

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL PALYNOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The IV International Palynological Conference was held at the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow from 29th December 1976 to 5th January 1977. One hundred and thirty seven delegates from foreign countries participated in this Conference. The countries represented by their delegates were, France (23), U.S.A. (22), U.S.S.R. (14), U. K. (12), the Netherlands (11), Australia (10), Germany (9), Canada (6), Belgium (5), Japan (4), Sweden (4), Switzerland (4), Czechoslovakia (2), Norway (2) and one each from Denmark, Hungary, Iran, Italy, Nigeria, Madagascar, Singapore, Turkey, and Venezuela. Besides, 200 Indian delegates representing Geological Survey of India, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Physical Research Laboratory, V. P. Chest Institute, Bose Research Institute, Oil India Ltd., Bee Research Institute, National Botanic Gardens, French Institute and many Universities and Research Laboratories attended this Conference.

About one hundred and ten foreign delegates participated in the Pre- and Post-Conference excursions in South, North-Western, Central and East India.

The Conference was inaugurated on 29th December, 1976. Prof. T. S. Sadasivan, the Chairman, Governing Body of Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany welcomed the delegates. Mr. N. F. Hughes, President of International Commission for Palynology presented the insignia of the Conference General President to Dr. D. C. Bharadwaj and those of Divisional Presidents to Dr. P. K. K. Nair, Mr. A. K. Ghosh, Dr. B. S. Venkatachala, Dr. Vishnu-Mittre, Dr. Surimal Chanda and Dr. D. N. Shivpuri for Divisions I—VI respectively. The General President delivered the Presidential address on the theme, "The Significance of Evolution in Palynology".

Shri K. D. Malaviya, Hon'ble Minister for Petroleum, who was to inaugurate the Conference, could not come for the occasion. However, he addressed the delegates of the Conference on 31.12.1976 instead.

On 3.1.1977, the delegates also attended a special function of the Palaeobotanical Society addressed by Shri K. C. Pant, then Hon'ble minister for Energy in the Government of India.

The subjects discussed during the Conference covered some fundamental aspects such as the morphology, taxonomy, physiology and evolution of palynomorphs, and the vegetational history and such applied aspects as the use of palynology in oil and coal exploration, allergy, medicine, melittology and agriculture besides dating of rocks and problems of stratigraphical boundaries.

The scientific deliberations of the Conference, grouped in 6 divisions, were conducted under 29 symposia and non-symposia sessions. The six divisions were :

- Div. I—Morphology, Taxonomy and Physiology : Spores and Pollen grains.
- Div. II—Morphology and Taxonomy: Dinoflagellates, Acritarchs, Diatoms, Coccoliths, Chitinozoa, Radiolarians and Microforams.
- Div. III—Palynological Stratigraphy & Exploration of Fossil Fuels.
- Div. IV—Quaternary Palynology.
- Div. V—Palynological Data Handling and Palaeogeography.
- Div. VI—Palynology in Medicine, Agriculture, Forestry, etc..

In all, 292 research papers were presented. Besides, 5 plenary lectures and 5 special lectures on different aspects related to palynology, were also delivered by distinguished scientists of India and abroad. This conference provided an opportunity for the paly-

nologists to exchange views, to present the highlights of their researches and to discuss important issues concerning palynology.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PALYNOLOGY

The International Commission for Palynology, under the auspices of which IV International Palynological Conference was held at Lucknow, was constituted at Novosibirsk (USSR) in 1971. The commission unanimously selected its President in Mr. N. F. Hughes (Cambridge), three Vice-Presidents in Dr. D. C. Bharadwaj (Lucknow) for the IV I.P.C., Prof. M. I. Neustadt (Moscow) for Palaeopalynology, Mr. J. Muller (Leiden) for Actuo-palynology, four members in Prof. F. P. Jonker (Past President), Prof. E. D. Zaklinskaya, Dr. P. K. K. Nair and Dr. S. Archangelsky. The President was authorized to nominate five members including the Secretary, keeping in view that a balanced regional representation was obtained. The President nominated Prof. K. Faegri (Norway), Prof. B. Pacltova (Czechoslovakia), Prof. A. Traverse (U.S.A.), Prof. G. Norris (Canada) and Dr. M. Muir (England—*Secretary*). The nominations under-represented U.S.A. and eliminated Japan, while increasing the weightage to the European continent. The President also decided to restrict the responsibilities of Prof. M. I. Neustadt to Quaternary Palynology and assuming charge of rest of the scope under Palaeopalynology himself.

The commission was charged with the responsibility of promoting international collaboration in palynological research through working groups and that of drafting its constitution to be adopted at Lucknow session by members of the IV I.P.C. The President approved of some working groups and rejected a number of proposals from various quarters.

The constitution was drafted after eliciting opinion from the active national or regional palynological organizations. The final draft was circulated in October, 1976. The constitution drawn up purported to be a federation of Regional, National and Specialist Societies of palynologists.

