

NEWSLETTER

New Concepts In Global Tectonics

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FROM THE EDITORS

This number contains an interesting paper by Dr. Yasumoto Suzuki on increased crustal (volcanic and seismic) activities in recent years in Japan. Peter James discusses on reservoir induced seismicity and on the stress state in the earth's crust. In addition, two important papers presented in the recently-held Khabarovsk conference are included. The Publications section introduces a summary of a book by Sanchez Cela who proposes a new upper mantle model - densialite.

We congratulate the appearance of David Pratt's review paper (Plate tectonics: Paradigm under threat) in the most recent issue of *Journal of Scientific Exploration*. The paper exhaustively examined the validity of plate tectonics in the light of new hard evidence, much of which has been discussed in the NCGT Newsletter. We are sure that the paper will give some solid impact on the dominant orthodox tectonic ideas. Another gem authored by Chris Smoot has appeared in *Geomorphology*. You will see many familiar figures and arguments in the paper.

With this issue, no. 17, we are entering the fifth year since the first appearance of the Newsletter in December, 1996. It will be fair to say that we have achieved several major goals during the period. The Editors sincerely thank the enthusiastic supports rendered by our members in many ways. A small number of "dissidents" at the

start has multiplied by several times during the course, and we are continuously adding new members on the mailing list.

Although powerful unified ideas have not yet formed, some general agreements are emerging, which were discussed in the last Editorial. Using the Newsletter as a platform, our readers have enjoyed expressing freely their opinions which would have been prohibited in main stream publications. Here quite noteworthy is that several major papers by our members have started to be accepted in major, even pro-plate journals; these papers are citing profusely articles which have appeared in our Newsletter. Hopefully, they will produce a snow ball effect.

One of the largest achievements in the past will be the international conference, Tsukuba Symposium, held in Japan, 1998. Its proceedings are on the verge of publication from Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, India. Many excellent papers in the volume will help change the tide in the current geological thinking, and so will remain in the history.

The Editors are proud of every achievement by our members which has been attained in the most difficult environment. We will keep producing enlightening and creative scientific contributions for the coming long future.

CONTENTS IN THIS ISSUE

From the Editors.....	1
Letters to the Editors.....	2
Articles	
Recent active volcanism and seismicity in Japan.....	3
State of stress of earth's crust: inference from reservoir induced seismicity.....	8

Morphostructural evolution of continental margins.....	11
Earth's rotational tectonics.....	13
Publications.....	14
News.....	17
Financial support/About the Newsletter.....	18