

Relevance of Philately in Earth Science and its Significance in Paleontology – Ajit V Vartak, Department of Geology, Nowrosjee Wadia College, Pune - 411 001

The utility of georesources is multifold as it has both academic and commercial interests. Fossils of different life forms constitute one of the valuable and natural treasures that mankind always made use of while understanding the natural history of ancient plants and animals including the humans. Philatelic paleontology is a special field as it deals with the depiction and discovery of pre-historic life of the geological past. As the fossils are being discovered and added to literature from time to time new interesting forms will be

emerged which makes philately an important tool through which interesting aspects of early and ancient life on earth can be brought to the attention of the students, amateurs and professionals as well. Various aspects of philately of paleontology are available. These include history of paleontology, modes of preservation of fossils, evolution of life forms and other application of paleontology. The colourful and diversity of available postal stamps display a variety of facts concerning with the bio-geodiversity of the past across the

globe in a nutshell. Considering the difficulties, time constraints and resources, philately of fossils thus serves as one of the easiest methods of conveying the scientific values and interest in earth science study. Such effort and exposure will generate and develop inquisitiveness and creativeness among the students and professionals.

*Summary of the lecture to be delivered at
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