

15th International Symposium on the Ordovician System

May 20-24, 2027, Xi'an, China

First Circular

The 15th International Symposium on the Ordovician System will be held at the Paradise Resort in Xi'an City during May 20-24, 2027. This symposium will exhibit the recent progresses of research on the Ordovician System from a global and multidisciplinary perspective, and aims to strengthen the collaborations and communications within the Ordovician community all over the world.

It's been 20 years since the 10th International Symposium on the Ordovician System was held in Nanjing from late June to early July, 2007 when we had a very successful indoor meeting and a wonderful pre- and post-conference field excursions respectively. More than 70 Ordovician colleagues outside China took part in all those activities including visiting three Ordovician GSSPs, i.e., the base of the Darriwilian in western Zhejiang Province, East China, and the base of the Dapingian and the base of the Hirnantian in Yichang district, western Hubei Province, Central China.

This time, during the ISOS15, all interested delegates will have opportunity to visit several classical Ordovician sections in northwestern China. The relatively short pre-conference field excursion will be in northern Sichuan and southern Shaanxi provinces, where some well-exposed and fossiliferous Ordovician sections will be visited. They are quite different from those Ordovician sections in Central and Southwest China although they all belong to the South China paleoplate. The post-conference field excursion will be a brand-new route for most of our foreign friends. We will focus on the western part of the North China paleoplate, particularly the Ordos Basin in central-western Shaanxi, southern Ningxia, eastern Gansu and southwestern Inner Mongolia. During the 4-day meeting in Xi'an, an one-day middle-conference excursion will be arranged to visit some nearby sections and some other sites.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you, distinguished Ordovician colleagues and friends in Xi'an in May 2027!

VENUE

Paradise Resort Xi'an (Chinese pinyin: Xi'an Qujiang Huibinyuan), Yanta South Road, Qujiang New District, Xi'an, China.

SPONSORS

Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Northwest University

ORGANISERS

State Key Laboratory of Palaeobiology and Stratigraphy (LPS), Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (NIGPAS)
State Key Laboratory of Continental Evolution and Early Life, Geology Department, Northwest University
Palaeontological Society of Jiangsu, China

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Chair: Renbin ZHAN

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Vice Secretary-General: Xiang FANG; Yazhou HU

Members: Yan LIANG, Zhongyang CHEN, Xiaocong LUAN, Xin WEI, Wenjie LI, Guanzhou YAN, Yue LIANG, Fan LIU

IMPORTANT DATES

March 31, 2026: Issue of the First Circular and Preliminary Registration

October 31, 2026: Issue of the Second Circular (with fees indicated)

November 1, 2026: Opens for Early bird registration and Abstract or Summary Submission

February 28, 2027: Deadline for the submission of abstract or extended summary

April 30, 2027: Issue of the Third (the Last) Circular (with detailed arrangements)

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

May 20, 2027 (Thursday): Arrival, registration and ice breaker.

Delegates arriving from the pre-conference excursion.

May 21, 2027 (Friday): Opening ceremony; Oral and poster presentations.
May 22, 2027 (Saturday): Oral and poster presentations.
May 23, 2027 (Sunday): Mid-conference excursion; Conference dinner.
May 24, 2027 (Monday): Oral and poster presentations. Closing ceremony.
May 25 (Tuesday) -31 (Monday), 2027: Delegates departure, or the start of post-conference excursion.

FIELD EXCURSIONS

Pre-conference field excursion

A pre-conference field excursion is scheduled for the northern margin of the Yangtze Platform, South China. Participants will visit several classic stratigraphic sections in northern Sichuan and southern Shaanxi provinces, examining Ordovician to the earliest Silurian strata and fossils. In this region, the Lower Ordovician is generally absent or incomplete. The Middle Ordovician, predominantly composed of clastic rocks interbedded with limestone layers, unconformably overlies the Cambrian rocks. These Middle Ordovician sections yield abundant fossils at some horizons, including graptolites, trilobites, brachiopods, bryozoans, bivalves, and gastropods. The Upper Ordovician, consisting mainly of reticulated limestone, is also fossiliferous and exhibits notable differences from the coeval strata in the interior of the Yangtze Platform. A stratigraphic hiatus between the Upper Ordovician and the overlying Silurian is observed at some sections, likely resulting from the regional Kwangsian Orogeny, while at the largely continuous Zhongliangshan section both Hirnantian shelly fauna and Rhuddanian graptolites are preserved.

