

# **Importance of Knowing Paleogeography in Order to Understand Opening of the Black Sea\***

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## **Abstract**

The Black Sea is an important element of the regional geology. Understanding its geology is like solving a puzzle because each country holds a different part of the geology and limited exposures. The Turkish part of the Black Sea has exposures that give important clues to the evolution and opening of the Black Sea. There are no marine Permian rocks in the western and central Pontide. The Marine Triassic is only present in the Kocaeli Peninsula, and toward the east only continental Late Triassic rocks are present. Early Jurassic rocks are not present in the western region except in Eastern Pontide where they are represented by the Ammonitico Rosso facies. The Middle Jurassic Sea advanced from the east toward the west and reached the Cide area in Bajocian-Bathonian time. An important deformational event occurred at the end of Middle Jurassic and alluvial fans developed facing toward the north. The Late Jurassic is a time of extensive carbonate deposition. This carbonate system formed a platform attached to the Palaeozoic of İstanbul, whereas an isolated platform was developed in the Middle Black Sea. The platform carbonate has a reefal margin in the Cide area and faces toward the east and north. In the Eastern areas, however, it is difficult to decide whether it is a platform or an isolated platform. The westernmost extension of the carbonate deposit is to the west of Zonguldak City.

The Early Cretaceous was a time of disintegration of the carbonate platform, which resulted in a horst and graben system. The zero line of the Early Cretaceous sea was around Ereğli. As can be seen from the advancement of the shoreline, the sea advanced from east and north toward the west and south. The stratigraphic framework and evolution of the units suggest that there was a seaway much before the Early Cretaceous. That seaway probably began to form in Early Jurassic in the Eastern Black Sea, but reached to the western areas in Middle Jurassic. It may be speculated that opening of the Black Sea started in Triassic or even in Permian Time.

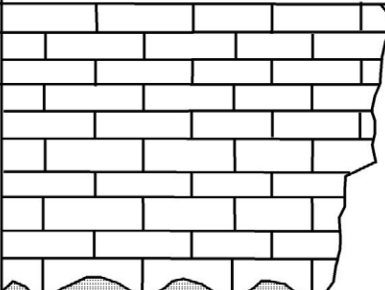

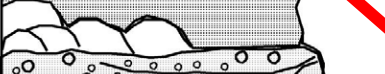


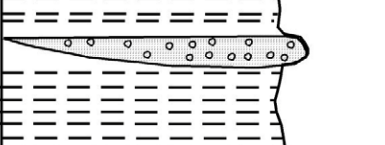


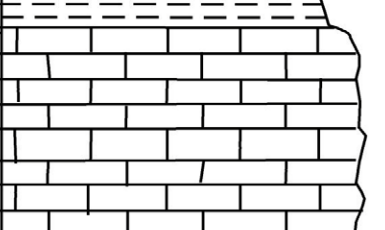
# **IMPORTANCE OF KNOWING PALEOGEOGRAPHY IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND OPENING OF THE BLACK SEA**



**İPEK ENERJİ**

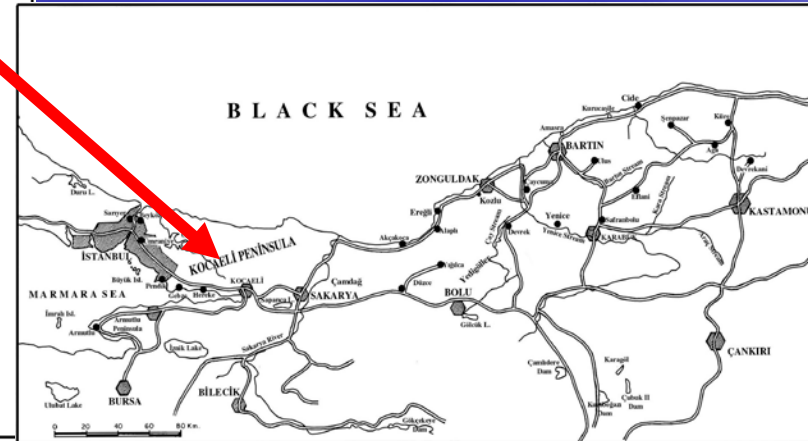
*A. Sami DERMAN*

**EUROPEAN REGION ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION**  
**Exploration in the Black Sea and Caspian Regions: Historical Past, Promising Future**  
**17–19 OCTOBER 2010, UKRAINIAN HOUSE, Kiev, Ukraine**

| Age           |                   | Lithology   | Explanation                    |
|---------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| TRIASSIC      | Scythian-Ladinian |     | Limestone                      |
|               |                   |    | Sandy limestone                |
| PERM          |                   |    | Sandstone                      |
| CARBONIFEROUS | Namurian          |    | Volcanics                      |
|               |                   |    | Red conglomerate sandstone     |
|               | Namurian          |    | Shale-conglomerate lenses      |
| CARBONIFEROUS | Tournasian        |    | Shale-with limestone interbeds |
|               | Visean            |   | Shale-with limestone interbeds |
| DEVONIAN      | Late              |  | Limestone                      |

# Marine Triassic

In Hereke, Triassic marine sediments overlie Permian continental clastics with an unconformity





