

Editorial

Foreword to the thematic set on ‘Granitic pegmatites: mineralogy and evolution (a special issue honoring the 60th birthday of Prof. Milan Novák)’

The fractionation and magmatic to hydrothermal crystallization of granite–pegmatite systems and rock–fluid interactions belong to the most interesting processes in the Earth’s crust. Complex zonal structure of the pegmatite bodies, abundance and large variability in their minerals, evolution of magma and fluids composition, host-rock interactions and assimilation processes, and genetic relationships to the potential parental granitic rocks make granitic pegmatites a difficult but very attractive object of research for many specialists in mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry. Moreover, the granitic pegmatites are important sources of many rare metals (e.g., Li, Cs, Nb, Ta, Sc, REE, U, Th), necessary for recent high-technology industry, as well as for jewelry and nonmetal raw materials.

Consequently, this thematic issue is entitled ‘Granitic pegmatites: mineralogy and evolution’ and it honors the 60th birthday of Milan Novák, professor of the Masaryk University at Brno, a world-renown specialist in granitic pegmatites and their minerals. Milan Novák (born October 19, 1952 in Vyškov, Czech Republic) graduated from Masaryk University in Brno in 1977, and worked as curator of mineralogical branch of the Moravian Museum, Brno for a more than twenty years. His PhD. thesis (obtained at Charles University, Prague, in 1988) was devoted to metamorphosed carbonate rocks in the Moldanubian Zone of the Bohemian Massif.

However, the mineralogy of granitic pegmatites represents a leading field of interest for Milan since beginning of his career to the recent days. His post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg (1991 to 1993), under the leadership of Prof. Petr Černý, accelerated Milan’s extensive study of pegmatite relationships, nature, paragenesis and chemistry of minerals in pegmatites and related rocks, as well as statistical analysis.

The first paper of *Beurlen and co-authors* deals with chrysoberyl from pegmatites of the Borborema Pegmatite Province in northeastern Brazil.

Evolutionary trends of Nb–Ta minerals from unusual mixed (LCT–NYF) pegmatite at Piława Górna, Poland, have been studied by *Piezcka and co-authors*.

Čopjaková and co-authors present a detailed study of tourmaline composition from NYF pegmatites, especially their Y, REE and Sc contents as tracers of the melt evolution.

A paper by *Gawęda and co-authors* covers a description of tourmaline composition in pegmatite-related hydraulic breccias in Tatra Mts (Western Carpathians), together with Re–Os age of the associated molybdenite.

Cempírek and co-authors describe a crystal structure of V-rich oxy-dravite to dravite from graphitic quartzite at Bitoványky near Třebíč (Moldanubian Zone of the Bohemian Massif) and discuss its genesis.

A paper by *Deveaud and co-authors* deals with an original method of statistical analysis applied to rare-element pegmatite fields, using by granite–pegmatite fault relationships.

Finally, a review of our recent knowledge in granite to pegmatite genetic links is presented by *R. Thomas and P. Davidson*, based especially on the fluid inclusions compositions.



Fascination by rare minerals. Milan examines a chunk of yttrialite-(Y) in the Holmtjärn pegmatite, Sweden, 2012. Photo Bertil Otter.

Acknowledgements. We are grateful to all the authors who contributed to this volume, and to the referees who frequently handled the scientific and linguistic reviews under extremely tight schedule constraints.

Pavel Uher¹, Radek Škoda² and David London³

¹ *Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia*

² *Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic*

³ *The University of Oklahoma, USA*

[Guest Editors]



‘In the quartz core.’ Underground in the Las Tapias pegmatite mine, Córdoba Province, Argentina, 2011. Photo Jan Loun.