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Glaciokarsts

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ISSN 2194-315X

ISSN 2194-3168 (electronic)

Springer Geography

ISBN 978-3-319-97291-6

ISBN 978-3-319-97292-3 (eBook)

<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-97292-3>

Library of Congress Control Number: 2018949866

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The registered company address is: Gewerbestrasse 11, 6330 Cham, Switzerland

Preface

This book describes a specific karst type, the glaciokarst. The cause of the peculiarity of glaciokarst that the karsts belonging to this karst type were and are still affected by diverse effects (karstification, glacial erosion, fluvial erosion, frost weathering, mass movements). In a lot of cases, these effects were repeated and alternated. According to this, these areas have one of the most diverse landscapes regarding karst types and because of this it can be a significant area of researchers' interest.

The need for a better knowledge of glaciokarsts is expected to increase in the present and in the future. On our globe, climate change has an increasing dominance. In order to become familiar with former climate changes, the research of glaciokarstic areas may give data which are less possible to be obtained from other non-karstic areas. Since the features that developed on the karst (and thus, glacial erosional features too) are stable and can be studied well. Thus, ice cover and climate change of the past 1–2 million years can be studied better on karst than on non-karstic terrains. It makes it possible the better understanding of the climatic events of the near past and present.

The book is divided into nine chapters. Chapter 1 deals with the research history of glaciokarst, Chap. 2 involves the general description of this karst type. Glacial erosion taking place on karst is analysed in Chap. 3, which is special in many aspects since the karst features influenced the type of glaciers and the intensity and way of glacial erosion. Chapters 4 and 5 discuss the features of glaciokarstic areas and their genetics. The karst types of glaciokarst are described in Chap. 6 and the geomorphic evolution of glaciokarstic terrains is presented in Chap. 7. The features and events of some sample sites of glaciokarstic areas are dealt with in Chap. 8. A description of the areas of the glaciokarsts of the Earth can be found in Chap. 9 and thus, it gives an overview on the characteristics of physical geography, on geological data, on the history of glaciation and the features occurring there.

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Acknowledgements

We would like to say thanks for the efforts of all people who contributed to the preparations of this book. Those people are the following: Németh, H., Györe, É., Döbrönte, L., Deák, Gy., Széles, Gy., Richard Maire, Annie-Marie Meyer and Teddy Auly.

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