# Triassic

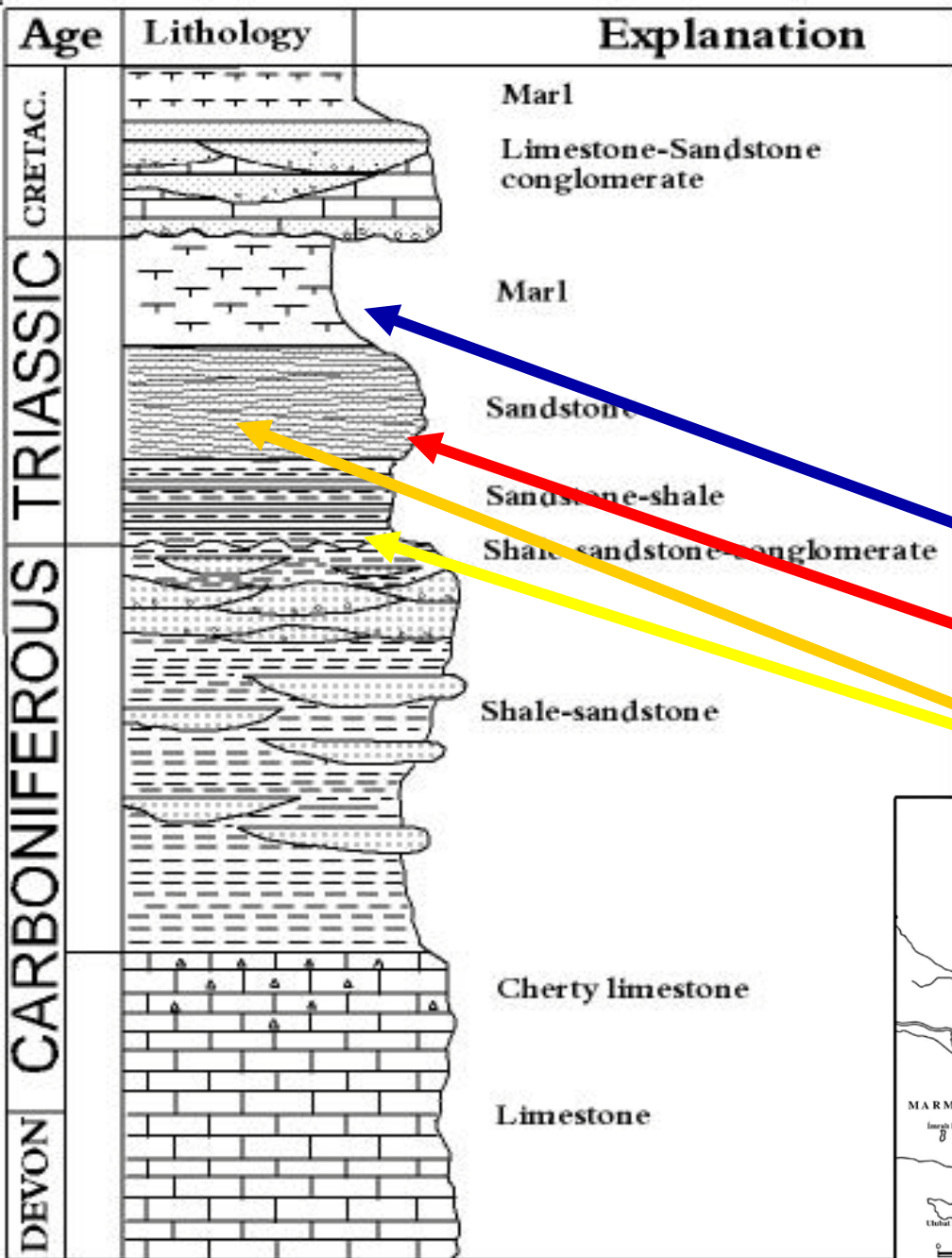


# Permian

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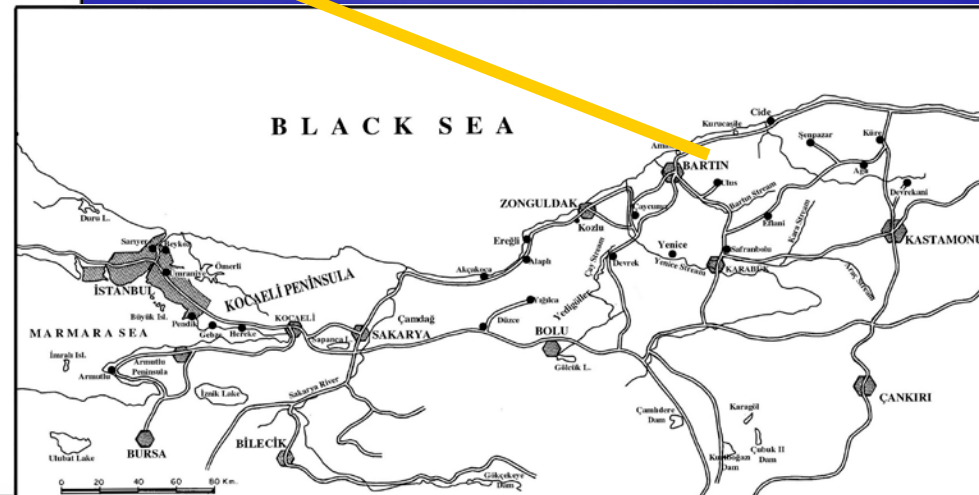
A. Sami Derman



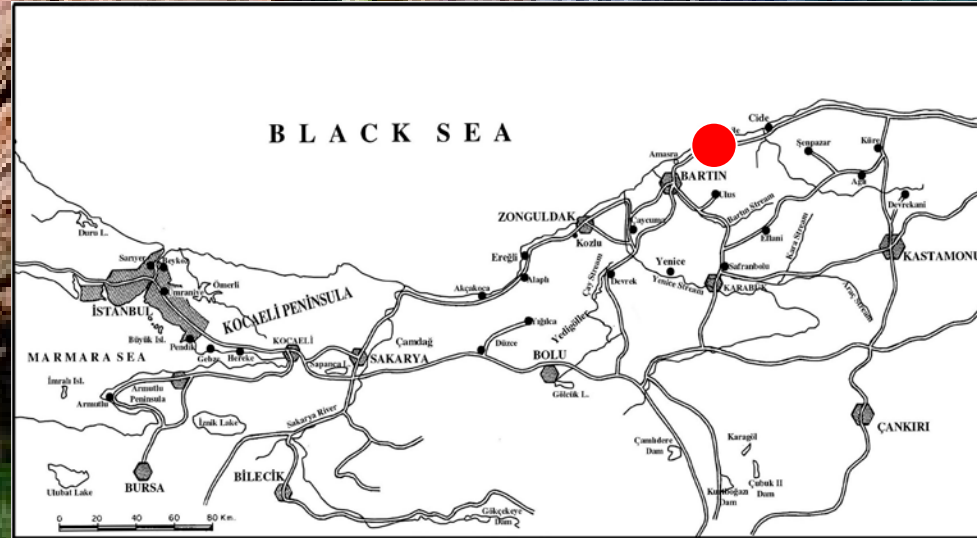


# Continental Triassic

Tripartate division:  
 Upper lacustrine unit  
 Middle Eolian unit  
 Lower fluvial unit



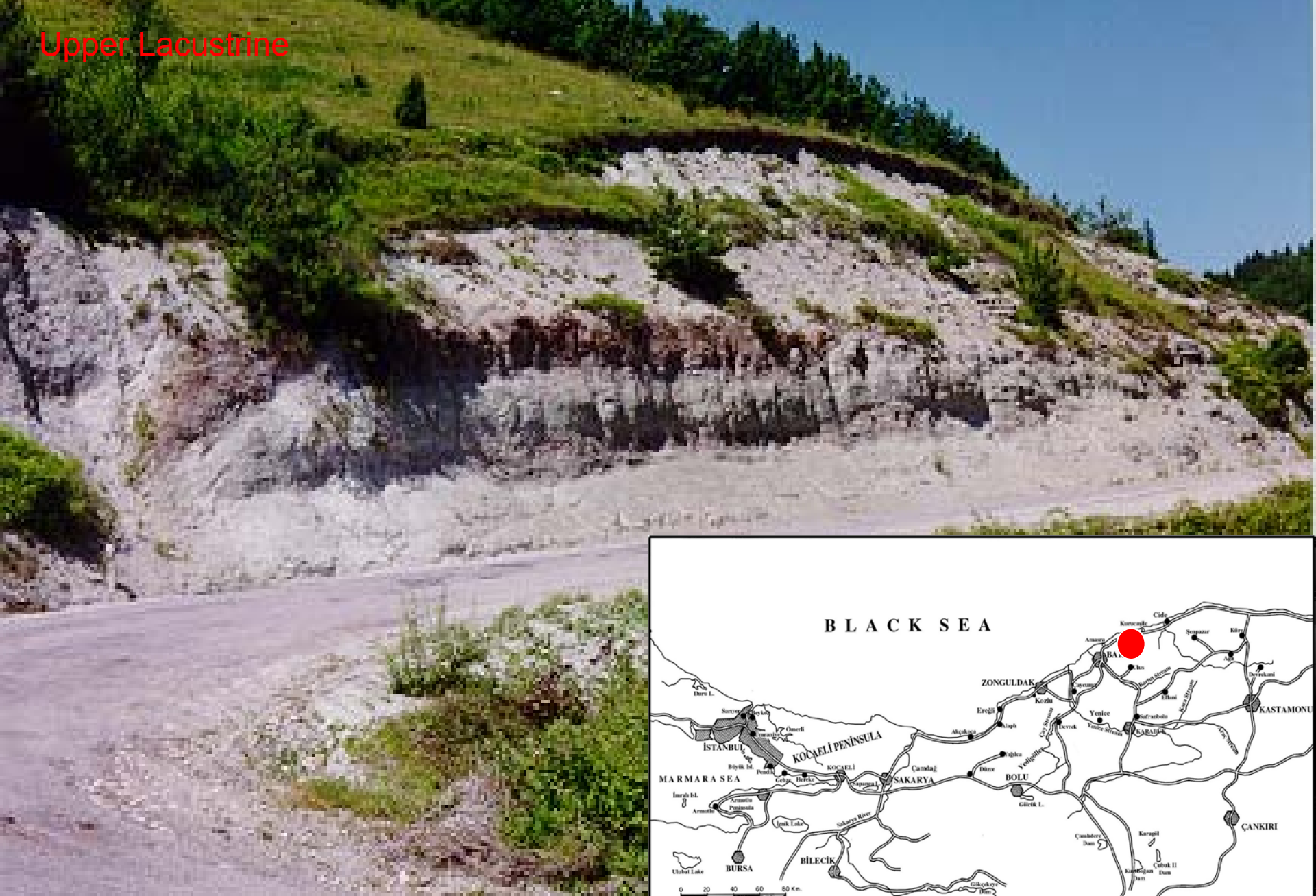
## Lower fluvial







# Upper Lacustrine





# Early Jurassic

Early Jurassic sediments are not present onshore of the western Black Sea region. They are present in the Eastern Black sea Region





# EARLY JURASSIC



# MIDDLE JURASSIC

Middle Jurassic sediments are present in the western Black Sea as well as Eastern Black Sea.

