Special Issue

Metallogenesis of the Central Asian Orogenic Belt

Message from the Guest Editors

The Central Asian Orogenic Belt (CAOB) is one of the world's largest accretionary orogenic belts in the Phanerozoic era, spanning Eurasia from the Ural Mountains in the west to the Pacific Ocean in the east. It is bordered by the Siberian Craton in the north and the Solon suture zone in the east, and extends through the North Mountains of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to join the Ural suture zone in western China. A long and complex accretionary orogenic process, influenced by multiple geodynamic processes, has given rise to several large-scale metallogenic systems in the CAOB, resulting in multi-stage and multi-type mineralization. As one of the world's three major metallogenic regions, the CAOB is a focus of recent research on the petrogenesis, geochemistry, and geochronology of different geological tectonic units and mineral deposits. This Special Issue aims to understand and provide an overview on the regional tectonic evolution, the formation of igneous rocks, and their role in the formation of mineral deposits (especially the igneous system).

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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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