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Mineralogical Approaches to Archaeological Materials: Technological and Social Insights

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (30 April 2022)

Message from the Guest Editors

In this Special Issue of Minerals, we would like to gather a bunch of papers centered on showing the potential of mineralogical studies (e.g., petrography, mineral geochemistry, X-ray diffraction) to approach the composition of a wide diversity of archaeological materials such as ceramics, metals, stone artifacts, and sediments. The main objective is to demonstrate that the mineralogical characterization of these artifacts is crucial to address aspects related to the origin of the raw materials used in their manufacture and the technological processes applied by craftspeople. We are interested in emphasizing the necessary relationship that must exist between natural sciences and social sciences when addressing the material culture related to human societies. Therefore, very welcomed will be works that develop methodological approaches, compositional analysis of the artifacts, study of the physical properties provided by minerals, and, of course, studies focused on interpreting the social and symbolic role that minerals play in both ancient and contemporary human societies.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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