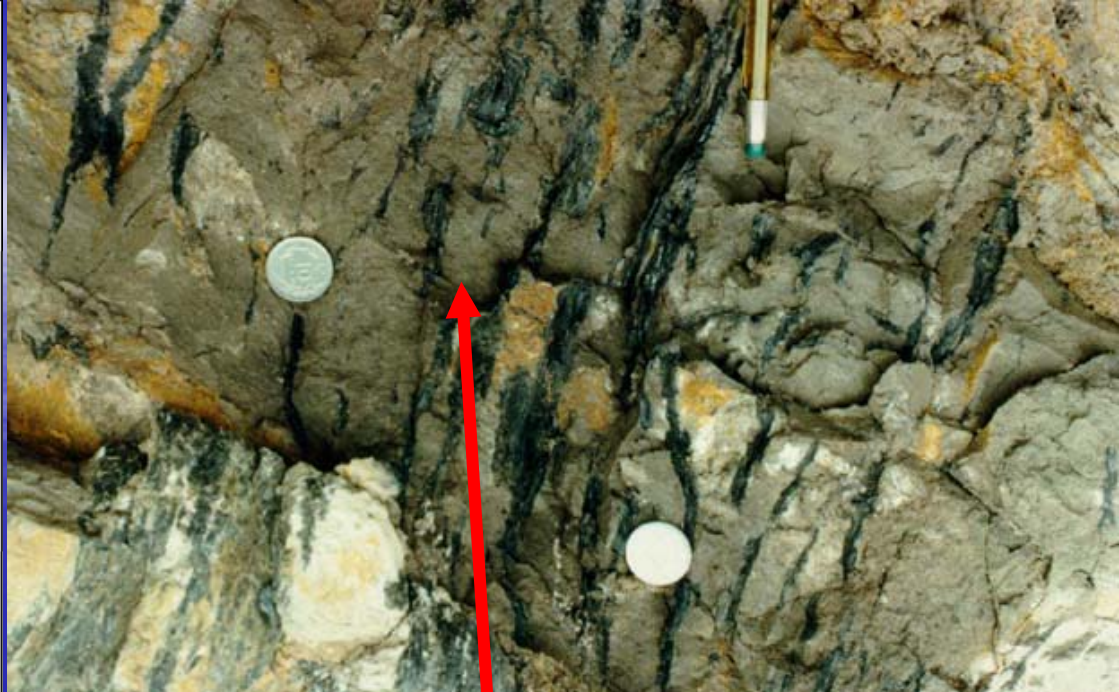
Shoreline in the Western Black Sea is around Cide-Kurucaşile towns

Shoreline in the Eastern Black Sea is not defined due to insufficient facies data.





| Age                  | Lithology | Explanation                         |
|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>CRETACEOUS</b>    |           |                                     |
| Barremian-Santonian  |           | Turbiditic sandstone-shale          |
|                      |           |                                     |
|                      |           |                                     |
| Barremian            |           | Carbonate breccias                  |
| Ber.                 |           | Limestone                           |
| L. Oxfordian         |           | Limestone                           |
|                      |           | Marl                                |
|                      |           | Red sandstone-mudstone              |
| Bajocian-Bathonian   |           | Black mudstone channel sandstone    |
|                      |           | Shale                               |
|                      |           | Sandstone, abundant plant fragments |
| Late                 |           | Marl                                |
|                      |           | Sandstone                           |
|                      |           | Sandstone-mudstone                  |
| Nemurian-Westphalian |           | Conglomerate                        |
|                      |           | Sandstone-shale                     |









