

The non-serpentine phases in serpentinites from the Braszowice-Brzeźnica Massif (SW Poland) as traces of magmatic processes within oceanic mantle

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The Braszowice-Brzeźnica Massif - BBM (SW Poland) is a part of the Variscan Central-Sudetic Ophiolite. It is located at the southern termination of the Niemcza Shear Zone and consists of gabbros and serpentinites. The ultramafic rocks occurring in the BBM are (from E to W) serpentinites with abundant relics of olivine and tremolite, lizardite-chrysotile serpentinites and antigorite serpentinites. Clinopyroxene, olivine and zoned chromite grains were found in the central part of the BBM (Mnich Hill) within antigoritic serpentinites.

The non-serpentine phases occur in the following microstructures: (1) olivine-chromite aggregates: olivine (Fo = 90.0-91.0) contains 0.35-0.44 wt.% NiO, elongated or amoeboidal chromite I (Cr# = 0.49-0.50, TiO₂ = 0.14-0.15 wt.%) is rimmed by chromite II (Cr# = 0.98, TiO₂ = 0.01 wt.%); (2) coarse and dismembered diopside grains (Cpx I, Mg# = 0.91-0.92) containing 0.70-0.80 wt.% TiO₂, 3.0-4.0 wt.% Al₂O₃, 1.0-1.4 Cr₂O₃ and 0.3-0.5 wt.% Na₂O; Cpx I is enriched in REE relative to primitive mantle, the REE pattern reveals HREE enrichment relative to LREE and negative Eu anomaly; (3) olivine-clinopyroxene aggregates: olivine (Fo = 90.4-91.3) contains 0.27-0.35 wt.% NiO, anhedral, often elongated clinopyroxene (Cpx II, Mg# = 0.91-0.92) has <0.1 wt.% TiO₂, 3.00-4.00 wt.% Al₂O₃, 1.00-1.40 Cr₂O₃ and <0.20 wt.% Na₂O, (4) magnetite-bearing olivine grains, locally in aggregates with minute clinopyroxene ones; olivine has variable Fo (86.0-96.0) and NiO concentration (0.02-0.55 wt.%), clinopyroxene (Cpx III, Mg# = 0.93-0.97) contains <0.40 wt.% Al₂O₃ and <0.20 Cr₂O₃. Cpx III rims also locally Cpx II.

The non-serpentine phases from the BBM massif have various compositions and mode of occurrence, thus they record various crystallization events. Composition of chromite I is similar to primary chromite grains occurring in oceanic peridotites of the Romanche and Kurchatov F.Z. (Dick and Bullen, 1984), thus the olivine-chromite aggregates represent probably primary mantle phases. Cpx I contains similar amount of the Al₂O₃, Cr₂O₃ and Na₂O to primary diopsides described from the Marie Celeste FZ and Indomed FZ (Johnson et al., 1990). REE pattern of the Cpx I suggests depletion in mobile trace elements due to melt extraction. Cpx II has Al₂O₃, Cr₂O₃ and TiO₂ contents similar to those of diopside originated from the melt-percolation reactions, olivine coexisting with Cpx II crystallized probably in the same event. The Cpx III has Al, Cr and Na contents typical for secondary, metamorphic clinopyroxene. Magnetite-bearing olivine is similar to olivine crystallized at expense of serpentine+magnetite precursors, thus it has secondary, metamorphic origin.

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References

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