

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IAG WORKING GROUP ON RED BEDS AND DANXIA  
GEOMORPHOLOGY**

**1. INTERNATIONAL JOINT SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION ON DANXIA  
LANDFORM IN NORTHERN SHAANXI PROVINCE**

The International Joint Scientific Investigation on Danxia Landform in Northern Shaanxi Province was held during April 25 -30, 2019. It was jointly organized by the Shaanxi Institute of Geological Survey, IAG Working group on Red Beds and Danxia Geomorphology, Red Beds and Danxia Group of the Geographical Society of China, Sun Yat-Sen University and Yulin Municipal People's Government. The investigations were held in different Danxia field sites in Shaanxi Province. Prof. Piotr Migon and Dr. Filip Duszynski from Poland, Dr. Janson Knouft from the USA, Dr. Milica Kasanin Grubin from Serbia, Prof. Soojae Lee from South Korea and me (Prof. Sunil Kumar De, India) were invited as the International Experts. The main objective of the Investigation was to study the potential of the sites for Geo-tourism and the measures of their sustainability. Dr. Ren Fang, Secretary of the IAG Working Group on Red Beds and Danxia Geomorphology was one of the main organizers, contacted all of the International experts and acting as the media of translation. The President of the IAG, Prof. Mauro Soldati had nominated their one of the Vice Presidents, Prof. Sunil Kumar De to represent the IAG in the said investigation.

The main objective of the Investigation was to study the potential of the Danxia sites in Shaanxi province for Geo-tourism and the measures of their sustainability. It was six days field study to prepare the reports. During the investigation the whole team visited Weibei Mountains of the southwest of Tongchuan, Longzhou Danxia Landform, Lianhuachan Danxia Landform and Mawsong canyon Danxia site.

**2. THE THE 4<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON DANXIA LANDFORM& THE  
19<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM OF RED BEDS AND DANXIA  
LANDFORM**

The Symposim was held in Yan'an city of Northern Shaanxi Province during August 21-22, 2019. It was jointly organized by the Shaanxi Institute of Geological Survey, IAG Working group on Red Beds and Danxia Geomorphology, Red Beds and Danxia Group of the Geographical Society of China, Sun Yat-Sen University and Yulin Municipal People's Government.

The same International Experts as before, except Dr. Janson Knouft from the USA, were present during the Symposium along with the representative of the IAG. There was two days pre-

symposium field trip in different Danxia sites in Yan'an City. On 19th August the participants visited the Danxia sites of Ganquan Canyon (Huashu and Mudan valleys), Yongning Mountain, Xiangzui and Santain Mountains. On 20th August they have been taken to Danxia natural bridge at Yanshanwan, Danxia stone mushroom at Wangjiawan.

The Symposium was inaugurated at 9.30 am on 21st August, 2019 and continued till the evening of 22nd August. Prof. Sunil Kumar De, Vice President, IAG; The Mayor of Yan'an City, Prof. Piotr Migon, Dr. P Filip Duszynski, Dr. Milica Kasanin Grubin, Prof. Soojae Lee and Dr. Ren Fang were the speakers in the inaugural session. More than 200 participants attended the conference and 39 authors presented their papers in two days symposium. Along with other presentations the main concern of the symposium was to determine a universal definition of Danxia Landform.

At the end, all of the important Dignitaries of the Shaanxi Institute of Geological Survey, Yan'an City and International Experts have signed the Yan'an Declaration (attachment).

The Shaaxi Institute of Geological Survey has signed an agreement with the International Association of Geomorpholgists (IAG) to establish IAG Scientific Research Base in Yan'an (attachment). Immediately after signing the agreement the Shaanxi Institute of Geological Survey and the Yan'an City administration started to act upon it.

## Yan'an Declaration

Today, more than 200 experts and scholars at home and abroad in different fields such as geology, geography, ecology and sociology gather in Yan'an, China and carry out the field trips and academic exchange on Danxia Landform. Finally, we have reached the following consensus:

1. The Northern Shaanxi is located in the transitional zone from arid area in northwest to humid area in east. Danxia landform is widely distributed with diverse forms, distinct features and huge scale. It is an indispensable and important component of red beds and Danxia landforms in China and even in the world.

2. The valley-type Danxia landform in northern Shaanxi enriches the types of Danxia landforms. They are natural laboratories for interdisciplinary research and have global comparative research value.

3. The discovery of Danxia landform in northern Shaanxi subverts people's traditional cognition of the physical geography of the Loess Plateau. Danxia landform in northern Shaanxi and the red culture, loess culture, nomadic culture and grotto culture in the Loess Plateau constitute a rare and rich tourism resource.

4. Danxia landform in northern Shaanxi has high value of scientific research and tourism development, and is a precious treasure for all humanity.

Therefore, we propose to further strengthen the scientific research, protection and utilization of Danxia in northern Shaanxi. It is suggested that local governments strengthen the protection, development and utilization of Danxia geological relics, and actively declare national parks, geoparks or natural heritage. It will makes these precious geological heritage resources continue to benefit mankind, promote local green development and ecological civilization construction, and promotes local sustainable development.

Milice Kasamin-Gumbah

Suvid Kumar De

Phil Jungili

Pish Migoel

李洙宰 SooJae Lee

  
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Agreement on the Establishment of the IAG Scientific Research  
Base in Xi'an and Yan'an in Shaanxi

The International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) hereby has reached the agreement with Shaanxi Geological Survey on the establishment of the IAG scientific research base in Xi'an and Yan'an City, Shaanxi Province.

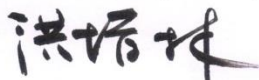
The purpose on the establishment of the IAG Scientific Research Base is to promote geomorphology research in Shaanxi Province, and help geomorphologists across the world to do research of Danxia landform and relevant issues in geology and geomorphology.

The Shaanxi Geological Survey will provide accommodation, food in the Base, local transportation, and field trip funding for geomorphologists, who are introduced by the IAG (with a official recommendation letter issued by the IAG).


Geomorphologists who want to use the IAG Scientific Base need to apply first and should be approved by the IAG and Shaanxi Geological Survey. Geomorphologists whoever use the scientific base should submit a field report to IAG and the Shaanxi Geological Survey to summarize their research or investigation.

designation of the signatories

Shaanxi Institute of Geological Survey

  
(Dr. Zenglin Hong)

International Association of Geomorphologists

  
(Prof. Suril Kumar De).