

TECTONIC CLASSIFICATION OF THE BASINS IN THE EAST ANATOLIAN-CASPIAN REGIONS AND THE SURROUNDINGS

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The geological evolution of these regions may be summarized as succeeding collisions intervened by the relaxations. A number of basins were formed during these events from Cretaceous to the present.

Major tectonic constituents of the region are the multi collage orogenic belts. These are the Pontide-Caucasus-Albroz-Kopetdag range in the north and the Bitlis-Zagros range in the south. The Turkish-Iranian high plateau is squeezed between these two orogenic belt and is also an orogen itself.

In this paper a brief summary is given about the orogenic evolution of this collage starting from the Eastern Pontides to as far east as the Kopetdag. The subject covers development of the basins around the orogenic belts, which include the eastern Black sea basin and the Kopetdag foredeep.

The basins of the region may be divided into the following tectonic categories;

1. Entrapped marginal basins; the eastern Pontide and the southern Caspian.
2. Flexural foredeeps and Ramp basins; Rioni, Koura, Kopetdag foredeep etc.
3. Intermountain Molasse and ramp basins; the Eastern Anatolian basins; Pasinler, Muş, etc.
4. Partly destroyed basins; Continental platform successions, partly preserved within the fold and thrust belts of the Pontides, Caucasus, etc.