CARBONIFEROUS MACROFAUNA FROM SINAI, EGYPT - BIOSTRATIGRAPHY AND PALEOGEOGRAPHY

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Abstract:

The study of Carboniferous successions in the Um Bogma and Abu Durba areas of west-central Sinai yielded 70 species of brachiopods, corals, bryozoans, molluscs and trace fossils, 10 of which are new to Sinai. The distribution of these fossils suggests the presence of three macrofaunal biostratigraphic units within distinctive lithofacies: a Middle-early Late Visean coral/brachiopod assemblage in the Um Bogma Formation, a Serpukhovian-Bashkirian brachiopod/trace fossil assemblage in the Abu Thora Formation and an Early Moscovian brachiopod/bryozoan assemblage in the Abu Durba Formation. The fossil associations indicate that the Carboniferous sequence of Sinai was deposited in a subtropical epicontinental sea inferred to have covered a greater area in northern Africa. The palaeoecological conditions and the palaeobiogeographic relations of these macrofaunas to the Carboniferous Palaeotethys Realm are discussed.

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LITHOSTRATIGRAPHY OF THE EARLY PALEOZOIC SUCCESSION IN RAS-EL-NAQAB AREA, EAST-CENTRAL SINAI, EGYPT

KORA, M (KORA, M)

Abstract:

A Cambrian - Silurian sedimentary succession exposed in east-central Sinai is described and subdivided into three formations; Sarabit El Khadim at base, Abu Hamata in the middle and the Adedia on top. The newly described Ras El Naqab Member yielded Ordovician trace fossils of the sublittoral ichnofacies. These rock units are identical to their counterparts in west-central Sinai and can be correlated with those exposed in southern Palestine, but are far much less thick and poorer in fossils than equivalent strata in southern Jordan and northwestern Saudi Arabia.

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