# MIDDLE JURASSIC



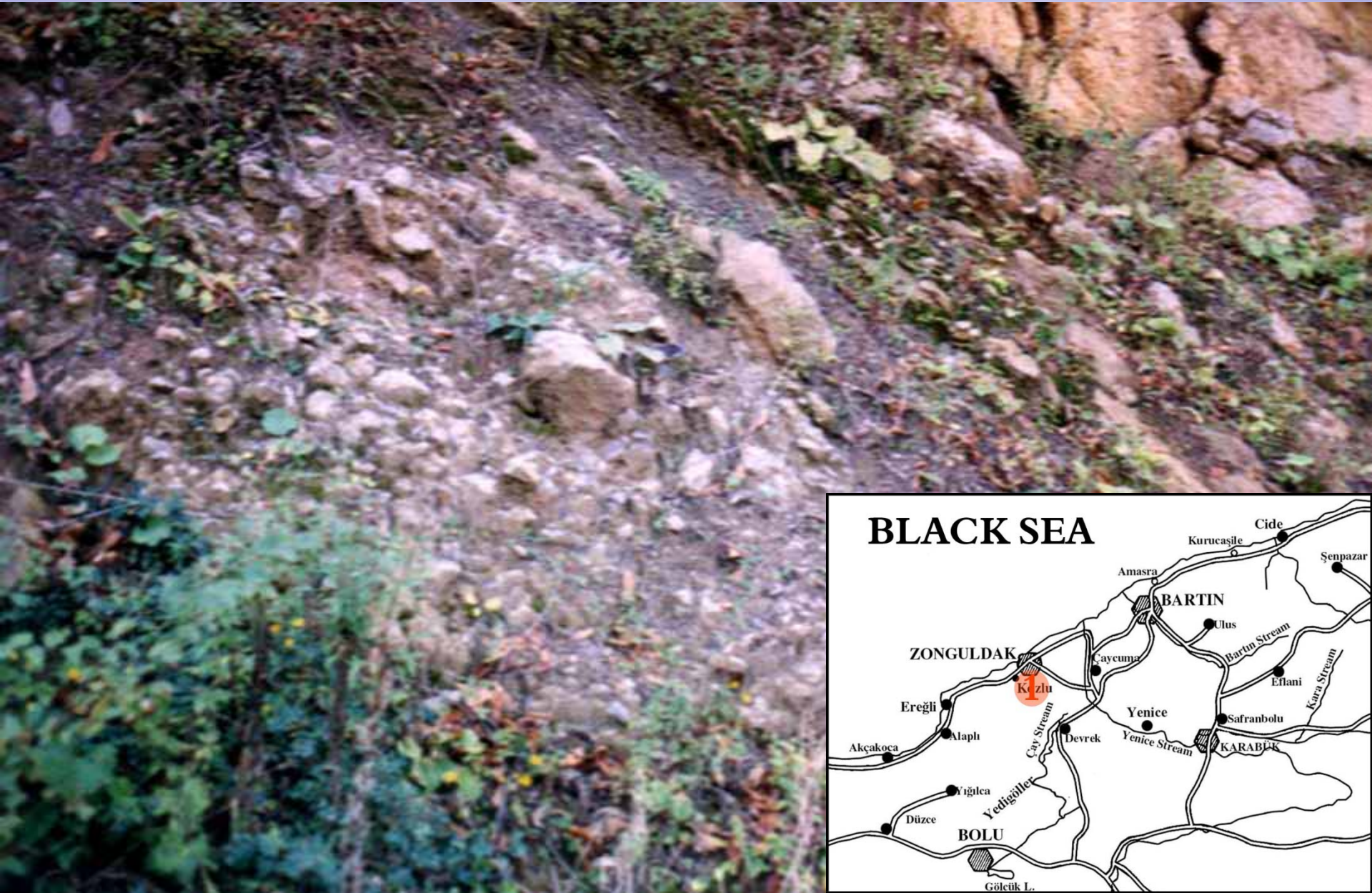




# LATE JURASSIC

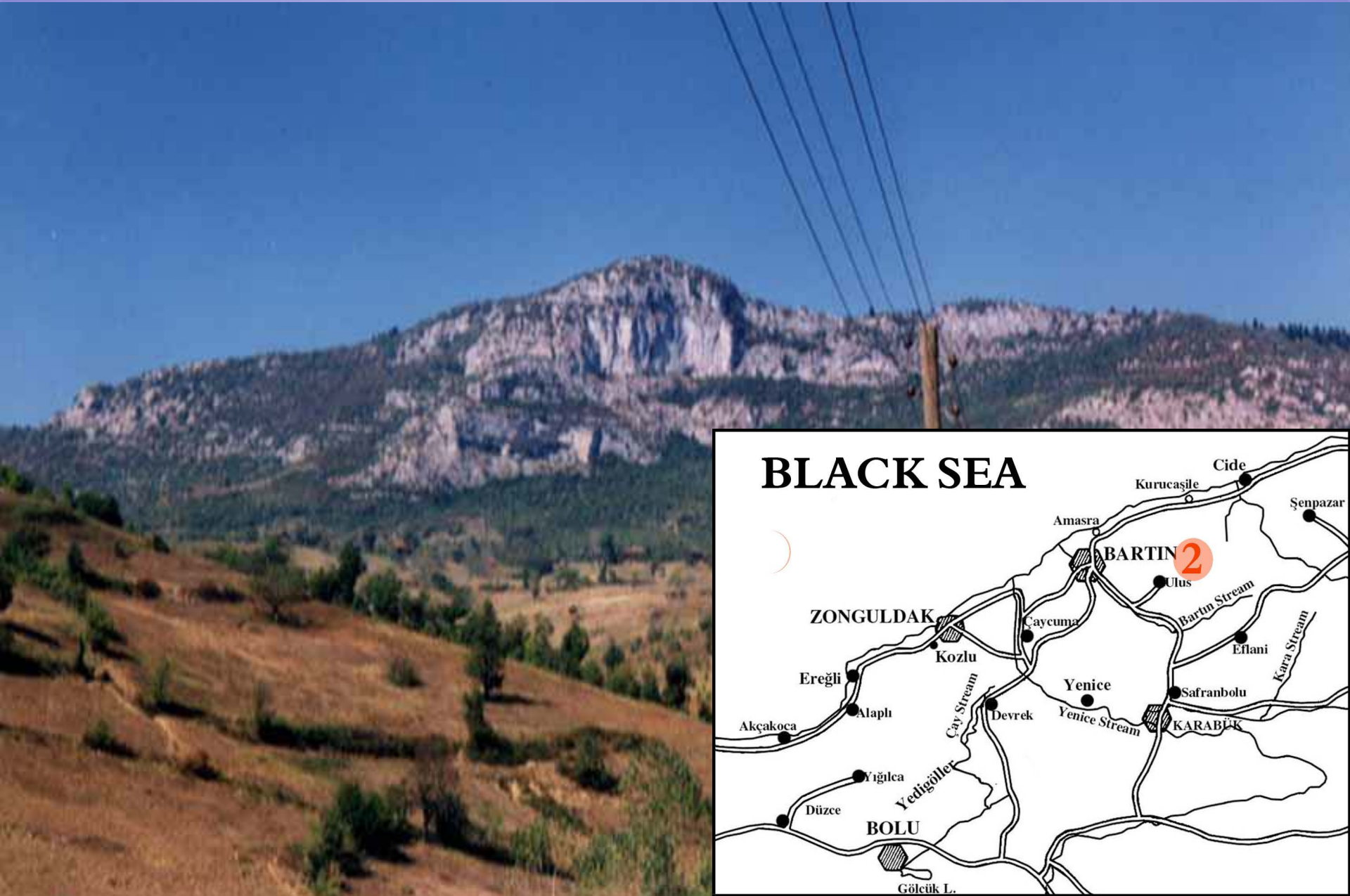
Late Jurassic sediments show a facies trend from tidal flat, platform, reef to basin in western Black Sea. Some areas they show an isolated platform that surrounded by deeper water facies (Haramidağ-Yaralığöz). Some other similar facies may be represented in the middle Black Sea. Another land attached platform is described from eastern Black Sea.

