



**Dr. Gerhard Fuchs**  
(1934-2020)

Dr. Gerhard Fuchs born on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1934, breathed his last on August 8, 2020 at Vienna. While employed in the Foreign Wing of the Geological Survey of Austria, Dr. Fuchs undertook mapping of the Himalaya. His forays in the Himalaya extended from Nepal to Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir. He was a rare field geologist, who tackled the Lesser Himalaya, Tethyan Himalaya and the Suture zone with equal competence. His book *Zum Bau des Himalaya*, post-dated the famous book on the Himalaya by Augusto Gansser. He had several important publications jointly with Dr. W. Frank on Nepal and Uttarakhand geology. He is also credited with discovery of several important fossils, including SSF from the Hazira basin, which proved paradigmatic. His work in Zaskar on ophiolite klippe was of far reaching consequence. Dr. Fuchs as the leader of the Austrian team of Indo-Austria expedition under the leadership of Dr. D.K. Bhatt

of Geological Survey of India, investigated and mapped the Pin valley. His publications presented a panoramic view of the Himalaya.

We had serious differences of opinion on his correlation of the Shali with Krol and Blaini with the Khaira Quartzite. But, a gentleman he was, he never lost his cool, and when data mounted against his views, he graciously conceded to our stratigraphic scheme, which speaks volumes of his scientific temperament.

He was a very sturdy field geologist, who in a short time mapped and compiled the map of the Himalaya. He was an ardent follower of yoga. Even in the severe cold of the Spiti valley, he would layout his mat in open and perform yoga. His death is a great loss to the Himalayan geology. May his soul rest in peace.

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