



Database of Geoscientific References Through 2006 for Afghanistan, Version 1

By Robert G. Eppinger and Julianna Sipeki

Open-File Report 2006–1370
USGS Afghanistan Project Product Number 161

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

U.S. Department of the Interior
DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Secretary

U.S. Geological Survey
Mark D. Myers, Director

U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, Virginia 2006

For product and ordering information:
World Wide Web: <http://www.usgs.gov/pubprod>
Telephone: 1-888-ASK-USGS

For more information on the USGS—the Federal source for science about the Earth,
its natural and living resources, natural hazards, and the environment:
World Wide Web: <http://www.usgs.gov>
Telephone: 1-888-ASK-USGS

Suggested citation:
Eppinger, Robert G., and Sipeki, Julianna, 2006, Database of geoscientific references through 2006
for Afghanistan, version 1: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2006-1370.

Any use of trade, product, or firm names is for descriptive purposes only and does not imply
endorsement by the U.S. Government.

Although this report is in the public domain, permission must be secured from the individual
copyright owners to reproduce any copyrighted material contained within this report.

Contents

Introduction	4
Database Structure	6
Example Queries	7
Future Plans	8
References Cited	9

Table

1. Database field names and descriptions for reference tables..	6
---	---

Database of Geoscientific References Through 2006 for Afghanistan, Version 1

By Robert G. Eppinger and Julianna Sipeki

Introduction

This report describes an accompanying database of geoscientific references for the country of Afghanistan. The reference compilation is part of a larger joint study of Afghanistan's energy, mineral, and water resources, and geologic hazards, currently underway by the U.S. Geological Survey, the British Geological Survey, and the Afghanistan Geological Survey.

The compilation of geoscientific references was initially planned to contain only mineral-resource-related references. However, the effort soon grew to encompass references related to water resources, energy resources, and geologic hazards. It is emphasized that this is an on-going work in progress and that the present database is incomplete. A second version of the reference database is planned for future release, and will include *all* geology-oriented references of Afghanistan.

The electronic database is in Microsoft® Access 2003 format. To utilize this database effectively, a basic understanding of Access is required, including how to view tables, create simple queries, print reports, and export data. Query results can be easily exported to Microsoft® Excel spreadsheets or various other database formats. An IBM PC-compatible computer is required as Microsoft® Access is presently available only for PCs.

This database includes both published ($n = 1,157$) and unpublished ($n = 168$) references, as two separate tables in the Access database. The references were gathered through September 2006.

The published references table (*tblPublishedReferences*) includes a GeoRef accession number (American Geological Institute, 2006, accessed 10/20/2006), which can be used for linking the reference to the GeoRef database, and the U.S. Geological Survey library call number, if the library contains the holding. Rights to use the references in the GeoRef database were purchased from the American Geological Institute so they could be re-distributed here without copyright infringement. The unpublished references table (*tblUnPublishedReferences*) contains citations identified as unpublished, internal reports by various national geological survey organizations, or partial citations that were discovered during this compilation. Many of the older published and unpublished references identified here are likely housed in the archive collection of the Afghanistan Geological Survey, which is presently being inventoried and catalogued in a combined effort by the Afghanistan and British Geological Surveys. For information on the progress of this cataloging effort, see the website <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/afghanminerals/reports.htm>.

The published and unpublished reference tables have keyword fields that allow for searching capability within the reference database. Keywords are separated into two broad categories: scientific and geographic/cultural. The complete lists of keywords are listed alphabetically in the database in two separate keyword tables, *tblKeywords_Scientific* and *tblKeywords_Geographic&Cultural*. The keywords used here follow the spelling and plurality conventions recommended in the GeoRef thesaurus (Goodman, 2000). Keywords were gathered from reference titles and, for those references listed in GeoRef, from the GeoRef keyword fields.

Sources of information for this reference compilation include libraries and colleagues of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the British Geological Survey (BGS), the French Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (BRGM), the Czech Geological Survey (CGS), the German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR), the Federal Agency on Mineral

Resources of the Russian Federation (VSEGEI), and the Centre for Russian and Central Asian Mineral Studies (CERCAMS). The American Geological Institute's GeoRef and GeoRef Preview databases, historical documents of the Afghanistan Department of Geological and Mineral Survey, and the Google™ search engine on the internet were also used. Acknowledgment is given to these various sources for the accumulated body of references within this database.

