

**The World's Highest River Terrace, Largest Number of Terraces and Thickest Loess: the Highest Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, the Affected Area, the Form and Influence of its Uplift**

Yang Liankang (Centre of Qualified Personnel, Ministry of Land and Resources, 4 Hou Luoquan Hutong, Western District, Beijing, 100035, China)

In the expedition process of 45 years, particularly in the on-foot investigation of 1111 days to the whole course of the Yellow River and the Yangtze River, which is for the first time in China, the author had many important discoveries

1. The world's highest terrace of the Three Gorges of the Yangtze has an elevation of 1350 m a.s.l, and a relative height, 1250 m. And it contains unique pebbles of basalt and andesite of the upper reaches.

2. The largest number of 32 terraces with 32 pebble beds in the world ,is at the northeastern end of the Tibet Plateau (in The Longyang Gorge of the Yellow). The base of the oldest terraces is the lacustrine clay of 0.1 Ma and has 750 m a.r.l.

3. As a product of the atmospheric circulation's change after the uplift of the Plateau the largest visible thickness of the loess bed of the world is 315 m. of the north bank of the Yellow in Lanzhou, northeast of the Plateau (Yang, 1964).

These discoveries show that the uplift of the highest Qinghai-Tibet Plateau affected the Three Gorges on its eastern side at least and is characterized by very frequent intermittences at the northeastern end of the Plateau since 0.1 Ma B.P and there is a very thick loess bed, more than 315 m, on the same margin.