# Shoreward facies

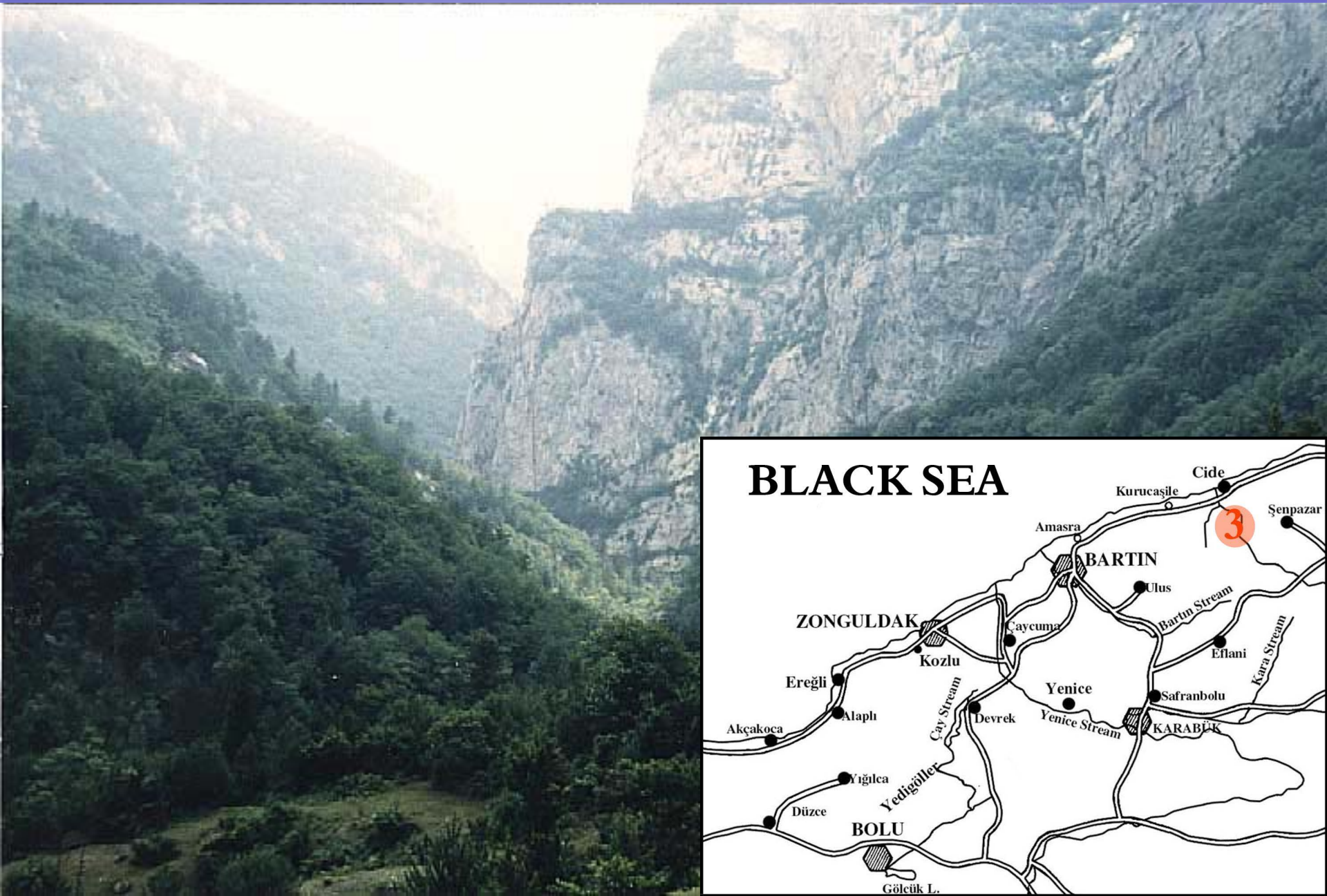




# Platform



# Margin







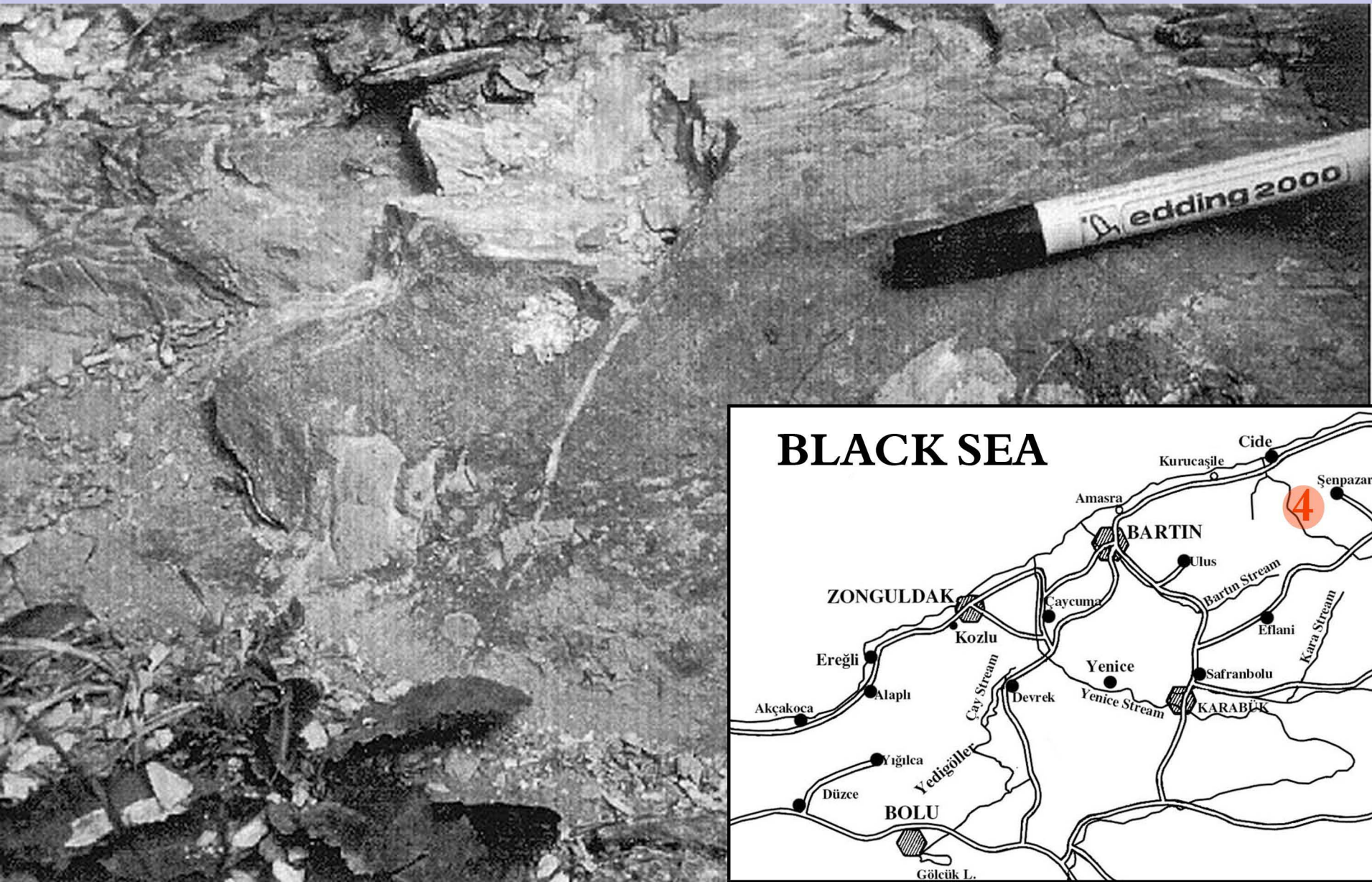
**Reefal facies  
observed along  
Devrekani River  
valley.**

## BLACK SEA

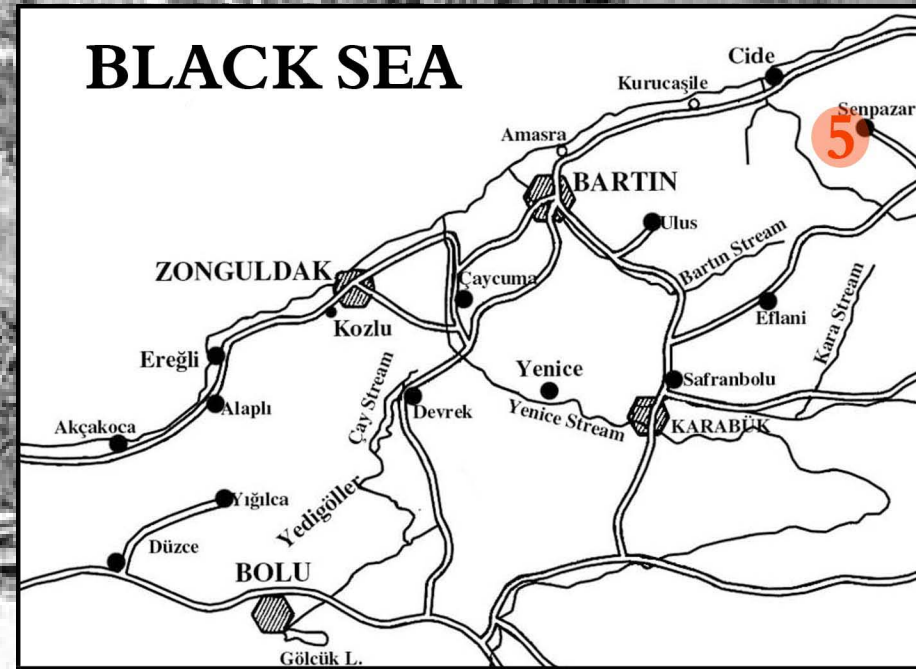
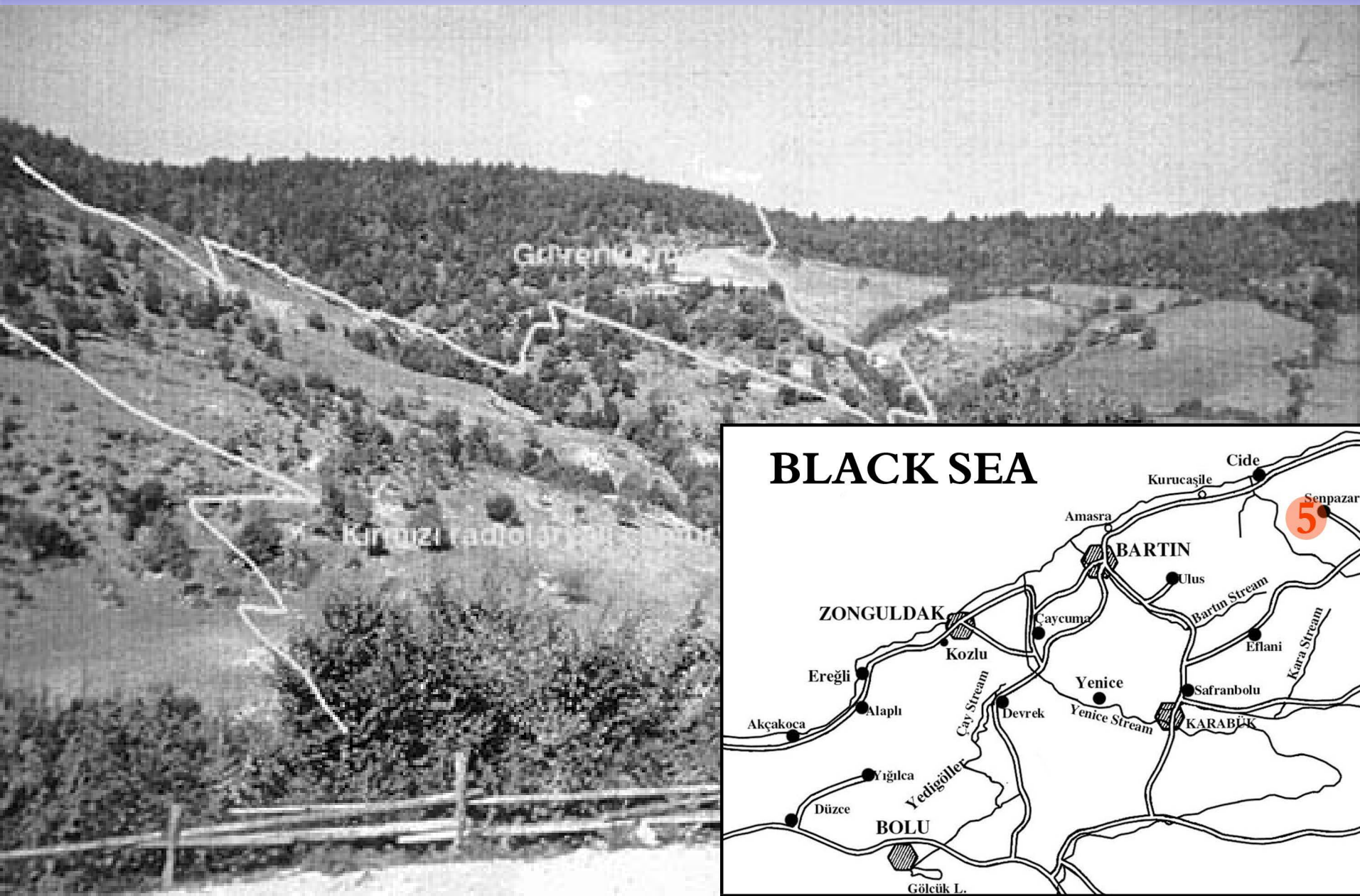




