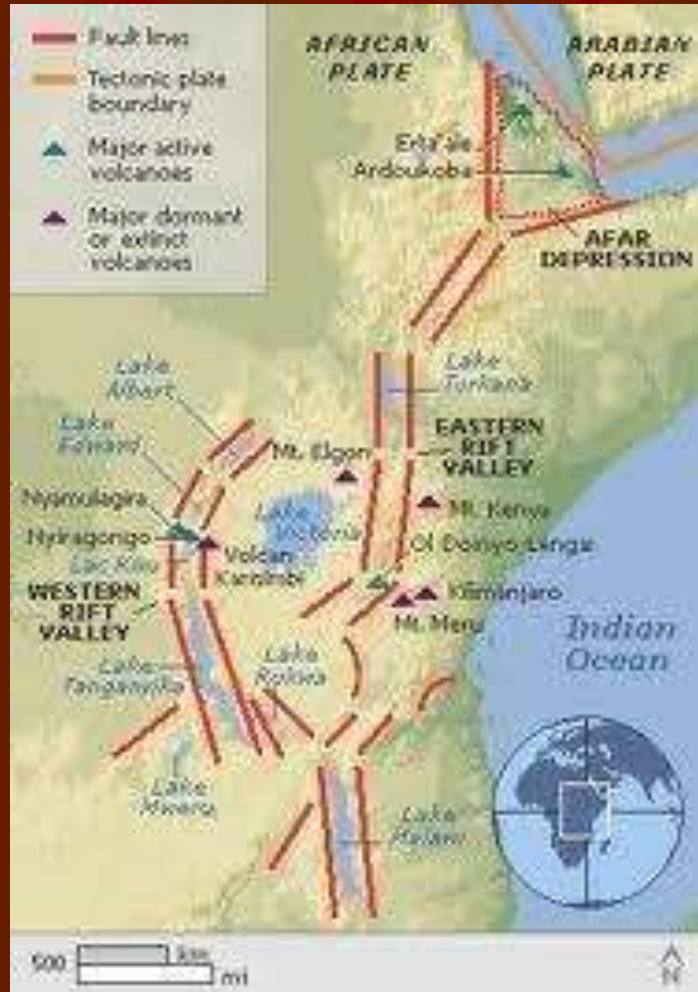
# The Dead Sea

- It is a lake located in the Jordan Rift Valley which is formed by transform faults between the Africa Plate & the Arabian Plate
- 1,388 ft below sea level and 1,237 ft deep





# The Jordan Rift Valley & possible relationship with the Great Rift Valley of E. Africa



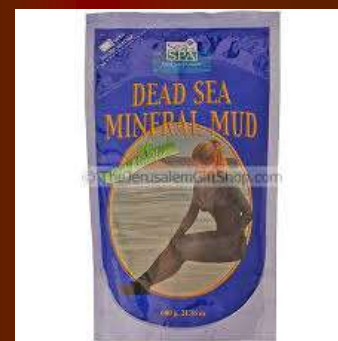
# The Dead Sea

- Landlocked & with very dry weather the water has the world's highest concentration of salt (34%) composed of Mg/K/Ca/Na Chloride as different from sea salt which is 98% NaCl. Easy for one to float but difficult to stand up !



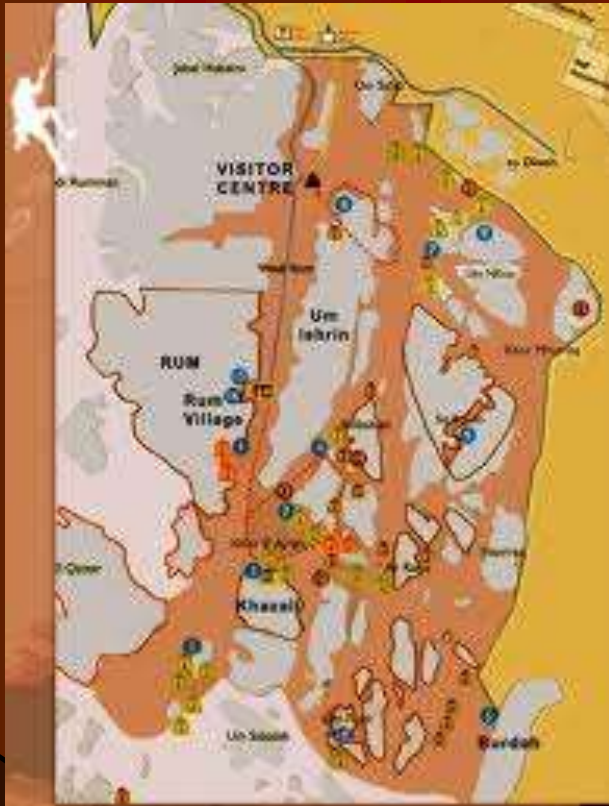
# The Dead Sea

- Dead Sea Mud Bath : claimed to be good for your skin.



