

Special Issue

Gems and Gem Minerals

Message from the Guest Editors

Gems have always sparked considerable fascination across all civilizations in man's history on Earth; many famous personalities have lovingly embellished themselves with gems of great caliber and splendid colors, which have also become of great historical fame. Gems are the prized objects of many legends and fairy tales and have been widely represented in the most famous artworks...Scientific research conducted on gems has developed enormously in the last thirty years and aims to investigate the chemical and physical properties that make these minerals so desirable to the public. Furthermore, scientific research aims to understand the geological processes linked to the formation of gems and the characteristics of the deposits. This information can be used to decipher the provenance of many ancient gems—the commercial value of a gem is in fact often related to its origin. Technological innovation has been enormous and pervasive in particular with respect to treatments and syntheses of gems. The boundary among natural, treated and synthetic gemstones is getting more and more ambiguous.

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About the Journal

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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