

HIMALAYAN OROGEN AND GLOBAL TECTONICS. Edited by Anshu K. Sinha, Oxford and IBH Publishing Co. Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, 1992. 343 pages.

The book is a collection of nineteen papers on various aspects of Himalayan geology. It is divided somewhat arbitrarily into four parts curiously suffixed as approaches.

Sinha in his paper reviews selected contributions on certain aspects of evolution of the Himalaya. Fuchs dilates on certain pre-Tertiary events documented in the Tethys Himalaya. Burg repeats the conventional model of evolution of Tsangpo suture zone. Baud has availed the space only to counter the ideas of Fuchs on the autochthonous nature of the Himalaya. Xiao Xuchang *et al.* provide excerpts from their earlier paper in Chinese and cover the tectonic aspects of the Yarlung Zangbo zone and Tibetan plateau. Pande restates his views that the Himalaya evolved by the activation of deep-seated fractures. Acharya has attempted a synthesis of the evolution of the Himalaya, Indo-Burman ranges and Andaman Island Arc. Gairola discusses stratigraphy, structure and tectonics of Garhwal synform in the Lesser Himalaya. Tahirkheli highlights the tectonic aspects of the Shontargali Thrust at the base of the Nanga Parbat. He considers this as the extension of the Main Central Thrust. Raiverman identifies several transcontinental lineaments and based on his perception of their significance concludes that plate-tectonics is not a viable hypothesis. Viridi discusses the development and evolution of back-arc basin in Kohistan and Ladakh sectors of the Indus-Tsangpo Suture zone. Kumar and Singh have adopted the Chinese orogenic events in the Himalayan evolutionary history.

Bhattacharji has attempted redefining of the geopotential coefficients solutions on the basis of new idealised earth concept to show how much these accurate values of the earth's gravity field components in the Himalaya will add to an understanding of the Himalayan tectonics. Khatri *et al.* have attempted an analysis of data of seismicity recorded at teleseismic distances, and results of local seismological networks operated in the Shillong Massif region and have provided some new interpretation on the role of Dauki Fault and other E-W faults on the evolution of the massif. Surendar Kumar based on Bouguer anomaly and seismicity data from Tibet and Himalaya has estimated a stress of 230 bars for maintaining the elevation of Tibetan plateau.

Reuber *et al.* trace the evolution of Spongtang ophiolite nappe of Zaskar in NW Himalaya. Their paper contains some useful palaeontological information about the ophiolite nappe. Pachanri has attempted a speculative connection between certain mineral occurrences in the Himalaya and Plate Tectonics, on the lines of Sillitoe.

Waterhouse based on his palaeogeographic interpretation during late Paleozoic and Mesozoic suggests the view that the Indus-Yarlung Zangbo suture marked the line of closure of a vast late Palaeozoic-Mesozoic Tethys must be abandoned. Ghazanfar *et al.* have presented the geology of the Kaghan valley section in the NW Himalaya.

Himalayan Orogen and Global Tectonics adds to the growing literature on the geology of the Himalaya. However, with the proliferation of published material there is a tendency to repeat the ideas and to omit reference to already published primary material. Papers could have been more cohesive. Notwithstanding the general nature of the volume a few papers contribute to our knowledge. The volume has a nice get-up and good printing.