

The Problems of Geoconservation in Central Eurasia Countries

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The World Heritage list of geosites includes only the most eminent monuments of nature. However the world geological community is interested in the whole quantity of fundamental facts of global or regional value, as the base of geological knowledge. All representative pages of Planet life chronicle - the Geodiversity - are subject to the conservation for future generations.

In leading countries the national geosite lists are already formed, Geoheritage protection laws are accepted, but in many other countries this work is not yet started, or is carried out by the lone enthusiasts. The Geodiversity of the New Independent States in Central Eurasia is subjected to the most alarm. These countries have many geological nature monuments, which sometimes have the world importance. Such examples in Kazakhstan are: palaeontological localities ("Jurassic Lake" with multiple fishes, insects, fly pangolins, plants; Torgai with the full skeletons of most largest land Mammals), palaeovolcanoes - with uniquely conserved Devonian ocean spreading zone (South Ural) among them, Kumdykol metamorphic diamonds, as a result of the highest for the Earth Crust PT-conditions. In the whole region petroglyphs and ancient mines, gypsum caves in Turkmenia, caves and ancient volcanoes of Caucasus etc. attract attention.

All they are still absent in the World Heritage list. The known economic difficulties in these countries intensify the danger of geosites destroying. In some states the land privatisation disregarding valuable geological objects may be realised. We offer to create the International Convention on the Geodiversity.