Taking for granted that the draft constitution would be adopted at the IV IPC, the President proceeded under its tentative provisions to elect the President of the next Commission. In his ICP/CL14, dated 19th May, 1976, the President circulated —

“4. *Nomination for President 1977*—I believe that this council should endeavour to reach a unanimous nomination for President, and should make an announcement before the Lucknow meeting, so that continuity of office may be preserved. Such procedure is also consistent with para 8 of the Draft Constitution of September 1975, which we hope to adopt in Lucknow.

(a) I suggest that the selection for nomination should be based on the promise of active service to ICP rather than on honour or reward for past services.

(I) I suggest that the new President should not come from West Europe, USSR or India, all of which have been closely involved in ICP or conference organisation in the last ten years.

Will all Council members please write to me in the next month with their comments and suggestions for the next President. I will correlate and circulate the results in the next Council Letter.”

This has been an anti-international act by the President of an International body. It materially affected the chances of the countries including India in the election of the President that followed. Ultimately the draft constitution was adopted at Lucknow and the new ICP formally constituted.

D. C. BHARADWAJ
Past Vice-President

ADDENDA

LELE, K. M. (1976). Palaeoclimatic implications of Gondwana Floras. *Geophytology*.
6 (2): 207-229.

Page	Text-figure	Redrawn from
213	2	Chandra, S. (1974)— <i>Aspects and Appraisal of Indian Palaeobotany, Lucknow</i> : 126-153, all leaf forms except <i>Noeggerathiopsis</i> .
219	5	Chandra, S. (1974)— <i>Aspects and Appraisal of Indian Palaeobotany, Lucknow</i> : 126-153 & 62-72.
220	6 & 7 C }	
220	7 A	Feismantel, O. (1881)—slightly modified.
220	7 B	Maithy, P. K. (1975)— <i>Palaeobotanist</i> . 22 (1): 29-38.
225	8 A, H	Srivastava, S. C. (1974)— <i>Aspects and Appraisal of Indian Palaeobotany, Lucknow</i> : 179-188.
225	8 B	Bose, M. N. & Srivastava, S. C. (1971)— <i>Palaeobotanist</i> . 19 (1) : 41-51.
225	8 C, D	Lele, K. M. (1962)— <i>Palaeobotanist</i> . 10 (1, 2) : 42-62.
225	8 E, F, G	Bose, M. N. & Dev, S. (1960)— <i>Palaeobotanist</i> . 7 (2) : 143-154.
225	8 I, J	Bose, M. N. & Roy, S. K. (1968)— <i>Palaeobotanist</i> . 16 (1) : 1-9.
225	8 K	Bose, M. N. & Srivastava, S. C. (1970)— <i>Palaeobotanist</i> . 18 (2) : 215-217.

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(See Rule 8)

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I, D. C. Bharadwaj, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Sd.) D. C. BHARADWAJ

Secretary

The Palaeobotanical Society

Signature of Publisher

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Important Publications in Geophytology—Volumes I to VI

Following is the subject-wise list of some authors in six volumes (12 numbers) of Geophytology (1971—1976).

Palaeobotany—C. A. Arnold, D. I. Axelrod, S. B. Bhatia, M. N. Bose, S. D. Chitale, T. M. Harris, V. A. Krassilov, R. N. Lakhanpal, B. Lundblad, T. S. Mahabale, H. K. Maheshwari, P. K. Maithy, S. V. Meyen, U. Prakash, A. R. Rao, K. R. Surange, B. S. Trivedi, V. A. Vakharmeev.

Palynology (Living & fossil)—D. C. Bharadwaj, M. N. Bose, R. Harland, K. P. Jain, R. K. Kar, K. M. Lele, H. K. Maheshwari, L. A. Rilley, S. C. D. Sah, W. A. S. Sarjeant, J. Taugourdeau-Lantz, R. S. Tiwari, B. S. Venkatachala, Vishnu-Mittre.

Botany—D. D. Awasthi (Lichens), M. S. Balakrishnan (Algae), T. S. Mahabale, D. D. Pant (Pteridophytes), J. N. Rai, B. B. Sharma (Fungi), B. S. Trivedi, B. K. Verma (Angiosperms), A. R. Rao (Gymnosperms), Ram Udar (Bryophytes).

Archaeobotany—N. Awasthi, S. B. Lal, U. Prakash, R. V. Sitholey, Vishnu-Mittre.

Stratigraphy—D. C. Bharadwaj, A. R. Bhattacharya, R. C. Misra, K. S. Pandey.

Sedimentology—I. B. Singh.

Palaeontology—S. P. Jain, A. Sahni, S. N. Singh, K. S. Soodan, K. K. Tandon.

Petrography—S. K. Babu, A. Ghosh, T. K. Ghosh, G. K. B. Navale.

Palaeogeography—K. P. Jain, R. K. Kar.