

involving possibly both HFSE depleted and enriched sources in the melting processes of mantle is suspected (Melluso et al.).

Two and three-dimensional gravity modeling of the western continental margin and the intraplate Narmada-Tapti rifts has brought out, for the first time, a comprehensive picture of the nature of high density buried load and deep structure in the region. The presence of a high density, mafic-ultramafic type elongated roughly ellipsoidal body is identified below the Western margin rift, some 300 km-long and 25–40 km-wide. In contrast the intraplate Narmada-Tapti rift is characterized by presence of eight small isolated high-density bodies, convex upwards. The mafic bodies may have been reservoirs for Deccan flood basalt, related to interaction with the Reunion hotspot (Bhattacharji et al.).

### Genozoic magmatism

The tectonothermal evolution of the Ladakh region of the Himalaya in the time span from 46 to 30 Ma is constrained by new Ar-Ar thermochronology (Bhutani et al.). The sub-alkaline and alkaline basalts of Andaman Ophiolite suite have high Ti-type chemistry that indicates that they have been formed from parental magmas emplaced at a

mid-ocean ridge setting (Srivastava et al.). The pre-historic lava eruptions of Barren Islands during the Quaternary have similarities of source characteristics with the low-K lavas of the Sunda arc (Alam et al.).

### Physical Volcanology

Significant variations in lava flow morphology between different provinces and even in the same province call for a comprehensive documentation of lava flow morphology from all CFB provinces (Bondre et al.). A study of the tube system in a hummocky lava flow at Dhaund some 300 km SE of Mumbai, is reported and the bearing of a branching and meandering lava tube system on flow rates is discussed (Duraiswami et al.). Gentle cones and circular craters on Mt. Pavagadh Deccan volcanic flows are rootless and do not represent any primary vents. Rootless cones may be more common in Deccan flows than commonly realized (Sheth et al.).

The papers cited above are supported by excellent illustrations and diagrams. The Indian Academy of Sciences and particularly the guest editors deserve to be congratulated in bringing out such a well edited and excellently illustrated volume that can be a very useful addition to Earth Science libraries.

### BOOK REVIEW

## Random Harvest (Biographical Sketches)

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*B.P. Radhakrishna, Random Harvest (Biographical sketches) Geological Society of India, Memoir 60, 2005, p. 291. Price: India - Rs. 250; other countries - US\$ 25. Geological Society of India, P.B. No. 1922, Gavipuram, Bangalore - 560 019, India.*

The Geological Society of India brought out an anthology of editorials written by B.P. Radhakrishna entitled 'Random Harvest' in two volumes. The first one, in the year 2003, contained editorials on various topics relevant to the present day needs of the society and the role of earth scientists in alleviating the anachronism. The

present volume, brought out in 2005, is complementary to the previous one and contains biographical sketches, portraits and tributes on distinguished personalities who laboured for the advancement of society and science and with some of whom he had contacts.

The volume begins with portraits of distinguished earth scientists of India and other countries. These articles depict the significant contributions made by them in understanding the geology of the globe in general and India in particular. Even today, the concepts laid down by them are valid and widely cited. Going through these

writings is a memorable experience and inspires young minds to tread the path of these men of tenor and character. It is indeed a difficult task to review the individual contributions made by each one of them as it requires more journal space. To put it briefly, all of them should be role models for present day earth scientists as they were able to distinguish the fundamental from trivial, the meaningful from meaningless. Included also in this category are tributes to well known scientists like Sir C.V. Raman, George Everest, John Burdon Sanderson Haldane and Raja Ramanna. All of them are among the greatest scientists the world has produced. Taking into consideration the prevailing scientific scenario in India, it is worth recapitulating the contribution of Nobel laureate C.V. Raman to Indian science. To quote the author "He was the harbinger of a new spirit and gave the renascent Indian Science a prestige and status at a time when it was required".

In the second category are lucid narrations of the lives of social benefactors who toiled hard for the uplift of rural poor. They also spearheaded movements to create social

awareness among citizens of India towards sustainable development and healthy environment.

Finally, the author has paid rich tributes through these editorials to his close associates, friends and colleagues who were a never failing source of inspiration to him.

A perusal of these pages gives immense pleasure as it provides an opportunity to learn more about the qualities and character of our illustrious predecessors. All those in quest of excellence and originality should read this memoir to mould their lives. Even for the layman these writings are of value and relevance.

The Editor and the Editorial Board of the Geological Society of India should be complimented for having thought of compiling these editorials in the form of a memoir. Otherwise these would have remained unknown to many as they lie scattered in the volumes of the Journal of Geological Society of India published over the years. I wish people in authority would make serious efforts to acquire this volume for the libraries if their mission is to inculcate scientific spirit and character in young minds.

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#### NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

## Exploration and Research for Atomic Minerals

K.D.P. Singh, D. Narasimhan, P. Rajasekaran and Rajan B. Jain (Eds.)

'Exploration and Research for Atomic Minerals' edited by K.D.P. Singh, D. Narasimhan, P. Rajasekaran and Rajan B. Jain and guest-edited by R. Dhana Raju, is a publication of Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research, EARFAM, Vol. 15, December 2004. This volume is a compilation of 11 papers presented in the Workshop on "Geophysical Techniques for Exploration of Concealed Uranium Deposits" held at AMD Headquarters, Hyderabad on August 28, 2002 and August 29, 2003. Also included are six short communications. The papers (170 pages in all) provide a comprehensive account of the extent, prospects and techniques of uranium exploration in various parts of India.

Orders for this publication may be placed with: In-charge, Scientific and Technical Resource Centre, Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research, 1-10-153/156. AMD Complex, Begumpet, Hyderabad - 500 016, India.