Database Structure

The published (*tblPublishedReferences*) and unpublished (*tblUnPublishedReferences*) reference tables have identical database structures. The database fields and their descriptions are listed in table 1. Microsoft® Access table and query naming conventions follow those suggested by Reddick (1995, accessed 10/20/2006). The two keyword tables are simply listings of keywords used in the reference tables. They each have two fields, a numeric index field and a memo keyword field.

Table 1. Database field names and descriptions for reference tables.

Field name	Field type	Description of field
Index	numeric	Key field and database index
Author_Senior	text	First author, in the format: Last name, first name (initials or spelled out)
Author_Secondary	text	Additional authors, same format as above, listed sequentially as found in reference
Author_All	memo	Complete author listing for building citation
Year	text	Year of publication
GEORef_Accession_ID	text	ID that ties reference to the AGI GeoRef database; blank if no data
USGS_Library_ID	text	ID that ties reference to the U.S. Geological Survey Library system catalogue number; blank if no data

Original_Title	memo	Full title of reference as originally found in it's native language
Translated_Title	text	English title translation for the reference; irregularly populated field
Source	memo	Source of the reference; for example, journal title, volume, series, and page number
Document_Type	text	Type of document for the reference
Source_For_Database	memo	Mechanism in which the reference was found for this database
Language	text	Language of original reference
English_Summary	text	For non-English references, note whether there is an English translation in the paper; irregularly populated
Scientific_Keyword	memo	Scientific keywords; see <i>tblKeywords_Scientific</i> for complete list of keyword possibilities
Geogr_Cult_Keyword	memo	Geographic and cultural keywords; see <i>tblKeywords_Geographic&Cultural</i> for complete list of keyword possibilities
Other_ID	text	Secondary ID for the reference, such as the reference code for a different library; irregularly populated field
Author_Senior_Alt_Spelling	text	First author, spelling as found in original source, if different from Author_Senior
Author_Secondary_Alt_Spelling	text	Additional authors, spelling as found in original source, if different from Author_Secondary
Comment	text	Comment related to reference; irregularly populated field

Example Queries

The two keyword tables are provided as an aid in choosing keywords to query the reference tables. The keyword tables can be printed out using two reports within the database:

rptListing_of_Keywords_Scientific and *rptListing_of_Keywords_Geographic_Cultural*.

For users only vaguely familiar with Microsoft® Access, two example queries are provided. These are “make table” queries that create tables based on the presence or absence of keywords. The first query, *qmktblExampleQueryResult_PublishedRefs*, examines the table *tblPublishedReferences*, looking for references that contain the words “copper” and “mineral deposits,” but not the word “zinc” in the Scientific_Keywords field, and containing the word “Afghanistan” in the Geographic_Cultural_Keywords field. Upon running the query, the results are found in the table *tblExampleQueryResult_FromPublishedReferences*.

The second query, *qmktblExampleQueryResult_UnPublishedRefs*, examines the table *tblUnPublishedReferences*, looking for references that contain the word “water” in the Scientific_Keywords field, and containing the word “Afghanistan” in the Geographic_Cultural_Keywords field. Upon running the query, the results are found in the table *tblExampleQueryResult_FromUnPublishedReferences*.

The two above example queries show the necessary format for queries and can be easily modified to generate additional queries, based on keyword selections. Since multiple keywords are listed in the fields for published and unpublished references, wildcard characters (*) should be used before and after each keyword in the query to ensure successful results. The tables of references resulting from the queries can be easily exported to Microsoft® Excel spreadsheets and other formats by hovering the mouse over the table and right-clicking.

Future Plans

A second version of this database is underway. Version 2 will contain all geoscientific references that we will have found up to the date of the release. Pull-down lists and (or) check-off

boxes for keyword queries are also in planning stages for version 2, and these will make the future database easier to use.

References Cited

American Geological Institute, 2006, The GeoRef database: Alexandria, Va., American Geological Institute [<http://www.agiweb.org/georef/index.html>].

Goodman, B.A., 2000, GeoRef thesaurus, 9th ed.: Alexandria, Va., American Geological Institute, 830 p.

Reddick, Greg, 1995, The Reddick VBA [Visual Basic for Applications] naming conventions: Greg Reddick, available for download at <http://www.xoc.net/standards/rvbanc.asp>.