

CORRESPONDENCE

THE TALENTED NAIDU BROTHERS: JAGAPATHI NAIDU AND SEETHAPATHI NAIDU

Over the years, I have enjoyed reading the editorials, articles, papers and essays of Dr. B.P. Radhakrishna, published in the Journal of the Geological Society of India, because they contain original ideas, raise interesting problems requiring solution, are perspicacious, prescient, perceptive, and thought provoking and have a superb, marvelous, and unique literary style.

The young generation of geologists should be grateful to Dr. B.P. Radhakrishna for enlightening them on the high caliber, excellence, and great contributions of one of India's outstanding Professors of Mineralogy and Petrology, the late Prof. P.R. Jagapathi Naidu (*JGSI*, v.72, 2008, pp.293-298). For my part, the editorial took me on a trip down memory lane: fifty-five years ago, I was the Secretary of the Geology Association of the Presidency College, Madras, from 1953 to 1955. The Head of the Department of Geology, Prof. K. Venugopal, Ph.D. (London), D.I.C., had advised me to contact all the eminent Professors in the University of Madras and to request them to deliver lecture on topics of interest to geology students, under the auspices of the Geology Association. Accordingly, one of the Professors I approached was Prof. Jagapathi Naidu (hereinafter abbreviated to Prof. PRJ) who willingly agreed to deliver a lecture on 'Geologists and geological tours in Europe', which he did on January 28, 1954. The lecture was superb, stylish, scintillating, and sparkling, mesmerized the students, and kept them spellbound.

Prof. PRJ also charmed and captivated the hearts of Russian geologists, for, he delivered lectures in the Universities and Academies of the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Academy of Science in 1961.

Prof. PRJ was a Fellow of the prestigious National Institute of Sciences of India, of the Mineralogical Societies of America and Switzerland, and of the Geological Society of London. He served on the Council of the International Mineralogical Association from 1962 to 1964.

I am grateful to Dr. Radhakrishna for drawing my attention to a paper entitled, 'On Charnockites', by B. Ronald Frost and Caro D. Frost, published in *Gondwana Research*, v.13, 2008, pp.30-44. The views of these authors were already expressed by Prof. PRJ, 45 years ago, in his monumental and classic Presidential Address, 'Hypersthene-bearing rocks of the Madras State, India', delivered in the

Section of Geology and Geography of the Golden Jubilee Session of the Indian Science Congress Association held in New Delhi in 1963. Obviously, foreign experts on charnockites are apparently ignorant of Prof. PRJ's pioneering research on these enigmatic rocks. It is in this Presidential Address that Prof. PRJ expressed his firm conviction.

- (i) there is nothing like a rock, called "charnockite", which is not a hypersthene-granite;
- (ii) there is nothing like an igneous consanguineous series of rocks called the "charnockite-series", which have differentiated from the ultrabasic to the acidic end; and
- (iii) there is nothing like a province, called "the charnockite province", which is not at once a granite-gneiss-schist province.

Prof. PRJ never tolerated persons who ignored the research of others and who failed to cite their work. For example, in his Presidential Address, he had these harsh and caustic words to say: "Although authors of some textbooks of Geology in India, probably impelled by nepotism, casteism, communalism and provincialism, refer to the work of one or two Indian workers, I am aware that distinguished contributions have appeared from indefatigable workers, both in the Geological Surveys and the Universities of India".

Of the 32 major publications of Prof. Jagapathi Naidu, the following 12 may be considered as being most influential:

1. Inclined extinction in the hypersthene of charnockite. *Curr. Sci.*, v.12, 1943, pp.157-158.
2. Biaxial silica in pleonaste-bearing peridotites from Mysore. *Quart. Jour. Geol. Min. Metal. Soc. India*, v.16, 1944, pp.139-140.
3. Orientation of hair-like inclusions in the quartz of charnockites. *Quart. Jour. Geol. Min. Metal. Soc. India*, v.17, 1945, p.1.
4. Cordierites from the burnt rocks of the Jharia and Raniganj coal fields. *Curr. Sci.*, v.23, 1954, pp.387-389.
5. Minerals of charnockite from India. *Schweiz. Mineral. Petrogr. Mitt.*, v.43, pp.204-275.
6. 4-axes Universal Stage. *Mineralogical Society of India, Mysore*, 1958.

7. Anorthosites of the Madras State, India. *Indian Mineralogist*, v.1, 1960, pp.9-25.
8. Clouded plagioclase feldspars from the type charnockite area of Sir Thomas Holland. *Indian Mineralogist*, v.1, 1960, pp.68-75.
9. A layered complex in Sittampundi, Madras State, India. *Mineral. Soc. Amer. Spec. Publ.*, v.1, 1963, pp.116-123.
10. Crystallisation of leucite-nepheline-sanidine in basic differentiates from a peridotite-dunite mass in Salem, Madras State, India. *Mineral. Soc. Amer. Spec. Paper*, v.1, 1963, pp.251-257.
11. Charnockitic period. *Indian Mineralogist*, v.8, 1967, pp.70-71.
12. Johannsen's Optical Mineralogy (adaptation), Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd., Bombay, 1967.

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