# Close up of Slope facies



# Slope to basin





# YARALIGÖZ MOUNTAIN





# YARALIGÖZ MOUNTAIN



# Late Jurassic



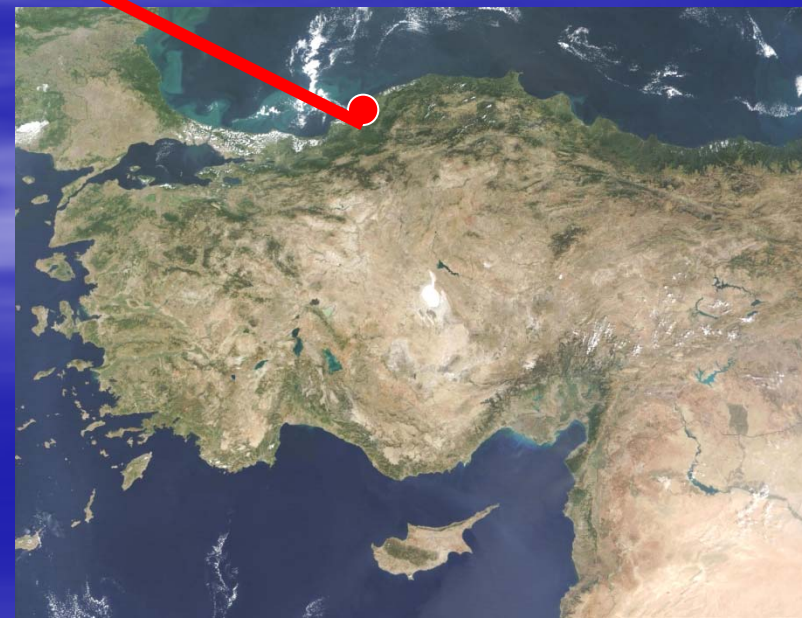


# EARLY CRETACEOUS

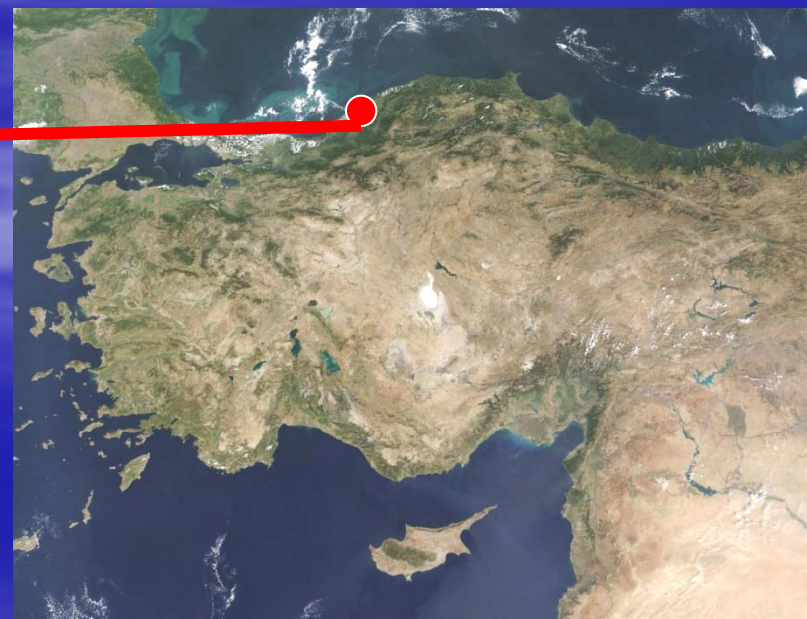
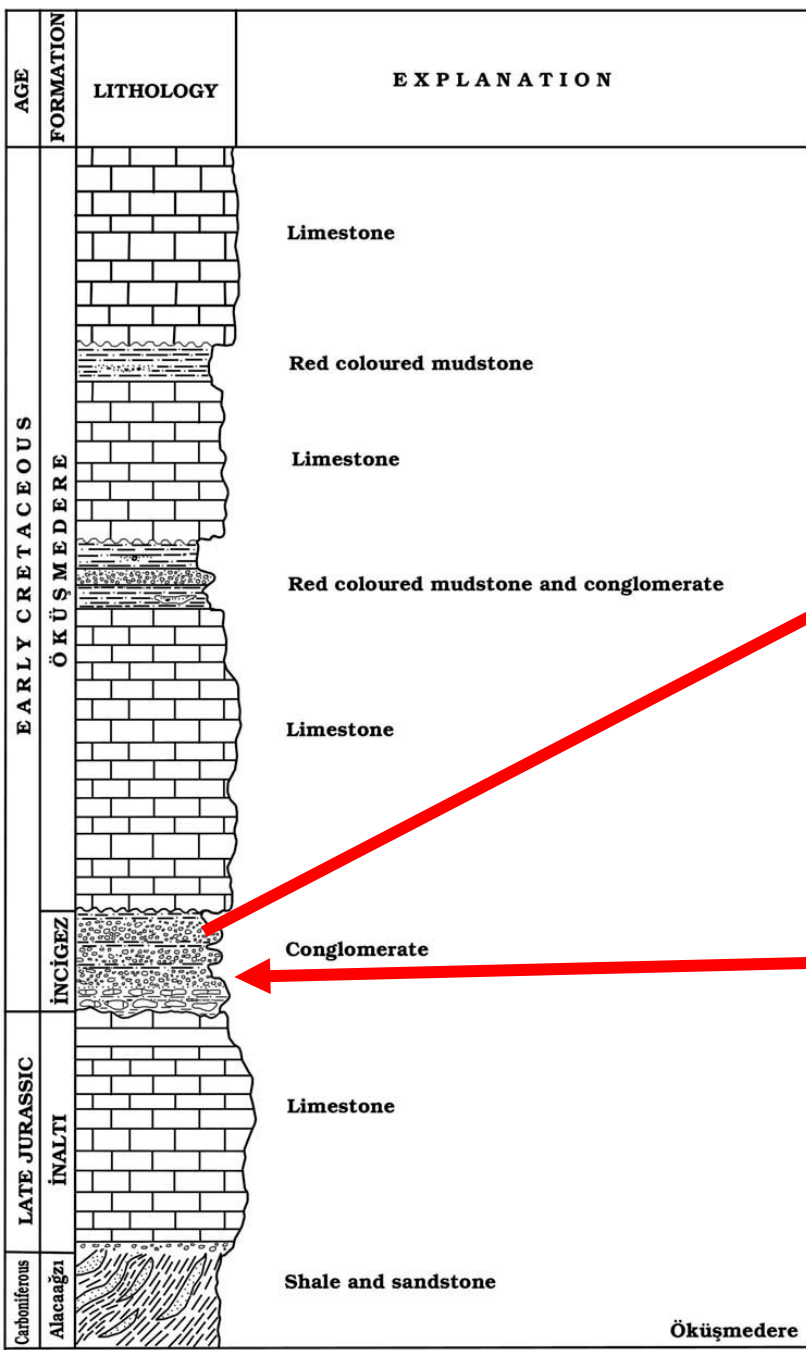
**Time of disintegration of Paltforma, formation of marginal graben areas and much facies change**



| Age           |                   | Lithology                 | Explanation |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| CRETAC.       | Barremian-Aptian  | Marl                      |             |
|               |                   | Conglomerate              |             |
| CARBONIFEROUS | Westfalian        | Conglomerate-sandstone    |             |
|               |                   | Shale-coal                |             |
|               |                   | Sandstone-shale           |             |
|               |                   | Coal                      |             |
|               | Namurian          | Shale-sandstone-limestone |             |
| DEONIAN       | Tournesian-Visean | Cherty limestone          |             |
|               | Lat               | Limestone                 |             |







