Why Mars Is the Best Planet

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**Introduction**

Our universe has undergone a number of changes since it is originated. It was not formed in a day, instead, it took a lot of time to evolve, in fact, billions of years. It was not in the shape, that we see today, and it is still undergoing a lot of changes on a daily basis. Many new stars and planets are being added in to it and a number of them fade away without anyone noticing. According to many experts, our universe is continuously expanding and many new galaxies are being formed regularly. Our galaxy, Milky Way, also consists of millions of stars and planets, with Sun being the biggest star in the galaxy. Along with the stars, there is a total of 9 planets and many small planetoids in our galaxy. Our planet Earth is the only heavenly body that accommodates life. Earth’s nearest neighbor, Mars, is also suspected to have the traces of life but research is still going on at this.

**Discussion**

I have always considered Mars as the best planet in the solar system, off course after Earth. The first and foremost reason behind this liking is that Mars is very much like my own home planet, Earth. “Mars is the best planet because Mars and Earth have more in common than any other worlds in the solar system” (Boyle, 2017). It is the nearest star or planet to Earth and is even easily visible from here with the help of a naked eye. If observed closely, the surface of Mars looks much similar to many places present on Earth. For example, the national parks of American West look exactly like the surface of Mars, The color and formation of the wind-whipped rocks, present in Arizona and Colorado remind us of the red surface of Mars. Even the sandy places of Mars look strikingly similar to the deserts of our planet.

The second logic for ranking Mars as the best planet after Earth is its closeness to Earth, in terms of distance. Mars is only 54.6 million kilometers or 33.9 million miles away from us when both the planets, Mars and Earth, are in close proximity to each other. It is easier to travel and start research missions on Mars as compared to any other planet or star in the solar system. The time that is taken to travel to Mars is only one and a half years, which is much less as compared to the traveling time to any other planet or star in the universe. As the traveling time is reduced, it is evident that the cost of carrying on exploratory projects over the surface of the Red Planet will also be less, which is an added benefit for science and research institutes, like NASA, and governments of the countries, in broader terms.

Mars is the best planet also due to its importance in the ancient Greek and Roman Mythology. Mars was worshipped as the ancient God of war in Roman culture. The Babylonians had known Mars by the name of Nergal. Its importance can be judged from the fact that the Romans named the third day of the week, Tuesday, just in the acknowledgment of Mars, as the Red Planet was associated with the God Tyr.

**Conclusion**

Hence, it can be seen that Mars is the best planet present in our galaxy, Milky Way, after Earth. It is beautiful and captivating and can be easily seen with the help of a naked eye. Moreover, many spots at the surface of Mars remind us of various places at Earth, especially the national parks of America and the Sahara Desert. Mars is also the favorite planet of many scientists due to its significance in the Ancient cultures.

**References**

Boyle, R. (2017, January 13). Why Mars is the Best Planet? *The Atlantic*.