

when it comes to the discussion on the Himalayan geology, starting from early Proterozoic through Cambrian, finally on collisional tectonics and emergence of the Himalayas in the Tertiary period. Apart from the scholarly masterful treatment of the geodynamics of the Indian shield region and the Himalayas, the book makes an excellent discussion on Proterozoic intracratonic and Tertiary offshore and onshore basins. The author is able to integrate and able to use the discrete database available with the ONGC sources to unravel the evolutionary history of the Tertiary sedimentary basins; some of which are sources of oil and gas. Much of the material on the geological evolution of the sedimentary basins exists as internal reports or restricted publications of the concerned agencies or in proceedings, and is not readily available even to serious researchers. Another important feature of the book is the section on tectonics and structure of the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. This part of the book is particularly well-endowed with colourful graphics and display items.

The book of this nature will have to include scores of figures. All the figures are neatly drawn and clearly indexed. At the end of the book the references cited spread over 121 pages (I could not find the list of books, as alerted under the contents), which by itself is an indication of the painstaking efforts that have gone into the making of this book. On the whole, it is an excellent textbook on Indian geology and it also serves as a ready reference for researchers, as well. The author writes in the preface that he intended this book to 'instill appreciation of the geological developments that have taken place in the making of India'. As a reader, I can vouch that the author who must have spent several years in preparing this book has hit the target. Priced nominally at a few hundred rupees (subsidized by the Government of India through the National Book Trust), this book is accessible to anyone who is interested in the understanding of the Indian geology. I expect that many readers will find it rewarding, and hopefully provoke some of them into serious researches on Indian geology.

C. P. RAJENDRAN

Centre for Earth Sciences,
Indian Institute of Science,
Bangalore 560 012, India
e-mail: cprajendran@ceas.iisc.ernet.in

Tribute to a Titan – Birth Centenary of Homi Jehangir Bhabha.

Dipan K. Ghosh and Arun K. Grover (eds). Indian Physics Association, c/o Department of Physics, IIT Bombay, Powai, Mumbai 400 006. 2009. iv + 221 pp. Price: Rs 300.



Indian Physics Association (IPA), established in 1970 within the Department of Physics at IIT Mumbai, publishes newsletters, books, monographs and bulletins for propagating knowledge in physics. *Tribute* is a compilation of the articles focusing on Homi Jehangir Bhabha from three issues of *Physics News* published in January (Bhabha centenary issue), April and July 2009. The idea of bringing out the special issue of *Physics News* was conceived on 30 October 2008 when the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh launched the Homi Bhabha centenary, which eventually led to this compilation.

Tribute is replete with photographs of Bhabha with his associates and includes transcripts of lectures delivered by Bhabha at various occasions, including the inaugural address he delivered at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) in Mumbai on 19 December 1945, lecture at the foundation ceremony of the TIFR buildings on 1 January 1954 and Colaba campus inauguration speech dated 15 January 1962. The letter that Bhabha wrote to Sorab Saklatvala of Dorabji Tata Trust on 12 March 1944, in which he seeks support for setting up TIFR, is also reproduced.

The book opens with a biographical description of Bhabha by William Penny (the Father of the British Atom Bomb). 'Bhabha the Artist' is a collection of sketches and paintings by Bhabha. These are from the TIFR archives. G. Venkataraman's lecture 'Dr Homi Bhabha as a Visionary' delivered on Founder's Day of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (on 28 October 1984) is also included. Transcripts of the birth centenary special public lectures delivered by Devendra Lal and Virendra Singh are also reproduced. Other highlights are the reminiscences of those who interacted with Bhabha and had the opportunity to carry forward the legacy of Bhabha's thoughts. Many authors describe how Bhabha left an everlasting impression at the first and subsequent meetings they had with Bhabha.

Though many of the essays published here (in *Physics News* originally) are reproductions of writings published elsewhere, the book is special for the choice of the write-ups (both original and reproduced) made by the editors for this collection. However, the interview with Homi N. Sethna (former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission) could have been edited for clarity. Editors of *Tribute* are Arun K. Grover, also the Convener of Homi Bhabha Birth Centenary Commemoration Committee, TIFR and Dipan K. Ghosh, the editor of *Physics News*.

The book ends with the lecture titled 'Science and the Problems of Development' given by Bhabha on 7 January 1966 while hosting the meeting of the International Council of Scientific Unions in Mumbai. It was Bhabha's last lecture. The contributions of Bhabha to theoretical physics, his equal interests in experimental physics, and his love for the arts are well known. This collection, which highlights the multifaceted talents of Bhabha described by those who closely interacted with him is a fine tribute to the man in his birth centenary year and holds historical significance. One hopes that more such collections are brought out by the IPA.

The book was befittingly released during the Bhabha Centenary symposium – 'Science and Technology at the Frontiers' held at the Homi Bhabha auditorium in TIFR, Mumbai during 3–5 December 2009.

RICHA MALHOTRA

(S. Ramaseshan Fellow), H. No. 10, Jaladarshini Layout,
Off New BEL Road, Mathikere, Bangalore 560 054, India
e-mail: rchmalhotra@gmail.com