NEWS AND NOTES 775

Fifth International Conference on Geology of Tethys Realm, South Valley University, Qena, Egypt

The Tethys Geological Society, Cairo, Egypt had organized the Fifth International Conference on Geology of Tethys during 2-7 January 2010 at South Valley University, Qena. This conference was attended by more than 150 Earth scientists from all over the world including India, Russia, France, Germany, Japan, China, Morocco, Sudan, Libya, Saudi Arabia, United States of America, South Africa, Uzbekistan, Tunisia, Norway, Spain, Egypt and other Arabian countries. More than 150 research papers and about 100 poster presentations were presented at the conference.

The conference was on the various geological aspects of the geology of Tethys Basin including the stratigraphical, sedimentological, petrological, mineralization, hydrocarbons, petroleum, geomorphological, palaeontological, geophysics, regional geology, Quaternary geology, mineralogy and geochemistry.

In the mineralogy and geochemistry section, the research paper on the 'Discovery of Helium gas' was presented by Prof. Shandilya which was highly appreciated. A two-day pre-conference field workshop was arranged along the Nile River section. — Arun K. Shandilya (Email: akshandilya_u@rediffmail.com)