

Discussion on the popular science education function of Geopark museum and its scientific significance

ZHIGUANG ZHANG^{1,2} AND YUAN ZHENG^{1,2} - 1. *Chinese Geoparks Network, 26 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing, P.R.China*

<zhiguangzhang@foxmail.com> ¶ 2. *Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, 26 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing, P.R.China*

The geological museum of Geopark is an important place in popularizing natural science knowledge, and also is indispensable to the Chinese Geopark construction. Based on the strong geological academic atmosphere, it shows us abundant earth science connotation in the most intuitional and effective measures, condenses nature essence with a minimum of space occupied, spreads geo-scientific knowledge by using the biggest capacity and the least amount of time, as well as fully integrates with abundant animal and plant resources and rich and colorful regional culture features. Therefore, the geological museum, as a kind of organization that inherits and spreads the natural evidence and environmental information of the past, present and future, gives full play to communication, sciences education and service function. According to the statistics from Chinese Geoparks Network (CGN), in the past 10 years the National Geoparks of China have totally received about 667 million visitors, and in 2012 the number has reached about 169 million. The Geopark museum should attach great importance to science education, it improves the quality of national science, culture patriotism with the capability of independent innovation, promote the comprehensive development, led enhance the cultural quality of the whole nation, as well as to promote the development of science and technology, culture has an important significance. The museum is not only a symbol of Geopark, or a symbol of a city and region, but also a symbol of a country and a nation.

Presented in Theme 3