The excursion will start from Chengdu, the capital city of Sichuan Province, proceed through the historic cities of Guangyuan and Hanzhong, across the Qinling Mountains, and conclude in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province.

Duration: 4 days

Maximum number of participants: 40 persons

Excursion leaders: Xiang FANG, Zhongyang CHEN, Wenjie LI, Xuejin WU

Mid-Conference field excursion

This one-day Mid-Conference field excursion is scheduled for nearby section around Xi'an city proper.

Duration: 1 day

Maximum number of participants: 60 persons

Excursion leaders: Yazhou HU, Yue LIANG, Fan LIU

Post-conference field excursion

A post-conference field trip to the southern and western Ordos Basin is planned. Paleogeographically, the North China paleoplate is divided into three paleogeographic provinces by distinct stratigraphic sequence, lithofacies and fossil fauna, i.e. the North, South and West Paleogeographic provinces. The Ordos Basin belongs to the West Paleogeographic Province of North China. The Ordovician succession in the southern Ordos Basin is mainly dominated by warm water carbonates on the platform. In the western Ordos Basin, the Ordovician is characterized by the deposition of marginal platform or slope facies. All sections we are going to visit are fossiliferous.

We will start with the Ordovician of platform facies, check the wonderful sequence of marginal platform facies, and finish with the thick, complete and fossiliferous slope facies. At all sections and most stops, delegates will have opportunities to make their own collections if they like.

Duration: 6-7 days

Maximum number of participants: 50 persons

Excursion leaders: Rongchang WU, Xiaocong LUAN, Guanzhou YAN, Xin WEI

INVITATION AND VISA

An official invitation letter will be available for delegates upon request for their visa application at the Embassies or Consulates of China in their own countries. Such an invitation letter will be arranged by electronic version (PDF file) signed by the Chair of the Organizing Committee with the official seal and will be sent to delegates as email attachments. Those who need an **Invitation Letter** are supposed to provide the following information when making their preliminary registration:

- 1) Full name (Family and given names);
- 2) Gender;
- 3) Date of birth;
- 4) Nationality;
- 5) Passport number and valid dates (a scanned file of the passport is required);
- 6) Institution or affiliation;
- 7) Periods of stay in China.

NOTE: With respect to the VISA to China, please pay attention to the visa policy of the Embassy/Consulate of China in each particular country.

TRANSPORTATION

All delegates are suggested to stay in the Paradise Resort located in the center of Qujiang New District, a famous Tang culture tourist area in Xi'an. It is about 42 km

from Xi'an Xianyang International Airport, and 24 km from Xi'an North Railway Station (highspeed railway station). We will arrange coaches to pick up delegates from both airport and high-speed railway station to the hotel. Public underground transportation from airport/railway station to the Paradise Resort Hotel is also very convenient and cheap.

ACCOMMODATION AND HOTEL RESERVATION

Paradise Resort: We will reserve enough hotel rooms for potential delegates in advance with a special discount. Delegates who are in need may contact us to facilitate and benefit their reservations.



Email: rcwu@nigpas.ac.cn

Tel: 025-83282235; Cellphone: +8613675134003

Preliminary registration form

Detailed costs and registration information will be posted in the second circular issued by the end of October 2026. Please indicate your interests by filling in the following form below and send to rcwu@nigpas.ac.cn

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Registration Form

Name		Nationality	
Gender		Title or position	
Institution			
Address			
E-mail		Phone	
Formal participant ()		Student ()	
I plan to give an oral presentation entitled:			
I plan to give a poster presentation entitled:			
I will join in the pre-conference excursion () (May 16-20, Sichuan and Shaanxi provinces, China)	I will join in the post-conference excursion () (May 25-31, Shaanxi, Ningxia, Gansu, Inner Mongolia, China)		
Other suggestions and comments:			

(use V to indicate your choice)