

Contents

Preface	vii
VITALIANO, D. B. Geomythology: geological origins of myths and legends	1
MASSE, W. B., WAYLAND BARBER, E., PICCARDI, L. & BARBER, P. T. Exploring the nature of myth and its role in science	9
CHANDRASEKHARAM, D. Geo-mythology of India	29
ROBERTS, M. B. Genesis Chapter 1 and geological time from Hugo Grotius and Marin Mersenne to William Conybeare and Thomas Chalmers (1620–1825)	39
VITTORI, E., FULLONI, S. & PICCARDI, L. Environment and natural hazards in Roman and Medieval texts: presentation of the CLEMENS database project	51
LANZA, T. & NEGRETE, A. From myth to Earth education and science communication	61
LUDWIN, R. S. & SMITS, G. J. Folklore and earthquakes: Native American oral traditions from Cascadia compared with written traditions from Japan	67
PICCARDI, L. The AD 60 Denizli Basin earthquake and the apparition of Archangel Michael at Colossae (Aegean Turkey)	95
HOUGH, S. E. Writing on the walls: geological context and early American spiritual beliefs	107
MÖRNER, N.-A. The Fenris Wolf in the Nordic Asa creed in the light of palaeoseismics	117
BOURROUILH-LE JAN, F. G., AKRAM, B. & SCHVOERER, M. Band-e-Amir Lakes and Dragon Valley (Bamiyan): myths and seismicity in Afghanistan	121
TRIFONOV, V. G. The Bible and geology: destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah	133
NUNN, P. D. & PASTORIZO, R. Geological histories and geohazard potential of Pacific Islands illuminated by myths	143
SHANKLIN, E. Exploding lakes in myth and reality: an African case study	165
MASSE, W. B. & MASSE, M. J. Myth and catastrophic reality: using myth to identify cosmic impacts and massive Plinian eruptions in Holocene South America	177
BRYANT, E., WALSH, G. & ABBOTT, D. Cosmogenic mega-tsunami in the Australia region: are they supported by Aboriginal and Maori legends?	203
D’ORAZIO, M. Meteorite records in the ancient Greek and Latin literature: between history and myth	215
DINI, A., CORRETTI, A., INNOCENTI, F., ROCCHI, S. & WESTERMAN, D. S. Sooty sweat stains or tourmaline spots? The Argonauts on the Island of Elba (Tuscany) and the spread of Greek trading in the Mediterranean Sea	227
MAYOR, A. Place names describing fossils in oral traditions	245
AGNESI, V., DI PATTI, C. & TRUDEN, B. Giants and elephants of Sicily	263
BERGER, W. H. On the discovery of the ice age: science and myth	271
MCNAMARA, K. J. Shepherds’ crowns, fairy loaves and thunderstones: the mythology of fossil echinoids in England	279
FOX HODGSON, S. Obsidian: sacred glass from the California sky	295
MOTTA, L. & MOTTA, M. Erratic blocks: from protector beings to geosites to be protected	315
ARINGOLI, D., GENTILI, B., PAMBIANCHI, G. & PISCITELLI, A. M. The contribution of the ‘Sibilla Appenninica’ legend to karst knowledge in the Sibillini Mountains (Central Apennines, Italy)	329
Index	341