
Anisian Ammonoids from Socotra Island, Yemen

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In the Triassic succession cropping out along the eastern coast of Socotra Island (Yemen), two ammonoid bearing intervals have been recognized. The first interval yielded very few and poorly preserved specimens, while several tens of rather well preserved ammonoids were found in the second fossiliferous interval. The collected specimens provide a wide range of information.

Taphonomy. The ammonoids are preserved as internal moulds, however they often show features index of reworking, such as differential fillings not consistent with the matrix, disarticulated internal moulds, colonisation of the internal moulds by borers and dwellers. As the maturity of the features index of reworking is very low, the ammonoids probably were reworked immediately after burial and they were moved over short distances. Reworking most likely was caused by storm events. Estimate of the duration of the interval between first burial and final burial is difficult, but most probably is less than one ammonoid chronozone.

Taxonomy and bio- chronostratigraphy. The ammonoids mostly belong to the genera *Beyrichites*, *Flexoptychites*, *Ptychites*, *Discoptychites*, *Monophyllites* and *Paraceratites*. These genera are typical of the Upper Anisian Trinodosus Zone of the Tethyan scale. However, because of ammonoid reworking, the age of the beds yielding the ammonoids is slightly younger than the age of the ammonoids.

Palaeobiogeography. The ammonoids are typical of the Tethyan paleobioprovince. No ammonoids of the Sefardic paleobioprovince have been found.
