

Palynological Biozonation in the Moroccan Upper Palaeozoic. Correlation with Biozonations Established in Europe, North America and North Africa

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The palynological study of Palaeozoic levels in 5 wells and one cross section in western and southern Morocco has permit to establish 13 palynological zones or palynozones from the upper Silurian to the Dinantian. Those palynozones are based on the inventory of organic microfossils as spores, Acritarchs and Chitinozoa. Different index taxa with stratigraphic distribution well establish in others areas (North America, Europe and North Africa) allowed to precise the age of Moroccan zones wich recovered almost all the Upper Palaeozoic:

- 1 zone in the Upper Silurian (Pridoli)
- 2 zones in the Lower Devonian (Praguian-Emsian)
- 2 zones in the Middle Devonian (Eifelian-Givetian)
- 5 zones in the Upper Devonian (Frasnian-Famennian- Strunian)
- 3 zones in the Dinantian (Tournaisian-Lower Visean)

This biozonation established for the first time in Morocco, allowed very interesting correlations not only locals (Moroccan Meseta, Middle and oriental Morocco) and regionals (Algeria, Libya and Tunisia) but also intercontinentals (South-West Europe, Ardenno-rhenans basins, Canada and North America). Those correlations also help to trace the palaeobiogeographic evolution of Morocco wich always constituted a bridge between gondwanian and laurasian domains.

Key words : Palaeozoic, Spores, Biozonation, Correlation, paleobiogeography.