

By Aamir Bashir

The Geological Survey of Pakistan (GSP) houses one of the oldest and largest geological museum of the country at its headquarter office Quetta. Various galleries of this museum offer the most comprehensive coverage of the scientific discoveries made by the department. Exhibits related to GSP's research are classified by each main theme of earth science. The treasure trove includes a collection of over 7,650 priceless geological specimens including meteorites, rocks, minerals, gemstones, building & decorative stones and fossils of {the skull of the primitive whale "Makaracetus Bidens" collected from the Kunvit area near Rakhni, in eastern Balochistan (Pakistan) & the first Mesozoic vertebrate fossils from Upper Cretaceous Pab Formation in Vitakri area, Barkhan, Balochistan (Pakistan)} put on display in its seven thematic galleries. The important discoveries like Dinosaurs, Crocodyliform and Walking Whale made by GSP's earth scientists have enhanced the importance of the province of Balochistan, Pakistan for research in the field of paleontology and have made the country known to evolutionary biologists of the world.

Collaborative research with the University of Michigan, USA has produced outstanding results in co-authorship of GSP researchers in a better understanding the evolutionary trends and migration patterns of these vertebrates' fauna and geodynamic development of the areas close to the western boundary of the Indo-Pak plate. Identification of five new genera from Balochistan (Pakistan) and similarities between multiple localities across the subcontinent suggests that Cretaceous vertebrates were well distributed across Indo-Pak.

The province is full of minerals, metals, fossils, etc but still there is lack of interest from the government side and no proper attention is given to this side, as we know that this kind of Museums can be a heritage for our upcoming generations. I also want to state here that media should play its role to portray a good image of Pakistan internationally, so that it can be recognized by the international people too. It's the responsibility of every Pakistani to take part in healthy activities and promote their culture around the world so that the world knows that Pakistani's are not that bad as the image is being portrayed of them.

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