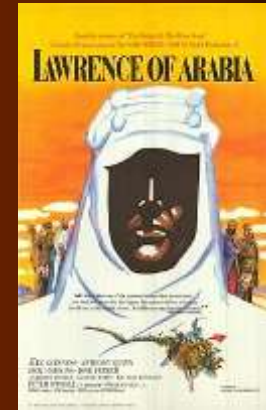
# Wadi Rum

Wadi in Arabic means a valley or a dry river bed that contains water only during heavy rain fall. Located in S. Jordan, Wadi Rum or “The Valley of the Moon” is a valley cut into granite & sandstone which is 60 km long. Note the famous mountains called the “Seven pillars of wisdom”



# Wadi Rum

“The Valley of the Moon” & the “Seven pillars of wisdom” were film locations for making the famous movie “Lawrence of Arabia” by Peter O Toole in 1962



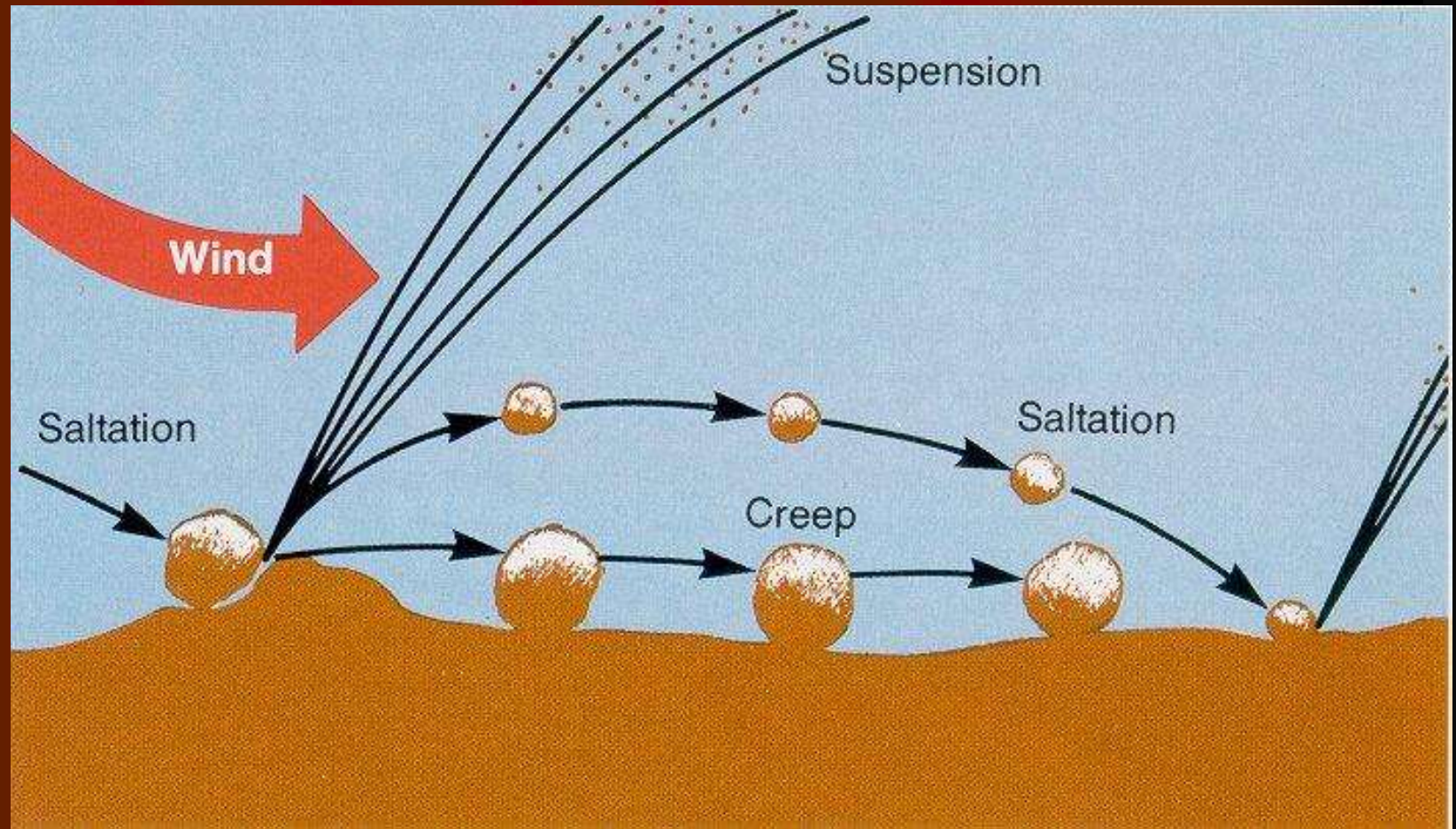
# Wadi Rum

Pink sand desert, "cheese cake" rock, 4 wheel drives & Bedouin tents

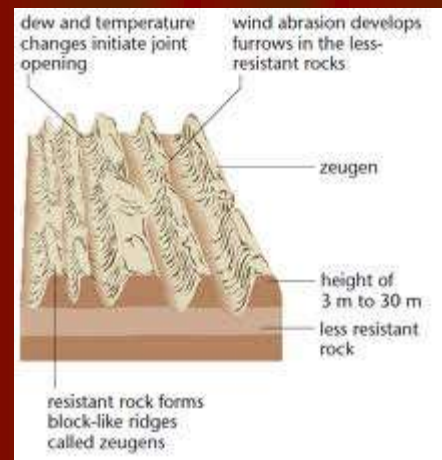
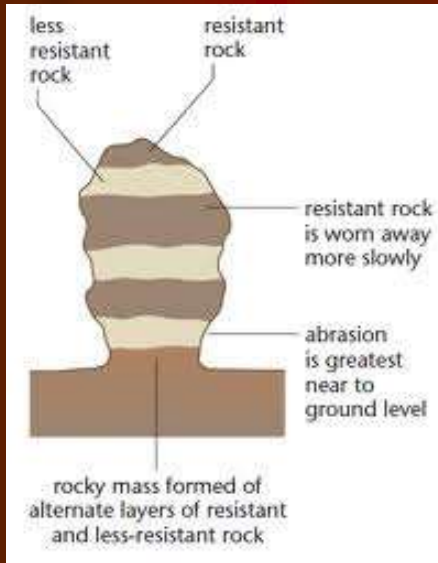


