

BOOK REVIEW

PRACTICAL APPROACH TO CRYSTALLOGRAPHY AND MINERALOGY

by R.N. Hota, 2011, 202p. Price: Rs.250.

PRACTICAL APPROACH TO PETROLOGY by R.N. Hota, 2011, 150p. Price Rs. 200.

Published by CBS Publishers & Distributor, New Delhi, Bengaluru, Pune and Chennai

These two books by Rabindra Nath Hota, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, under review, are a welcome, low cost editions to students of geology besides others who want to understand practical aspects on these subjects. Classification of crystals, stereographic projections of crystals, determination of axial ratios and problems related to zonal laws are covered lucidly besides physical and determinative aspects on minerals using different instruments for specific gravity and the optical properties using the petrological microscope is well laid out with tabulated material for ready reference. Computation of mineral formulae from a given chemical analysis of minerals is also provided with examples.

The second book on petrology deals with the three branches, namely igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks and describe briefly their structure, texture and petrography. Calculation of norms, modal analysis and simple bi- and tri-variant plots of normative minerals that help in classification of rocks have been dealt with in Part I

(pp.3-58). Aspects on metamorphic fabric, classification and tabulated descriptions of different rock types are really handy besides those exercises pertinent to ACF, AKF, and AFM plots (Part II, pp.59-72). The sedimentary rocks have been dealt with more elaborately covering structures, textures and classification besides providing worked out examples for grain size analysis, paleocurrent analysis and heavy mineral analysis (Part III, pp.73-150). The author must be complimented for such useful texts to students of geology at very reasonable prices. During revision, the author must include additional aspects on the trace element mineral chemistry, whole-rock-trace element geochemistry and isotopic aspects, P-T paths in metamorphic rocks, geothermometry using mineral analysis and others that help in understanding the rocks since we must update our practical texts with current trends in petrology and mineralogy.

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LAKSHMESWAR RAMA RAO BIRTH CENTENARY RESEARCH GRANTS: 2012-13

A sum of Rs.10,000/- shall be made available during the financial year 2012-13 to young research scholars for carrying out laboratory and field work in Palaeontology and Stratigraphy.

Those interested in seeking assistance are requested to apply to the Society furnishing full particulars of academic qualifications, synopsis of the research project they are engaged in and the extent of assistance required. The application should be supported by their Research Guide and the Head of the Institution and reach the Secretary, Geological Society of India, No.63, 12th Cross, Basappa Layout, Gavipuram PO, P.B. No.1922, Bangalore - 560 019. **Telefax:** 080-2661 3352; **Phone:** 080-2242 2943; 09886028190; **Email:** gsocind@gmail.com on or before **31st March 2012**. For further information, please access our **website:** www.geosocindia.org.