Preface

Advancing Geosciences Through Open Access and Interdisciplinary Research: December 2024 issue

The *Journal of Geointerface* is steadily advancing its commitment to publishing high-quality content while adhering to global standards of scholarly communication, as it is poised to enter the fourth year of publishing. A key part of this effort involves following the FAIR principles—Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable—which promote better discovery and management of research data. This reflects the journal's dedication to modern academic practices and open science, ensuring its growth and relevance in an increasingly interconnected research landscape. As part of these efforts, all published papers are now indexed in OpenAIRE and linked with DOIs from Zenodo. OpenAIRE, a respected platform for open-access research, helps make the journal's content more visible and accessible to researchers and institutions worldwide. By connecting with other repositories, databases, and research systems, OpenAIRE also boosts the chances of citations and interdisciplinary collaboration, significantly enhancing the journal's impact.

DOIs add another layer of value by providing a permanent, reliable identifier for each paper. This ensures consistent citation practices and long-term access, even if the hosting platform changes. Together, the use of OpenAIRE and Zenodo creates a strong foundation for the journal's discoverability, accessibility, and preservation. These steps demonstrate the journal's focus on building a solid technical infrastructure that supports both its contributors and its readers. While there is still work to be done before the journal achieves full international recognition, its progress so far is encouraging. The shared aspirations of the journal and its authors form a promising foundation for continued growth, fostering both collaboration and impact in the global research community.

This issue of the *Journal of Geointerface* features eleven diverse and insightful papers, each addressing significant aspects of geosciences and environmental studies. This collection represents a broad spectrum of research, ranging from water quality assessments to advanced geochemical studies. ***Sahoo et al.*** assess stream water quality in parts of Telangana, India, evaluating its suitability for drinking, agriculture, and industrial use. Their findings emphasize the influence of agricultural runoff and geological factors on water chemistry. ***Renjith et al.*** conduct a bibliometric analysis of Indian Earth and Planetary Science journals indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, offering key insights and recommendations for enhancing journal visibility and impact. ***Mabi*** explores the geodynamic processes behind Neoproterozoic A-type granite formation in the Western Yangtze Block, shedding light on tectonic evolution and ancient ridge subduction. ***Salih and Shaji*** investigate groundwater quality in Kerala's Thrissur urban area, revealing concerns like bacterial contamination and saline water intrusion, with implications for sustainable water management. ***Aswathy et al.*** study molluscan shell dissolution along India's Arabian Sea coast, linking environmental changes and human activities to shifts in sedimentary dynamics and shell preservation. ***Raghupatruni*** proposes an innovative preconcentration method for critical minerals in red sand dunes, showcasing an eco-friendly approach to reduce marine pollution during wet processing. ***Sahoo and Pattanaik*** analyze groundwater quality in Odisha's Keonjhar urban area, highlighting fluoride contamination as a pressing issue in an otherwise potable resource. ***Mishra et al.*** uncover the sources of ore-forming fluids in the Jahaz uranium deposit in India, using carbon and oxygen isotopic studies to link the mineralization to magmatic and metamorphic processes. ***Schulzki et al.*** examine the mineralogy of carbonatite-breccia in Gujarat's Amba Dongar carbonatite diatreme, providing insights into rare earth element distribution and hydrothermal processes. In the final paper of this issue ***Divya et al.*** trace the Late Holocene evolution of Kerala's Ashtamudi Lake through sedimentary archives, documenting significant environmental changes and marine transgression-regression cycles. ***Dwivedi et al.*** reconstruct L. Pliocene variations in Agulhas Current strength using planktic foraminiferal data and stable O isotopic data, revealing five weakening episodes linked to Antarctic Ice Sheet expansion.

Together, these contributions underscore the interdisciplinary nature of geoscience research and its relevance to environmental sustainability, resource management, and understanding Earth's dynamic systems. It is hoped that this issue inspires further inquiry and collaboration within the global research community.

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