

Indonesia's Marapi volcano eruption

December 6, 2023 • vajiramandravi.com



What's in today's article?

- Why in news?
- What is Mount Marapi?
- What is a volcano?

Why in news?

- The death toll from a volcanic eruption in Indonesia has gone up to 22, after rescuers found nine more bodies.
 - This eruption of Mt. Marapi was the deadliest since 1979, when an eruption killed 60 people.
- Frequent volcanic eruptions in Marapi have hampered rescue efforts for days.

Mount Marapi

- Mount Merapi is a volcanic mountain peak located near the centre of the island of Java, Indonesia.
 - It is located on Sumatra, the westernmost and third largest of Indonesia's 18,000 islands. It stands 2,891m high.

- Mount Marapi, which means “Mountain of Fire”, is among the most active of Indonesia’s 127 volcanoes and is also popular among hikers.
 - The Indonesian archipelago sits on the so-called Pacific Ring of Fire, where the meeting of continental plates causes high volcanic and seismic activity.



What is a volcano?

- About
 - Volcanoes are openings, or vents where lava, tephra (small rocks), and steam erupt onto the Earth’s surface.
 - Volcanoes can be on land and in the ocean.
 - They are, in part, a result of their own eruptions but also the general formation of our planet, as tectonic plates move.
 - Mountain ranges like the Andes in South America and the Rockies in North America, as well as volcanoes, formed through the movement and collision of tectonic plates.
- Types
 - There are four main types of volcanoes: cinder cones, composite or stratovolcanoes, shield volcanoes and lava domes.
 - Their type is determined by how the lava from an eruption flow and how that flow affects the volcano, and, as a result, how it affects its surrounding environment.



◦ Volcanoes can also be classified as:

- Active: Have a recent history of eruptions
- Dormant: Have not erupted for a long time but may erupt in the future
- Extinct: Are not expected to erupt in the future

• Eruption

- Essentially, it is a case of magma, or molten rock, below the surface of the Earth, bubbling up, rising and overflowing, like boiling milk out of a pot on a stove.
- The magma finds its way to vents in the volcano and gets spewed across the land and into the atmosphere.
- When magma erupts from a volcano, it is called lava.

Q1) What is Pacific Ring of Fire?

The Pacific Ring of Fire, also known as the Circum-Pacific Belt, is a tectonic belt that surrounds the Pacific Ocean. It's a horseshoe-shaped region that's about 40,000 kilometers long and up to 500 kilometers wide.

Q2) What is dormant volcano?

A dormant volcano is a volcano that has not erupted recently but is expected to erupt again.

Source: [Indonesia's Marapi volcano eruption leaves 22 dead; one still missing](#) | [British Geological Survey](#) | [BBC](#)

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