

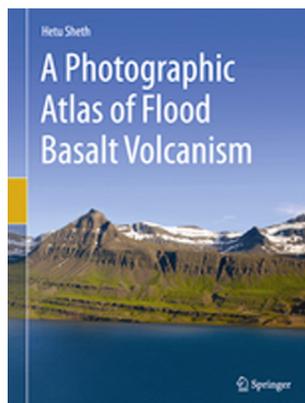
startling facts, for example, (i) Alan's father held a position in the Indian Civil Service; (ii) there was no sign of burning around Alan's mouth, although it is claimed that he consumed water containing dissolved cyanide; (iii) Alan was sentenced under the terms of the Criminal Justice Act 1948; (iv) Alan once wrote an incomplete story which described his own life in a subtle way; (v) Alan's mother, Sara, wrote a book on her son Alan; (vi) Turing buried some silver bars in the grounds of Bletchley Park or Shenley Brook End and no one has been able to find them hitherto!; (vii) people of the world have not been able to decipher a large segment of Turing's notes till the time of writing this review.

The book under review is devoted to Alan Turing who left this world circa fifteen days ere his forty-second birthday. But in his short life which he spent on this planet, he was able to carry out work which biology, computer and mathematics experts have not been able to understand till today.

Many experts/scientists have tried to document the contribution of Alan Turing. The historical drama film *The Imitation Game* is loosely based on the biography *Alan Turing: The Enigma* authored by Andrew Hodges.

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**A Photographic Atlas of Flood Basalt Volcanism.** Hetu Sheth. Springer International Publishing AG. 2018. xviii + 363 pages. Price: 219,00€. ISBN 978-3-319-67704-0, ISBN (eBook) 978-3-319-67705-7, hardcover.

This book fills a gap in the volcanological literature. A picture is worth a thousand words, and this compilation of over 300 pages and 582 colour photographs provides a supplement to textbooks which simply cannot contain enough images.

In the Foreword, Stephen Reidel explains that there is nothing like a field visit to a particular flood basalt province to understand its physical and volcanological features, but no single geologist will have the opportunity to see most flood provinces of the world. As Reidel writes, 'Geologists reading this volume can now easily get a broad understanding of the physical volcanological features shared by flood basalt provinces as well as those distinct to specific provinces'.

The photographs in this book come mostly from the well-known flood basalt provinces (Deccan, Columbia River, Paraná, British Palaeogene, East and West Greenland, etc.) but there are further examples from Portugal, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Georgia, Patagonia and elsewhere. The author takes a broad view of what constitutes flood basalt volcanism, for as he says '...

boundaries between "small", "intermediate" and "large" flood provinces are artificial, and flood basalt size a continuum. This has a significance for our conceptual understanding of flood basalt volcanism and associated mantle–crust geodynamics'.

The photographs display the world of lava plains very well. They range from vast landscapes to small details enabling the reader to take a virtual field trip. The setting of the lavas and relation to neighbouring bedrock are also covered. The photographs are enhanced by clear and informative captions which retain the writing style of the contributors themselves. Furthermore the photographs were 'selected for their scientific and aesthetic value...'. Many of the illustrations are indeed beautiful, which enhances the appeal of the book.

The book consists of 12 chapters.

The Introduction is excellent and explains the need for this book, the way it is organized, and the essential background to the topic. There is also a helpful Glossary (10 pages) and References (16 pages). The extensive Suggested Reading section (10 pages or about 250 items) is useful and up-to-date for anyone wishing to go further.

This is by no means a textbook, but there is a one-page introduction to each section explaining the main points of interest, and with a good scientific approach it frequently stresses what we do not know and what researchers are looking for. It is essentially a complement to textbooks, and should be in most geology libraries as a visual reference book. It will also appeal to the many individuals fascinated by volcanoes and impressed by the beauty of volcanic landscapes.

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