128,000-year-old ice in Tibet

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Why in News?

*Scientists have discovered ice cores on the Guliya Plateau in northwestern Tibet that are more than **128,000 years old**, extending the known glacial record of the region by over 100,000 years.*

- **Location –** Guliya Plateau, northwestern Tibet.
- **Research Team–** Led by Lonnie Thompson and Tatyana Woodall from The Ohio State University's Byrd Polar Research Center.
- **Discovery Method–** Researchers analyzed ice cores drilled in 1992 and 2015 (23 years apart) and found strikingly similar oxygen isotope patterns.
- **Dating Technique–** They used radioactive isotopes of beryllium and chlorine to identify the chemical signature of the **Leschamp Geomagnetic Excursion** (a magnetic field disturbance from over 41,000 years ago) and matched the results with cave deposit records.
- **Significance–** The findings show that high-mountain glaciers survived major past climate shifts, proving that ice caps can be more resilient to environmental fluctuations than previously thought.



Reference

[Science Daily| 128,000-year-old ice in Tibet]

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