

Foreword

This volume is the Proceedings of the Eighteenth Symposium on Antarctic Meteorites which was held on May 31–June 2, 1993, at the National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR), Tokyo. Eighty-five scientific papers were presented, and 70 papers of them were read at the symposium. Twenty-five scientific papers among them are submitted to this volume of the proceedings. These papers covered various subjects such as meteorite search, petrology, mineralogy, chemical studies, isotope studies and physical studies on Antarctic and non-Antarctic meteorites.

The papers present new significant results of meteorite studies on Antarctic and non-Antarctic meteorites, and extraterrestrial materials in sedimentary rocks. This volume includes petrology of the new angrite Asuka-881757 and shergottite ALH-77005, mineralogy of Yamato-79 eucrites and carbonaceous chondrites, trace elements, isotopic and noble gas studies of unique inclusions in ordinary chondrites. Thermoluminescence study and terrestrial age determination, and comparative study of asteroids and carbonaceous chondrites were also presented. Some papers give new data of raman spectral study of ureilite, study on organic matter, Mössbauer study of Antarctic iron meteorites and bulk composition of the recent find of chondrite which fell just before in Japan.

The NIPR symposium on Antarctic meteorites has been held annually since 1977 and the symposium proceedings have been published in every year. It is strongly hoped that this volume as well as an annual symposium on Antarctic Meteorites at the NIPR will contribute to the progress of space sciences. We are deeply indebted to all the authors and reviewers for their cooperation.

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