



IAG Regional Conference on Geomorphology
«Gradualism vs. Catastrophism in Landscape Evolution»
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Report on the participation of the IAG Regional Conference on Geomorphology

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It is a wonderful experience for me to attend the IAG Regional Conference on Geomorphology held in Barnaul, Russia during July 2-4, 2015. This is a very important event for me as a young geomorphologist and I have got to know many renowned geomorphologists, such as Victor Baker, Olav Slavmaker, Gerald Nanson, Paul Carling, Juergen Herget, Piotr Migon, and Monique Fort. I have tried to listen to the presentations as many as possible and found that they are all very interesting and inspiring. I really learned a lot about the role of Gradualism and/or Catastrophism in landscape evolution. I gave an oral presentation entitled “Changes in river mouth channel and shoreline in the Yellow River delta during 1976-2013”. This details my latest research results, showing that the evolution of river mouth channel and shoreline in the Yellow River delta has been in a mixed pattern of gradual and abrupt changes.

The post-conference field trip to the Altai Mountains of Russia has been very exciting and even adventurous to some degree, typically when riding in some Russian 4-wheel drivers to cross rough landscapes. We have seen very beautiful landscapes, especially the snowy top of the Altai Mountains, river valleys, terraces and palaeo-lakes. What has impressed me very much is the intensive course offered for young geomorphologists by Paul Carling, Juergen Herger, Andrei Panin and local Russian geologists during the field trip. Their interpretation of the formation of mega-bars, palaeo-shorelines, gravel bars is site-based and so is very convincing. It is also very clear that they have done very hard work over the years in the rather remote area. We really need to learn from them on both scientific reasoning and field investigation.

This wonderful experience is mainly due to the Young Geomorphologists grant offered to me by IAG for attending the conference. Hence, I would like to say thanks to IAG and also the conference organizers who have done very hard work so as to make the conference very successful and the field trip very memorable. Hope to see you all in the next IAG international conference.