

Book Reviews

CHRONIQUE DE LA RECHERCHE MINIERE, BRGM, FRANCE. Special issue,
July 1989, 72 Pages.

This special issue of *CHRONIQUE* in English by BRGM includes crisply written, well presented and informative case histories of six deposits recently discovered during BRGM's worldwide mineral exploration ventures. The deposits described are: (1) blind massive sulphide deposits (Cu with Zn + Pb) in South Portugal; (2) pyrrhotite and basemetal sulphide body at Hajar, Morocco; (3) gold deposit at Loula; (4) Mali, polymetallic sulphide and gold mineralisation in Ariab district, Sudan (showing broad similarities with the Chitradurga sulphide zone); (5) Zn-Pb-Ag deposit of Jabali, Yemen Arab Republic; and (6) Pb-Zn deposit of Bou Grine, Tunisia. These deposits are either volcanogenic or occur in a volcano-sedimentary sequence. Exploration methodology adopted or developed during the operations make interesting reading. The point that rings clear is the importance of multi-disciplinary approach as geophysics or geochemistry/geology alone would not have led to the discovery of some of the deposits described. In this context the role of ground gravimetric surveys to aid in the discovery of concealed sulphide bodies in our Proterozoic basins becomes particularly important.

There is also a review (p. 69) of a thesis on auriferous concentrations in shear-zones and their development in different stages (each having a specific sulphide paragenesis) during maturation processes leading to the recognition of a characteristic geochemical signature which may be a useful tool in regional and detailed mineral exploration. Claude Mandil sums up in his editorial the philosophy of his organisation—'Our professional experience and our techniques are enriched as much by our failures as by our successes. Although we are proud of our past, we are already living in the future. The most exciting deposits for us are those we have not yet discovered.' This view should hold true for other exploration organisations too.

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UPPER CRETACEOUS AND LOWER TERTIARY OSTRACODA (SUPER-FAMILY CYTHERACEA) FROM SAUDI ARABIA. By Dr. Ali, A. F. Al-Furaih, Published by University Libraries, University of Riyadh, (now named King Saud University), P.O. Box 2454, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 1980, 211 pp., 65 pls.

This monographic study deals essentially with the systematics of 71 ostracode species belonging to Superfamily Cytheracea from the Aruma (Campanian-Maestrichtian) and Umm er Radhuma (Palaeocene - Lower Eocene) Formations of five well sections in Saudi Arabia. Of these, 60 species are new and 2 are left under open nomenclature. Nine species have been established earlier, one by Siddiqui (1971), one by Al-Furaih (1975), and 7 by Al-Furaih (1977). Four genera—*Clynocythere*, *Hapsicytheridea*, *Holcopocythere* and *Phyrococythere*—and three subgenera *Otarococythere*, *Phalcoocythere* and *Prophalcoocythere*—are described as new.

The ostracode fauna described is very distinctive, no faunas of the same age from other regions are very similar. Cretaceous forms of Saudi Arabia seem to have more affinity with those Maestrichtian and Danian forms of Europe, while Palaeocene-Eocene forms are more closely comparable with those of the Indian subcontinent and Africa. It is possible that a number of forms described from Saudi Arabia will be found elsewhere in the neighbouring countries. The study indicates that the two formations were deposited in a shallow water, mainly carbonate environment.

This ideal study by Dr. Al-Furaih along with another outstanding publication by Dr. Q. A. Siddiqui on the Early Tertiary Ostracode of the Family Trachyleberididae from west Pakistan (Bulletin British Museum (Natural History) Geology, Supplement 9, 1971) are very useful works for geoscientists in our country who are concerned with the Cretaceous-Early Tertiary sediments.

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Announcements

Geoscientific Studies in the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea, 9-11 October, 1990, Calcutta. Organized by the Marine Wing, Geological Survey of India. The seminar is being organized by GSI in collaboration with ONGC and Department of Science and Technology (DST) with the following objectives: 1) To provide a forum for presenting the latest findings on the area. 2) To bring together geoscientists of different organisations and disciplines from India and abroad on a common platform for close interaction. 3) To review present trends in scientific programmes and identify future thrust areas.

Abstracts (not exceeding 300 words) of papers intended for presentation at the Seminar may be sent in Triplicate to the Organising Secretary by 30th April 1990. Full papers are to be submitted by 1st September 1990.

For further particulars please contact: Shri S. K. Bandyopadhyay, Organising Secretary, Marine Wing, Geological Survey of India, 63, N.S.C. Bose Road, Calcutta-700 040.

Jai Hind College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Deopur, Dhule, 424 002, (M. S.) India. National Symposium on the Applications of Geomicrobiology in India Jan. 1991. Realising the impact of biomineralization in the formation of mineral deposits and low percentage of recovery of metals, posing challenges to scientists, a symbiotic effort in understanding the importance of bacteria playing a leading role in the formation of the important deposits, a national symposium is proposed.

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