



Geological, sedimental and biostratigraphic study of the APTIAN-ALBIAN: HIGH ATLAS of MARRAKESH, MOROCCO).

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Sedimentological and palaeontological analysis of the Aptian- Albian sedimentary succession of the Ait Ourir Basin in the High Atlas Mountains of Marrakech in Morocco provided new data on the section previously poorly understood. The palaeoenvironmental evolution was deduced based on an analysis of facies, depositional environments and stratigraphy. Within the Aptian-Albian succession, we have distinguished seven units (U1-U7) and two sedimentary sequences separated by a major discontinuity.

The first sequence is composed of calcareous and dolomitic marls of the Tadhart Formation (Gargasian in age), and the Lemgo Formation of (Clansayesian in age). These two transgressive formations were formed in an internal carbonate platform (the intertidal zone to the subtidal zone). The second sequence, Albian in age, is composed of sandy limestones of the Oued Tidzi, and is represented by sediments showing terrigenous influences.

Requieniid rudist *Pseudotoucasia Catalaunica* indicating the late Aptian age was described recently from the Tadhart Formation, this species differs from *Pseudotoucasia santanderensis* by the shape of the RV myophore, the shell size and the morphology of the posterior side of the right valve; but the two species are phylogenetically related.

Lower Cretaceous scleractinian corals (*Eugyra*, *Thalamocaeniopsis*, *Holocystis*) are reported for the first time from Morocco.

Keywords: Carbonate Platform, Ichnofacies, Rudists bivalves, Corals, Aptian, Albian, High Atlas, Morocco