



pocket card Egypt

From morphostructural point of view, Egyptian Sahara is partible in three wide plateau, separated by depressions. The first plateau, constituted by upper Cretaceous sandstones, rises up to 1000 m in the distant southern area, grows gradually thin as far as gently shallows to the Dakla and Kharga's depressions. Then rises up from the latters, forming the central desert's second plateau, constituted by Eocenic limestones, starting to slope down from its upper level of 540 m, to an average of 50 m under the sea level of the Quattara's depression far about 400 Km towards north.

This eroded rough massif is bounded by the Nilo's valley and by the westwards Great Sand Sea's dunes. The plateau's surface is pierced by the big Farafra, Bahariyya and Fayoum's depressions, as well as by minor depression's dozens (Rayyan, Arag, Sitra and others). Finally, the northern Miocenic plateau, forms the calcareous relief between Quattara and the Mediterranean Sea, spreading for 600 Km between the eastwards Nile delta and the westwards Cyrenaic plateau. This plateau degrades gradually from 200 m along the Quattara depression's ridge till it laps northwards on Mediterranean Sea (G.H. Awad, et al., 1966. AA.VV.,1982).

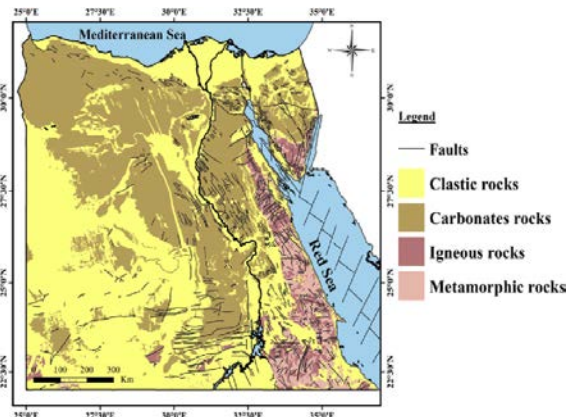
Caves total : no data

Marine caves total: no data

Artificial caves total: no data

Number of speleologists: no data

Speleological groups and organizations: no data



Simplified geological map of Egypt, modified after a geological map of Egypt on the scale 1:2 million ©Geological Survey of Egypt (GSE, 1981).

Most important caves

Name	Length
Sannur cave	275 m
Hamman pharaoh 2 cave	126 m
Degla 2 cave	88 m
Djara cave	73 m
Karnak 2 cave	40 m

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