The Multicolored Rocks That Capture the Attention of Millions by Robin Mackenzie

Article published on March 6th 2012 | Writing

The Grand Canyon, one of the great marvels of the world was given shape by the Colorado River. You can find them in the state of Arizona in the United States. This scenic beauty is maintained by the Grand Canyon National Park. So how was the Grand Canyon formed? Studies suggest that it was the Colorado River that eroded the rocks and that the river was formed 17 million years ago. Ever since the river was formed, it gradually continued to erode the rocks. No one is quite sure of how the Grand Canyon got its shape. Some studies suggest that erosion was the reason for its appearance. Erosion due to ice, water and wind caused the shape of Grand Canyon to change. Some say that it is because of volcanism, continental drift and variations in the earthâ€™s orbit.

Water is considered to be the key reason behind this shape. A lot of people wonder how water can play such a primary role in shaping the Grand Canyon as it is in a desert area. The problem is that the soil in this area is heated extremely and baked well. So when there is a flow of water, it cannot be absorbed by these rocks. Another key reason is that the plants in this area have roots that do nothing to hold the rocks in place and they only absorb a lot of water whenever there is a water flow in such areas. There occur frequent floods in these areas that can wash away boulders which are about the size of automobiles, buses and even small houses. One should always be careful when hiking on the Grand Canyon as the floods which occur here are highly dangerous.

The next possible option is because of ice. What actually happens is that water gets filled in the cracks of the rocks. These cracks occur because of seismic activity or because of the constant hardening and softening of the rocks. When the water that gets into these cracks freezes, it further expands the rocks and sends it towards the edge. When rocks hit this part, it all collapses and goes to the down portion of the canyon and whenever there is a flood, it gets completely washed away thereby causing the shape.

There is also a question as to how all these rocks raised and where did they come from. Geologists have this theory that all the seven continents of the earth actually float on the top of the earthâ€™s molten magma. And the rocks that we find in the Grand Canyon have been floating as well. When the magma starts rising to the top due to conflicts between the plates, water gets super heated and the level of land rises to form mountains. Thatâ€™s how these rocks also were formed. When ocean submerges these rocks it deposits layers of limestone and when it withdraws there is an altogether different deposit. That is the key reason why the Grand Canyon is composed of so many different layers of rock.

Where does the Grand Canyon get its look from? The actual fact is that huge layers of mountains were formed there millions of years ago. Whenever the climate changed, the oceans submerged the mountains every now and then. Every time the mountains were submerged in the ocean, there were new layers deposited in the mountains. Grand Canyon is a beautiful place to visit in fall and winter. This wonderful natural beauty has caught the attention of travelers all around the world. Itâ€™s equally a delight to watch the tribes perform their dance on these mountains. I never miss out of these dance performances aired on my ATT Uverse television.

Article Source:
http://www.articleside.com/writing-articles/the-multicolored-rocks-that-capture-the-attention-of-millions.htm - Article Side

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Robin Mackenzie is a freelance writer. She loves travelling to exotic locations around the world. She likes to write about the Grand Canyon. She follows a lot of television programs related to such topics using a ATT Uverse.

Article Keywords:
ATT Uverse, Uverse TV, Grand Canyon

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