



**Supriya Roy  
(1931-2013)**

Professor Supriya Roy, the most distinguished ore geologist of modern time, passed away on 22 August 2013 after a brief illness. He left behind his wife and daughter along with numerous close relatives, students and colleagues to mourn his sad departure. Supriyo-babu, as he was fondly known to his junior colleagues and students, belonged to an enlightened family, had the benefit of having close association of Megnad Saha, a torch bearer of modern science. In our early student-days at graduation level, we had the opportunity to spot Supriyo-babu as a young and energetic research scholar sitting in a corner of a room which was at that time the makeshift place housing the department of Geological Science of the newly established Jadavpur University. Alongside his research commitment he was also engaged in teaching ore geology to the post-graduate students of Applied and Engineering Geology. Almost immediately after his DPhil degree of University of Calcutta in the year 1957, he left for Canada for his post-doctoral work in the Mineralogical Division of the Survey of Canada in association with RW Boyle, a contemporary authority on metal-mineral deposits. His studies on the genetic aspects of the Pb-Zn-Ag-Cu deposits of Bathurst-Newcastle district in New Brunswick was published in 1961 as Bulletin No. 72 of Geological Survey of Canada. Returning to India in 1959 he re-joined the Department of Geological Science, Jadavpur University as Reader. His academic attainment reached a pinnacle with the award of DSc degree in 1963. He served the department in different capacities till his retirement in 1996. He continued his research studies and other academic activities as INSA Senior Scientist till 2001, and thereafter as Professor Emeritus till his last days.

Apart from being an inspiring teacher, Professor Supriya Roy's deep interest in ore geology and metallogeny induced him to undertake sustained research work on manganese deposits occurring in different Proterozoic basins of the

world. His main intent was to understand the genetic aspects of the manganese ore deposits keeping in mind the pristine depositional environments of synsedimentary deposits controlled largely by the effects of tectonically related sea level and climatic changes. He tried to work out the cause-and-effect relationship between the evolution of the atmosphere-hydrosphere system and the global metallogeny of synsedimentary manganese deposits in different stages of geological history. Making a little digression from his studies on terrestrial deposits, he had successfully determined the post-depositional changes within deep sea transition metal-bearing ferromanganese nodules of the Indian Ocean to explain the growth history of the nodular manganese deposits. The models he worked out constituted the subject matter of a number of his erudite publications.

He was elected Fellow of Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi (1972) and Indian Academy of Science, Bangalore, 1986.

He received a host of awards and honours for his contribution in Earth Science, like: LL Fermor Lecture at Geological Society of London in 1994 and DN Wadia Medal of INSA in 1998. He has also left mark in the field of academic leaderships as (i) Chairman, UGC Geoscience Panel (1980-82); (ii) Chairman, Research Council of National Institute of Oceanography, Goa (1989-91); (iii) President, Commission on Manganese, International Association of Genesis Ore deposits (IAGOD) (1994-82); and (iv) Global Leader of UNESCO-IGCP Projects No. 111 & 226 (1978-90) on the genesis of manganese deposits.

Professor Supriya Roy's sad demise has created a huge void and his legacy of scientific contributions would remain a source of inspiration to his students, junior colleagues and associates to carry forward his work.

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