# Wind Erosion

## 1. Abrasion 2. Deflation



# Common wind erosion features - pedestals, zeugens, yardings, arches, mesa & butte



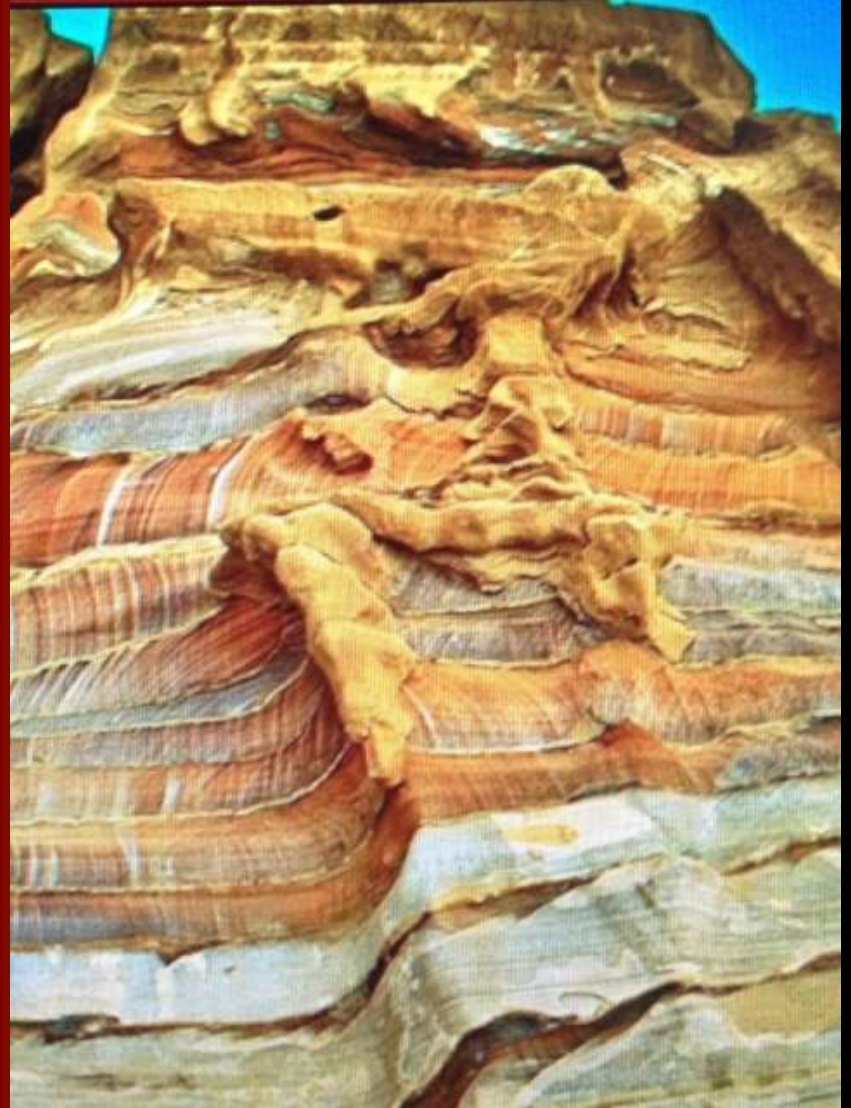


# Liesegang Beddings in Petra

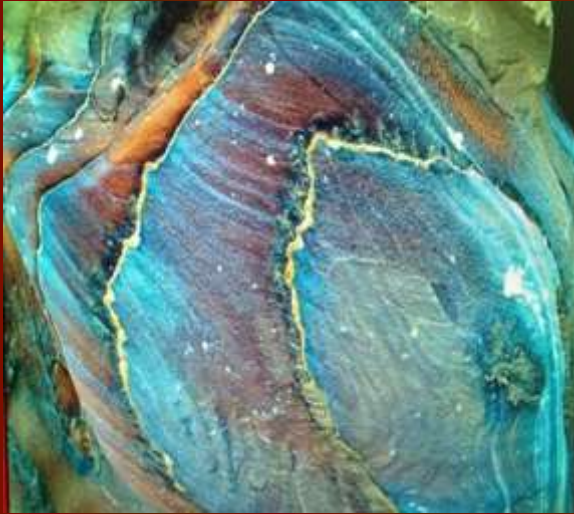
Liesegang Beddings are color banded sandstone believed to have been formed deep underground by