

are outlined by M.K.Devarajan and A.S.Khan. Copper mineralization in the Vindhyan sandstones of Bhadugaon is described by V.K. Khadse and others.

Anindya Roy and others devise geochemical screens for differentiating weathered kimberlites/lamproites from weathered lamproites/alkaline ultramafics in Chhattisgarh. Termite mounds are emphasized as additional tools in the subsurface exploration for unconformity-related uranium deposits from Chattisgarh, by M.Agarwal and others.

The section on Mineral Policy is not directly related to the theme of the symposium, but provides new perspectives of mineral policy, legislation and classification of national mineral inventory in the changed scenario of liberalization in the Indian mineral sector. There are also a few more papers which do not fit the theme of the symposium, but have found a place in this volume. These include gravity studies and sapphirine granulites from western India, Fourier analysis of folds, mineral equilibria, oxygen isotope studies and overview of analytical techniques in geochemistry.

The volume is well organized with an attractive cover page. The most outstanding quality of the volume is the overall good quality of papers packed with new information, as well as its prompt and timely release coinciding with the symposium. The editors deserve our kudos for this magnificent effort. However, the pressure of deadlines to release the volume during the symposium is manifest in editorial errors and poor quality of majority of the figures and photographs. The quality of printing paper is also below par, which has not helped matters either. But none of these deficiencies will diminish the durable value of this publication, which marks a milestone in the annals of Precambrian geology, because the substance endures even if the packaging does not.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PETROLEUM GEOCHEMISTRY AND EXPLORATION IN THE AFRO-ASIAN REGION (AAPG - 2004): This Conference is scheduled to be held at Beijing, China during 12-14 October, 2004. Following topics are to be covered in the conference: Biotransformation of organic matter; Petroleum geochemistry and exploration in the frontier of Asia and Africa; Source Rocks in the lacustrine, delta, and coal measures; Immature; coal derived and other unconventional oils; Petroleum in the evaporate basin; Biogenesis natural gases; Geochemistry and exploration of heavy oils; Molecular and isotopic indicators; Geochemistry of the mixed oils from different sources; Oil/gas migration; Reservoir geochemistry; Bio and physical alteration of petroleum; Late formation of petroleum pertained to Himalayan Orogen; Novel geochemical technologies in petroleum geochemistry and exploration and Geochemistry digital modelling. For further details, please contact: Conference Secretariat of AAAPG-2004, Post Box 910, No.20, Xueyuan Road, Haidian District, Beijing 100083, China. **Phone:** (+8610) 62097451, 62098619; **Fax:** (+8610) 62098619; **Email:** aaapg2004@petrochina.com

○ We regret very much to record the passing away of Dr. S.N.P. Srivastava, formerly of the Geological Survey of India on 16 October, 2003 at Chennai.