

## PROFESSOR YE LIANJUN'S 50 YEARS IN GEOSCIENCE

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### Abstract

Prof. Ye Lianjun has already in geoscience for 50 years since he graduated from the Department of Geology, Beijing University in 1937. As a geologist, especially a sedimentologist, he is well known both in China and in the world. He is a member of Division, the Academia Sinica, deputy director of the Division of Earth Science the Academia Sinica, chairman of the Scientific Research Committee and Degree Committee of Institute of Geology, Academia Sinica, deputy council president of Society of Mineralogy, Petrology and Geochemistry of China, council president of China Society of Sedimentology, standing council member and honorary council member of China Society of Petroleum, council president of the Society of Oceanography of Beijing and a member of the Committee on Sedimentology, IUGS. He was also a council member of international association of sedimentologists until 1986.

In 1940s, he made investigations on the Longmen mountains of Sichuan Province and the Qinling mountains. Overcoming many difficulties in those remote areas, he acquired valuable informations for understanding the tectonics and the geological evolution of the Qinling mountains and proposed a new point of view on the nature of the Lonshan movement. He went to America in 1945 and worked with the Federal Geological Survey in the field of engineering and hydrological geology.

Since New China was founded, he has taken an active part in our socialist construction with great enthusiasm. He has undertaken various tasks and made important contributions in the country's engineering constructions and in the explorations of ore deposits and mineral energy resources such as Mn, Fe, P, radiative elements and petroleum. For example, in 1953 Profs. Ye and Hou Defeng studied the manganese ore area of Xiangtan, Hunan Province. Analyzing the process and condition of formation of the manganese ore deposits and applying the geochemical principle of control of the manganese transportation and deposition under oxidation-reduction, they deduced correctly from the surface oxidized ore deposits that another type of carbonate manganese ore deposits should exist. Afterwards, new finding of the abundant carbonate ore deposits in deep, gave the nearly exhausted ore area a new life.

Prof. Ye's interests in research are extensive. He has profound knowledge in geoscience as well. His theoretical achievements include five monographs and one

hundred papers or more. From the latefifties through mid-sixties, he studied the relationship between exogenous metallogenesis and eustatic movement, paleogeography, sedimentary discontinuity, organic matter and physico-chemical condition and proposed a theory of "imbibition of terrestrial weathering products", a new concept on the genesis of sedimentary ore deposits. On the basis of summarization of phosphorite deposits of China, he proposed a theory of "the physical enrichment of industrial phosphorite deposits". In recent years, he has placed his interests on an important subject—"origin of the metallogenic epochs of sedimentary ore deposits", and has been leading a working group for this study.

He has always kept an eye on new research areas. For example, he supported the study of "geochemical evolution of sedimentary crust" as early as in the latefifties, then the study of organic geochemistry in the laboratory of sedimentology, Institute of Geology, Academia Sinica. He has been concerned about the growth of younger generation of geoscientists. He has been a supervisor of many postgraduates for Master and Dr. degree. Some of his assistants and students before are now either in charge of an institute or a leading scientist in a special research area.

Prof. Ye goes abroad for visit, scientific exploration and conference frequently. His these academic activities has promoted our scientific exchange and international cooperation.

In the Prof. Ye's 50th anniversary in geology, we wish him more success in science and more contribution to our socialist construction.