

6

The Rock Cycle Pseudotheory

- 6.1 The Most Abundant Mineral Mystery
- 6.2 The Real History of Geology
- 6.3 The Sand Mystery
- 6.4 The Quartz Mystery
- 6.5 The Basalt Mystery
- 6.6 The Obsidian Mystery
- 6.7 The Iron Mystery
- 6.8 The Ore Mystery
- 6.9 The Carbonate Mystery
- 6.10 The Loess Mystery
- 6.11 The Erosion Mystery
- 6.12 The Earth Crust Mystery
- 6.13 Geotheoretical to Geological

James Hutton, called by some the father of geology, came to the idea that the Earth was shaped by a long succession of re-occurring events, driven by heat from the inner Earth. Charles Lyell further advanced Hutton's theory, which he published in his three-volume work, *Principles of Geology* in the early 1830s. The ideas and tenets of uniformitarianism and the endless cycle of once melted rocks being recycled, eroded, crushed and melted again, sent geology headlong into the future, with a belief that Earth was formed, and continues to be shaped by excruciatingly slow processes. The influence exerted by these ideas was not limited to modern geology. Darwin read of the uniformity theory in Lyell's first volume while on the HMS Beagle in 1831. It profoundly influenced his ideas, satisfying in his mind that the Earth was immeasurably ancient, allowing time for life to evolve.

While exploring St. Jago, off the coast of Africa, Darwin observed a seemingly undisturbed layer of rock formed of shells and coral, 30 feet above the level of the sea. To him, this proved what Hutton and Lyell had said; that slow and gentle uplift, combined with erosion, was responsible for the stratum he observed.

In the Magma Pseudotheory (Chapter 5) we established that continental uplift is not occurring. In this chapter, we will investigate how sedimentary rocks and other rocks are said to

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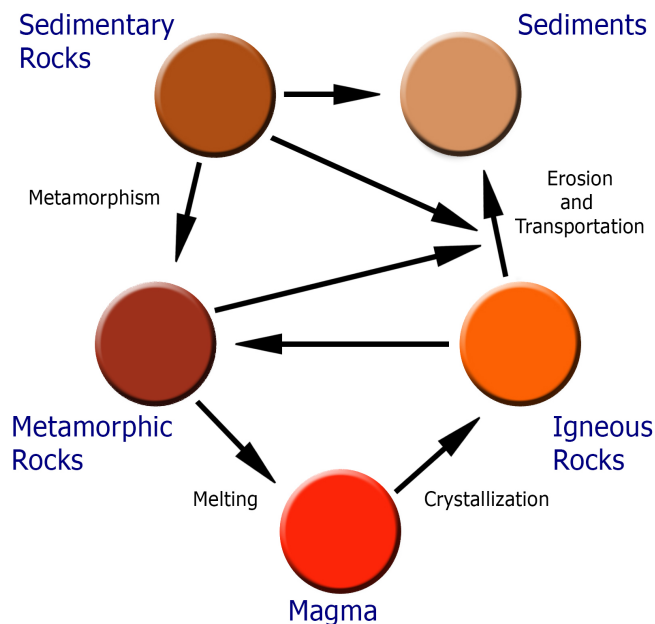


Fig 6.1.1 From modern science's father of geology, James Hutton, sprang the Magma Pseudotheory and the basis for what would become known as the Rock Cycle theory. This theory is taught in elementary schools, high schools and colleges worldwide. Notice how magma is at the base of the Rock Cycle. How could this theory be correct if its foundation—magma, does not exist? The founding pillars of modern geology are the existence of magma and the Rock Cycle.

have been formed, and we will show that much of the sedimentary rock does not come from erosional processes observed today. Because of this, the modern-science rock cycle must be reevaluated. Magma, the foundation of geology, is not a sound foundation. This makes the rock cycle also unsound. Of course erosion does occur. Rocks do break down by the abrasive action of wind and water, by the effects of heating and freezing, and by chemical and biological means. However, there is much more to the story than what is proposed in modern geology!

This chapter is similar to The Magma Pseudotheory chapter in that it continues to lay a foundation for a new paradigm. We will find that some of the most fundamental questions that should be asked in modern geology remain unanswered by current theory. These FQs will identify errors in modern science's current theoretical rock cycle. Although it is somewhat difficult to present these fundamental questions, one after another without answers, this course will allow us to understand that there are not just one or two errors in modern geology, but that the whole branch of science is in need of a revolution. The answers will be better understood when presented as part of the whole model. This will be accomplished in the following chapters.

To begin, we look at the Rock Cycle diagram at the top of the page. What are we to find at the base of the modern science concept of the rock cycle? In the previous chapter, we learned that magma is an unproven theory, and now we see the Rock Cycle theory being built upon that theory. Theories built upon theories, make the field of geology, geo-theoretical.