rhythmic deposition of iron & manganese compounds from mineral rich water that once flowed within the rock



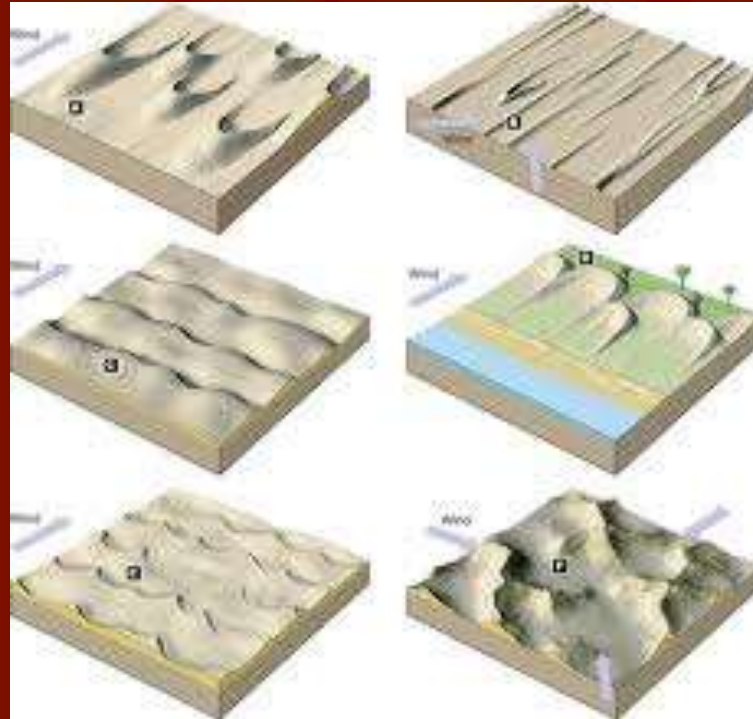
# Liesegang Beddings in Petra



# Liesegang Beddings in Petra



# Different types of features which may be observed in sandy desert – dunes, ripples



# Jordanian deserts both sandy & rocky



End