

To: GIGE Council Members, Senior Fellows, Fellows, Junior Fellows, and friends

Dear Friends,

I am sending herewith my hearty greetings of the New Year 2017. I believe you are doing well, and to my happiness, I could keep my health during last year and could generally continue the activity of the GIGE main office in Hashimoto, Japan.



5th student Himalayan exercise tour team in Pokhara

GIGE has been concentrating its effort in these years to conduct the student Himalayan Exercise Tour in March in collaboration with the Department of Geology, Tri-Chandra Campus, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu.

The 2015 Gorkha Earthquake However affected the Department severely and the recovery is still awaited, however, the fulfillment of the Student Himalayan Exercise Tour is considered to have worked as an important role for encouraging the Department staff and students, as well as Nepali people including trekking companies, hotels, shops, porters etc. Thus we conducted the 5th Student Himalayan Exercise Tour in last March and are going to do the same next march as well. .

Other missions of GIGE included the publication of the report book of the 5th Student Himalayan Exercise Tour (Traversing the Himalayan Orogen 2016), presentation of posters and lectures on the Student Himalayan Exercise Program so that the program may become familiar in Japanese societies and possible to receive a good number of participants as well as funding assistances, and

editing and publication of books related to the Himalaya.

The summary of activity of GIGE last year above could be found in the following site.

<http://www.geocities.jp/gondwanainst/2016yearlyreport/2016GIGEPprojectreportEN.pdf>

And a total figure of the GIGE activity in general is given on the GIGE home page below:

<http://www.geocities.jp/gondwanainst/>



IAGR 2016 Convention in Trivandrum, November

On the other hand, the International Association for Gondwana Research (IAGR) and its journal Gondwana Research (GR) have been developing constantly for nearly 20 years. The IAGR has been organizing the International Symposium on Gondwana to Asia every year and contributing in increasing knowledge on Gondwanaland-related topics specifically in Asian countries. Further, Gondwana Research (GR) has been keeping its top-group-rank of the impact factor among international earth science journals. Excellent talent and sincere effort of Professor M. Santosh, the General Secretary of IAGR and the Chief Editor of GR are very much praised. The 2017 convention of IAGR and 14th International Symposium on Gondwana to Asia is scheduled to be held in Bangkok, Thailand from 7th to 21st November together with the International Gondwana Conference. (<https://www.facebook.com/The-16th-Gondwana-1044787292264184/>)

I would like to request your kind support to encourage IAGR and GR, as well as the symposium in Bangkok next year.

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