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Characterization and Provenance Analysis of Ancient Stone Materials: Insights from Mineralogy, Petrology and Geochemistry

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Since prehistoric times, humans have known how to select stones depending on their quality to be used as a tool, part of a building or noble decorative or artistic element, or even for their special symbolic value. There is no doubt that the stone identification used in archaeological pieces, in art and cultural heritage, provides valuable information which helps us to understand the way of life of ancient communities. Provenance studies facilitate geographical and chronological evidence of human activities and are of considerable value in elucidating economic and social exchange mechanisms. On the other hand, better understanding of the resources exploited in ancient quarries offers prized information with special potential application in damaged architectural stoneworks. Recent developments and studies of stone characterization and provenance are invited to this Special Edition of *Minerals*. This is extended not only to marbles of the Greco-Roman world, but also to any stone resource ranging from prehistoric to recent past periods.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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