

XINJIANG'S GEMS AND JADES

新疆寶石和玉石

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يا قوت، قانسش و باسماكان
دەلسو ئەمىن ئۆز قەرزى
4 نى زامانىنى ئۆز رولى ئۆز
يۇن ئۆز قولىمىز!

ئىسمائىل ئەمەت

82. 6. 3.

Inscription in the handwriting of Ismayil Emet on 3rd June, 1982.
“Open up gems, jades and other mineral products abundantly,
make contribution for the four modernizations.”

Preface

Xinjiang is vast in territory and rich in mineral resources, and it is, starting from ancient times, the "land of treasure" of our great country – China. Xinjiang's Hotan Jade has been utilised for thousands of years. The jades dug from Yin Dynasty ruins in Anyang of Henan, the pieces of jade of the "jade burial suit sewn with fine gold wire" that belonged to the Zhong Shan Jing Wang, Liu Sheng, and his wife unearthed in Manzheng county, Hebei province and the jade carving "Yu the Great-tamer of the floods" that weighed more than ten thousand "jin" and was treasured in the Palace Museum were all Hotan Jade.

Gems and jades are rare and precious technological material. Because of their bright colour and transparency, people feel a sense of beauty and they have a great admirative value. They are used as decorations and are looked upon as a symbol of wealth in many countries, and so have an important economic value. Many kinds of gems and jades are widely used in the most advanced branches of industry and medicine.

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, with the systematic development of geological work, new gems and jades have been found. Especially in recent years, our country has expanded international contact, there is an increasing demand of gems and jades because of the development of foreign trade. It creates a new geological task – to accelerate the research, the exploration and the exploitation of gems and jades.

In order to keep abreast of the new demand, the geological work of Xinjiang's gems and jades achieved rapid development according to unified plans, and received corresponding economic benefits. After enormous work, 26 kinds of gems and 44 kinds of jades have been defined and most of them are utilised.

Xinjiang's gems and jades are one of the region's superior resources, and it is one of the provinces (regions) that makes good use of the exploitation of our country's gems and jades. In order to summarize the geological work of Xinjiang's gems and jades and the experience of their technological application, to better develop their resource superiority, to have more contribution for the development and construction of Xinjiang, the comrades of Research Centre of Experiment and Test, Xinjiang Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources spent five years to display their fruitful results for the readers of "Xinjiang's Gems and Jades".

This book introduces systemically the kinds of gems and jades that are found in Xinjiang up till now, their characteristics, technological application and the geological features of origin. It discusses the characteristics of gems and jades as minerals and rocks geologically and the direction of research; the characteristics of being technological materials from the angle of technological application, their demands and the appraisal features from fakes, and brings about an integration of the combination of

these two aspects. As a result, it can be taken as a reference for those who work on geology and gems and jade technology.

Another characteristic of this book is that there are annotations for pictures, using pictures to explain the writing and it is rich both in pictures and writings. There are more than a hundred colourful photos, reflecting principally the general pictures of Xinjiang's gems and jades and their handicraft.

This book also applies a large number of experimental test data and carries out analysis and inquiries theoretically, and is a book that has a certain research value. Besides, the words are easy to understand, and explain the profound in simply terms, so it is also a meaningful reading of general science.


"Xinjiang's Gems and Jades" is a book that has an overall systematic introduction of gems and jades in a certain region, a great beginning for our country. I believe that with the coming out of this book, the geological work of Xinjiang's gems and jades and their utilization in handicraft will take on a new phase.

Hu Bing

May, 1985

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A Brief Introduction

Xinjiang is rich in gems and jades, having the name of "The Country of Gold and Jade". Gems and jades are very rare minerals and rocks. Their beautiful form, magnificent colour whether in clear crystal or decorated with nature's own designs, are pure delights to the eyes. They are of high value as showpieces, and the possession of them is a symbol of wealth.

"Xinjiang's Gems and Jades" is a book that gives us a systematical introduction to the types, the features, the handicraft application, the appraisal characters, the special geological conditions under which they are produced and their prospecting. It is a highly specialized technical book.

The book is divided into five chapters, respectively introducing the history of the prospecting and the utilisation of Xinjiang gems and jades deposits and the direction of the prospecting, a detailed explanation of Xinjiang's 10 types of 27 kinds of gems and 16 types of 44 kinds of jade, according to their physical and chemical properties, their types, their special value in handicraft, their utilization and their points of differentiation, their geological features and direction of prospecting.

In the writing of this book, special attention was paid to the following subjects: the combination of prospecting and the appraisal of gems and jades, combination of the macro and micro appraisal of gems and jades and that of their cutting and testing.

The book has 64 black and white plates and 94 colour plates. It is a scientific work that is richly illustrated with classical quotation, but at the same time it is simple and easy to understand. It is also a valuable popular science reader.

This book will serve as a reference for people involved in geology, mineralogy, rocks, gems and jades and their handicraft, as well as for geological researchers, teachers, gem and jade collectors, museum workers and dealers.