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Cover photographs

The **Front Cover** photograph shows **Manbhalang Wann** examining the skull of a Himalayan Serow (*Capricornis sumatraensis*) that was found, together with a partial skeleton, at the base of the second pitch of Swiftlet Pot (Krem Lanshat), in the Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya. Tragically, “**Man**” passed away in 2016. He had a deep interest in caves and was an active member of the Caving in the Abode of the Clouds expeditions. His enthusiasm and good company are sorely missed by all who knew him. The Serow-remains are featured in an article in this Issue, describing mammals in Meghalayan caves; the cave also yielded the skull of a juvenile macaque. Abundant Himalayan Swiftlets (*Aerodramus brevirostris*), which utilize the cave for roosting and nesting, prompted the naming of the cave. Such colonies appear to be uncommon in India, and this site is the only swiftlet colony that has been recognized with certainty within Meghalaya. The photograph was taken by **Elena Buduran**.

The six images comprising the **Rear Cover** collage, relate to this Issue’s Report on the “Sulfur Caves–Epirus 2025” Speleological Expedition, which took place in the Vikos–Aos UNESCO Global Geopark of northern Greece. These photographs illustrate some of the representative features of sulphuric acid speleogenesis (SAS) cave morphology and other morphologies that were observed and recorded during exploration and study of the Sarantaporos Cave System. Brief descriptions of the six photographs, all of which were taken by **Sotiris Kountouras**, are provided below.

a	b	Image a	A typical image of a caver moving through a relatively low passage segment during the 1925 explorations of the Sarantaporos sulphur caves.
c	e	Image b	Characteristic passage morphology within the Sarantaporos sulphur caves, showing a feeder developed along the length of the passage. Here, the feeder is filled with sediment, revealing evidence of periodic or seasonal recharge. Well-developed gypsum crystals are visible in the upper foreground.
d	f	Image c	A drapery: one of a very few speleothems that were observed in the SAS caves of the Sarantaporos area. Its presence indicates that secondary, epigenetic, speleothem deposition has been active subsequent to the development phase of the passage.
		Image d	A passage profile that shows a well-defined feeder along the conduit floor. The walls, which display distinct notches and corrosion karren reflecting the erosional role of upwelling fluids, illustrate the type of dissolution features characteristic of the Sarantaporos sulphur caves.
		Image e	Looking downwards towards a caver in one of only a few essentially vertical cave passages that were explored during the “Sulfur Caves–Epirus 2025” Speleological Expedition.
		Image f	A view of a passage cross-section that demonstrates clear evidence of rock breakage and detachment initiated along bedding planes within the limestone sequence.

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