



Mesozoic Nasselarian (radiolarian) from the radiolarites south of Biseton (west IRAN)

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Radiolarite facies is one of the characteristic features from the Tethyan Mesozoic realm. In Iran, the Kermanshah radiolarite belongs to an important siliceous complex of Mesozoic age.

These siliceous rocks are either associated with ophiolitic outcrops to which they provided an age, or to sedimentary piles which were deposited in elongated and narrow basins laying in intertropical zone (This sedimentary groove belong to the tethyan ocean and bordered the eastern edge of Gondwana.), and with high plankton productivity related to monsoon driven upwelling's.

This basin extended from the Hawasina series (Oman) in the south, continued northward into the series of Pichakun (South Iran) and Kermanshah (western Iran) and ended with the Kocali series (Turkey). Its approximate length covered more than 3000 km for a width of two or three hundreds of kilometers. Radiolarite series were dated in different places but not yet in Kermanshah (south of Biseton). The present work filled this lack and reveals that several levels are dated from Early Pliensbachian, for the oldest ones up to Turonian for the youngest.

In this study, we researched the taxonomy of nassellarian radiolarians of limestones and radiolarites samples obtained from the radiolarites south of Biseton (west IRAN).

Key words: Radiolarite, Radiolarian, Tethys, Mesozoic, Iran, Kermanshah, Monsoon, upwelling's