

interesting finding, as so far we did not know about the increase in iridium content across the K/T boundary.

Sessions each day concluded with discussions on burning topics in the evening. On the first day of the Conference, the evening discussion was on "Changing Late Quaternary Thermohaline Circulation: How much and what were the effects?" Ed Boyle and Tom Stocker who chaired the session put the following question: 1. Was Younger Dryas a complete shut down of North Atlantic Thermohaline Circulation, 2. Are Younger Dryas, Heinrich Dansgaard Oeschger events or different from each other and 3. What does palaeoceanography teach us for future changes? There were different views presented by different workers. Future researches can be expected to better answer these questions. The second day's evening discussion on "Details of Tertiary Global Cooling: Is Atmospheric CO₂ still a major cause?" was chaired by Maureen Raymo and Wolfgang Berger. Participants suggested that CO₂ has played a very important role in both short-term and long-term climatic variability. On the final day, the Conference concluded with a talk by Michael Bender on "Correlating Ice Core and Deep Sea Climate Records: Implications for climate dynamics."

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NATIONAL SEMINAR-CUM-FIELD MEETING: MEGA EVENTS ACROSS BLAINI-TAL SUCCESSION (TERMINAL PROTEROZOIC - CAMBRIAN), NIGALIDHAR AND KORGAI SYNCLINES, HIMACHAL HIMALAYA

Four day long deliberations (August 7-10, 1998) were held under the aegis of the Centre for Advanced Studies in Geology, Panjab University, Chandigarh to discuss the issues related to the geological events that took place between ~650 Ma to ~530 Ma in the Inner Krol Belt of the Lesser Himalayan Tectogen. The seminar was followed by two days of field work in the Nigalidhar and Korgai Synclines with the last day spent on discussions and summing up of deliberations.

A.D.Ahluwalia, convenor explained the objective of the Seminar. The keynote address was delivered by O.N. Bhargava, formerly of Geological Survey of India. He described the various events that can be recognised within the span of Blaini to Tal.

The late afternoon travel on the very first day to the Renuka Ji - a lake resort and a mythologically significant place near Dadahu - provided the participants with a glimpse of the Quaternary, Siwalik

and Tertiary sequences as they crossed the Kala-Amb and Nahan townships. The field meeting started with discussions on the origin of Renuka Ji lake, Main Boundary Fault and the geological setting of the Inner Krol Belt. Inder Singh (GSI) explained the Renuka Ji lake's origin to be associated with Neotectonic activity that shifted the main course of the Giri river. The remaining part of the day was spent in studying the various lithounits of the southern part of the Nigalidhar Syncline, with some excellent outcrops of the Blaini Group. The Blaini was subsequently followed by the Infra Krol Formation. In the Krol 'A' the silicified lenses and a few annulated discs (Ediacaran medusoid discs) were shown by Vibhuti Rai. Many of the participants had their reservations about these disc-like structures. Typical red shale of the Krol 'B' was seen along the faulted contact. In the post lunch session of field work the upper part of the Krol Group i.e. Krol 'C', 'D' and 'E', dominated by the carbonate lithologies, were examined.

The field work on the first day ended in an open cast limestone quarry at Bhootmarhi (within the Krol 'C'), where chemical grade limestone is being excavated.

The second day of the field meeting was focussed on the Korgai (locally called 'Kodga') Syncline. At Sataun the participants were shown the basement sequence of the Mandhali Formation, limonitic beds, Palaeoproterozoic flows, Tertiary coals and barytes-malachite mineralization. The participants were taken to the stromatolite bearing horizon of the Algal Limestone Member of the Upper Tal Formation. Subsequently, the participants were led to the brachiopod-bearing outcrop by Vibhuti Rai. The tiny little lingulids scattered in thousands along certain bedding planes elicited great interest.

The day ended with the evaluation of the Krol 'C' and Krol 'D' of the Krol Group near Barwas village where very well developed clastic/carbonate facies were shown. Large scale cross-stratification, ripple marks, oolitic shales, etc. presented the visitors a rare glimpse of the unique carbonate depositional system.

The entire forenoon on the last day was spent on discussions which ranged from early evolution of life on the planet with possible causes for its diversification, to the bearing of chemical signatures on the evolutionary domain at the Precambrian-Cambrian boundary. The recognition of geological events in a time frame-work during the Terminal Proterozoic was the major highlight of the discussions. The Varanger glaciation, as it is perceived in the Blaini Group of Lesser Himalaya, was one of the important topics of discussion. The concept of Inner Krol Belt and Outer Krol Belt with its possibly tectono-basinal setting was emphasised.

A.D.Ahluwalia (Convenor) and Naval Kishore Sharma (Co-Convenor) need all the praise for successfully convening this meeting.

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