

'ARCHAEAN GEOLOGY OF THE FENNOSCANDIAN SHIELD'. Edited by Erkki Marttila, Geological Survey of Finland. Special Paper 4, 228 pp., 119 Figs., 25 Tables and one appended map on 1 : 2,500,000 scale, 1988.

The above publication of the Finnish Geological Survey is a compilation of scientific papers presented at the Finnish-Soviet symposium in Finland during July-Aug. 1986 under the auspices of the committee for Scientific and Technical cooperation between Finland and the Soviet Union.

The term Fennoscandia proposed by W. Ramsey in 1898 includes the Kola Peninsula and East Karelia of USSR together with Finland and Scandinavia. The term 'Baltic Shield' is more often employed by the Soviet geologists for the same region.

The twenty-one papers presented in the symposium deal with various aspects of the granite-greenstone terrains of the Fennoscandian Shield, covering general geology, stratigraphy, tectonics, petrochemistry and mineralisation. The smaller number of Soviet contributions attempt at synthesis and integration, while the Finnish contributions go into greater details of the greenstone belts in Finland and in particular the Kuhmo greenstone belt. This 250 km long narrow NS-trending greenstone belt of Eastern Finland typifies the Archaean greenstone-granitoid terrain of Fennoscandia.

The belt is built up of several bimodal volcanic series beginning with rhyolites and andesites and continuing with mafic and ultramafic lavas of tholeiitic and komatiitic affinities and characterised by pillow and spinifex textures. The basement of the belt is not known and the belt appears to float on younger granitoids of 2.8-2.6 Ga. Bulk of the granitoids belong to the Archaean Tonalite-Trondhjemite-Granodiorite (TTG) series in composition and REE patterns, and the others to the Granodiorite-Granite series (GG). The rocks of the TTG series are supposed to be derived from the mafic material and rocks of GG series from felsic material by processes that include both partial melting and fractional crystallisation at various levels in the crust. The Kuhmo greenstone belt with its bimodal volcanic series may represent a failed rift system.

Several parallels and similarities with the granite-greenstone terrains of the peninsular shield of India come to mind, while going through the Archaean geology of the Fennoscandian Shield and thus the above publication is of immense interest to all those engaged in the study of our own greenstone belts.

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A CORRECTION

The following clarification has been received from B. C. Acharya relating to his paper published in Jour. Geol. Soc. India, Vol. 34, pp. 405-412.

"The data in Tables I and II represent the relative percentage of metal values in cassiterite, tantalite and tapiolite without consideration of oxygen component."