

PREFACE

The 18th Clay Conference in Czech Republic was organized by the Czech National Clay Group (member ECGA and AIPEA) together with Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics of Academy of Sciences, v.v.i., CR in cooperation with Keramost a.s. and LB Minerals a.s.

Scientific sessions of the Conference were held in Zátoňské Dvory near Český Krumlov (UNESCO landmark) in SPORTHOTEL on September 29 - October 1, 2008.

The contributions were thematically subdivided into following themes:

- A) Phyllosilicates in the Sediment-Forming Processes
- B) Evaluation and Discussion of two Books Edited by Renown Editorial Houses:
Meunier A. (2005): Clays
Bergaya F., Theng B.K.G., Lagaly G. (editors) (2006): Handbook of Clay Science
- C) Clay Materials in Traditional and Modern Technologies
- D) Utilization of Metakaolin in Geopolymers and Building Materials

The programme of the conference was enriched with two field trips:

- 1) In the morning: Geological excursion (by bus) to the ceramic clays and diatomite deposits Borovany, and moldavite locality at Chlum.
- 2) In the afternoon: Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque historical buildings including Castel in Český Krumlov.

During the 18th Clay Conference in Czech Republic Honorary Memberships of the Czech National Clay Group were awarded to **Dr. Christopher Jeans** from the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom and **Prof. Hideo Minato** from the Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Tokyo, Japan.

This volume contains 9 papers of 30 contributions presented in oral or poster section.

As editors of this volume, we appreciate the cooperation with the Editorial Board of Acta Geodynamica et Geomaterialia, particularly that with RNDr. Zdenka Schenková, CSc., the editor-in-chief.

Martin Šťastný and Karel Melka
editors

Prague, March 2009

Zátoňské Dvory, 29th September 2008