

Dark Comet

December 20, 2024 • vajiramandravi.com



About Dark Comet:

- They are **celestial bodies** which lack the glowing tails and resemble asteroids.
- The first indication of **dark comets came in 2016**, when asteroid 2003 RM exhibited unusual orbital deviations.
- Since then, astronomers have confirmed the existence of dark comets, with a new study published which revealed 14 such objects.
 - These comets fall into two main categories: **“outer dark comets,”** which have eccentric orbits and are larger, and **“inner dark comets,”** which are smaller and closer to the Sun, with nearly circular orbits.
- Dark comets are often **small, just a few metres** to a few hundred metres wide.
- They have less surface area for material to escape and form into the beautiful tails we see on typical comets.
- They often **spin quite rapidly** and disperse escaping gas and dust in all directions, making them less visible.
- They follow **elongated, elliptical paths** that bring them close to the Sun before sweeping back out to the farthest reaches of the Solar System.

Q1: What are Asteroids?

Asteroids, sometimes called minor planets, are rocky remnants left over from the early formation of our solar system about 4.6 billion years ago.

News: [What is a dark comet? A quick guide to the 'new' kids in the Solar System](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/dark-comet/>

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