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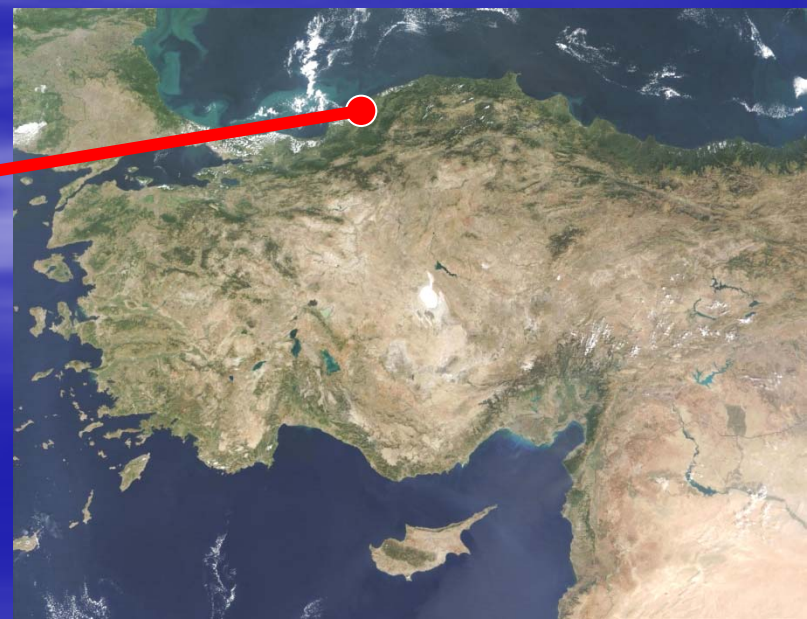


## Velibey Sandstone



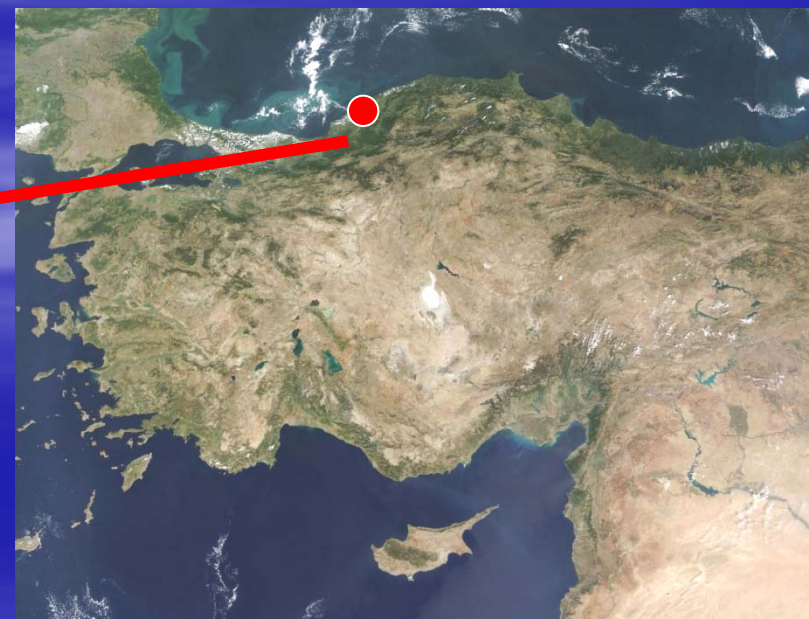
| AGE FORMATION       | LITHOLOGY         | EXPLANATION  |
|---------------------|-------------------|--|
| Cenomanian-Turonian | Tasmaca           | Marl: bluish grey-grey coloured, massive looking   |
|                     | Sapça             | Sandstone: grey, greenish grey coloured, glauconitic, calcareous, carbonate cemented.                                      |
| Late Albian         | Velibey sandstone | Conglomerate sandstone interbedding: grey-yellowish grey coloured, cross bedded, carbonate cemented, locally argillaceous. |
| Early Carboniferous | Yılanlı           | Limestone: grey-dark grey coloured, karstic, fossiliferous.  |

**Kokaksu Dere**



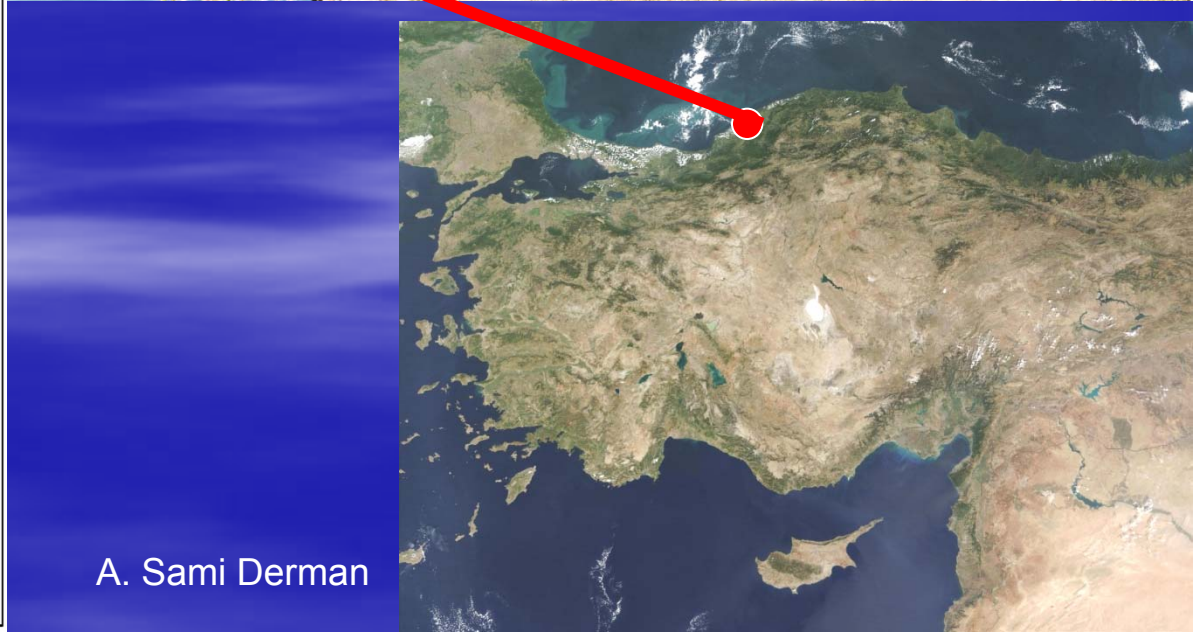


| Age Formation       | Lithology         | Explanation   |
|---------------------|-------------------|---|
| Cenomanian-Turonian | Tasmaca           | Marl, Bluish gray coloured, massif, structureless.  |
|                     | Sapça             | Sandstone: Gray, greenish grey coloured, galeonitic, calcareous, carbonate cemented.  |
| Late Albian         | Velibey Sandstone | Conglomerate-sandstone interbedding: Gray, yellowish gray coloured, cross bedded, carbonate cemented, locally argillaceous. |
| Early Carboniferous | Yılanlı           | Limestone: gray, dark gray coloured, karstic, fossiliferous.  |
|                     |                   | Unconformity  |





| Age           |             | Lithology | Explanation      |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| CRETA         | Barr-Apt.   |           | Limestone        |
|               |             |           | Coal             |
| CARBONIFEROUS | Westphalian |           | Conglomerate     |
|               |             |           | Volcanic ash     |
|               |             |           | Coal             |
|               | Namurian    |           | Shale-sandstone  |
|               |             |           | Shale-sandstone  |
|               |             |           | Cherty limestone |
| DEVON         | Late        |           | Limestone        |
|               |             |           | Limestone        |
|               |             |           | Limestone        |

