

Afar Triangle

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Geologists have stated that the **rift in the Afar Triangle**, located in the **Horn of Africa**, could lead to the formation of a **sixth ocean in 5 to 10 million years** due to a massive mantle plume beneath **East Africa** exerting pressure and contributing to the Earth's crust's stretching and fracturing.



[ref-Mashable India]

About the Afar Triangle:

- The **Afar Triangle** is a **geological depression** where the **Nubian, Somali, and Arabian tectonic plates converge**, forming part of the **East African Rift system** that extends from the Afar region to eastern Africa, bordering the **Red Sea** and overlapping with the borders of **Eritrea, Djibouti, and Ethiopia**.
- This region is undergoing a **rifting process** as the tectonic plates slowly move apart, with the **Arabian Plate** gradually moving away from Africa, which initiates the creation of new crust as magma rises and solidifies, highlighting its significance in **human evolution** with the discovery of **fossil specimens of the earliest hominins**.