

The Stratigraphic, Paleogeographic, and Educational Interest of the Standard Paleozoic Section in Rabat Area

S. Aoufiq, A. Mansouri, A. Touzani, I. El Basta, and Y. El Kabbaj

Geology department, Faculty of Sciences, Mohammed V University, Avenue Ibn Batouta, PO Box 1014, Rabat, Morocco

The Akrech area, located at 12km southern of Rabat city, shows a geological sequence from the Ordovician to the Devonian levels. The section along the Bou-Regreg river is the most complete one, containing very interesting old events in case of sedimentary, tectonic, magmatic and paleoclimatic order.

This area is the mean refer to the Caledonian and Hercynian tectonic movements indicated by the presence of the Caledonian granite and magmatic rocks. Those events are identified by the presence of basaltic flow, pillow lava and sedimentary levels proving the opening of an extension basin during the Ordovician. The presence of very rich and interesting palaeontological and palynological content, as the Acritarchs, the chitinozoaires and the spores permitted to have a very precise datation to the succession of the Ordovician to Devonian sequence.

The study area made the correlation easier in the national and international scale. This section is also very important because it is the only place in Morocco where the emerging granite prove the presence of Caledonian orogenic events in Rabat area.

The illustration of this succession of events in the time and in the space revealing the palaeogeographic evolution of this zone, and gives to this standard Paleozoic section of Rabat a stratigraphic interest and also educational role what's can make this region a recognized and valorized geological site.