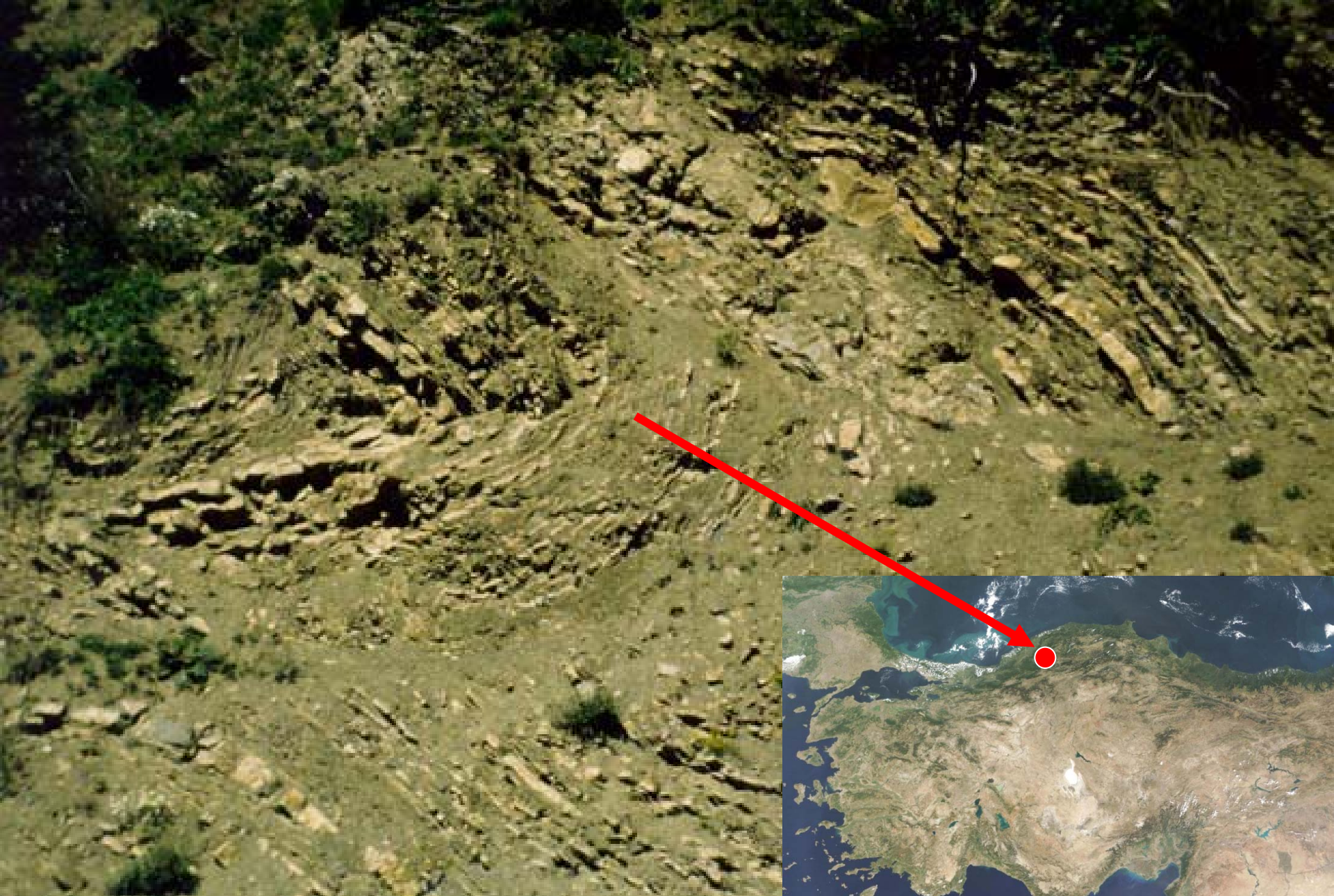


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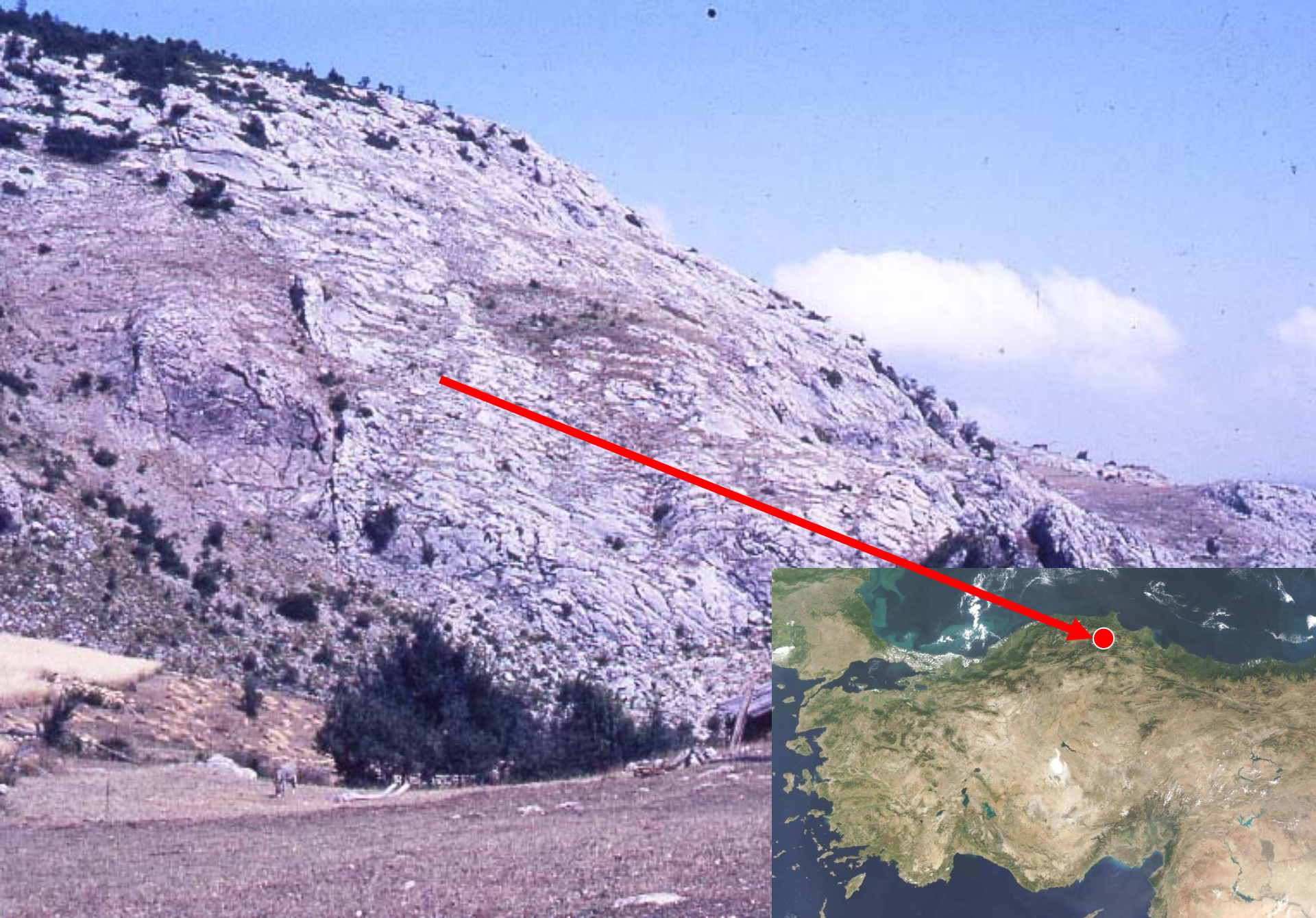




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Early Cretaceous



# Volcanic and volcaniclastics



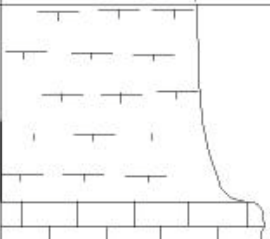

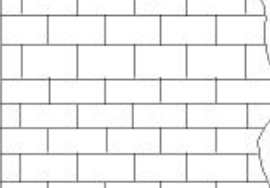



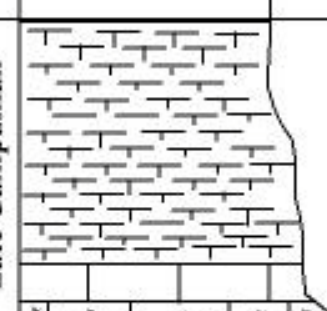
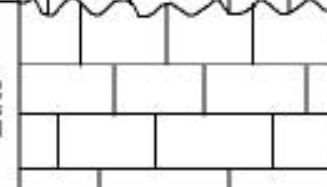


# Coniacian-EarlyCampanian





| AGE        |                   | LITHOLOGY  | EXPLANATION   |
|------------|-------------------|--|---|
| CRETACEOUS | L. Campanian      |   | Marl<br>Pelagic limestone                                   |
|            | Late              |  | Sandstone<br>Continental red beds<br>Sandstone-Conglomerate |
| CARBONIF.  | Tournesian-Viscum |  | Limestone   |
| DEVON      | Late              |  |   |

| Age        |                | Lithology   | Explanation                 |
|------------|----------------|---|-----------------------------|
| CRETACEOUS | Late Campanian |   | Marl<br>Crinoidal limestone |
|            | Late           |  | Limestone                   |

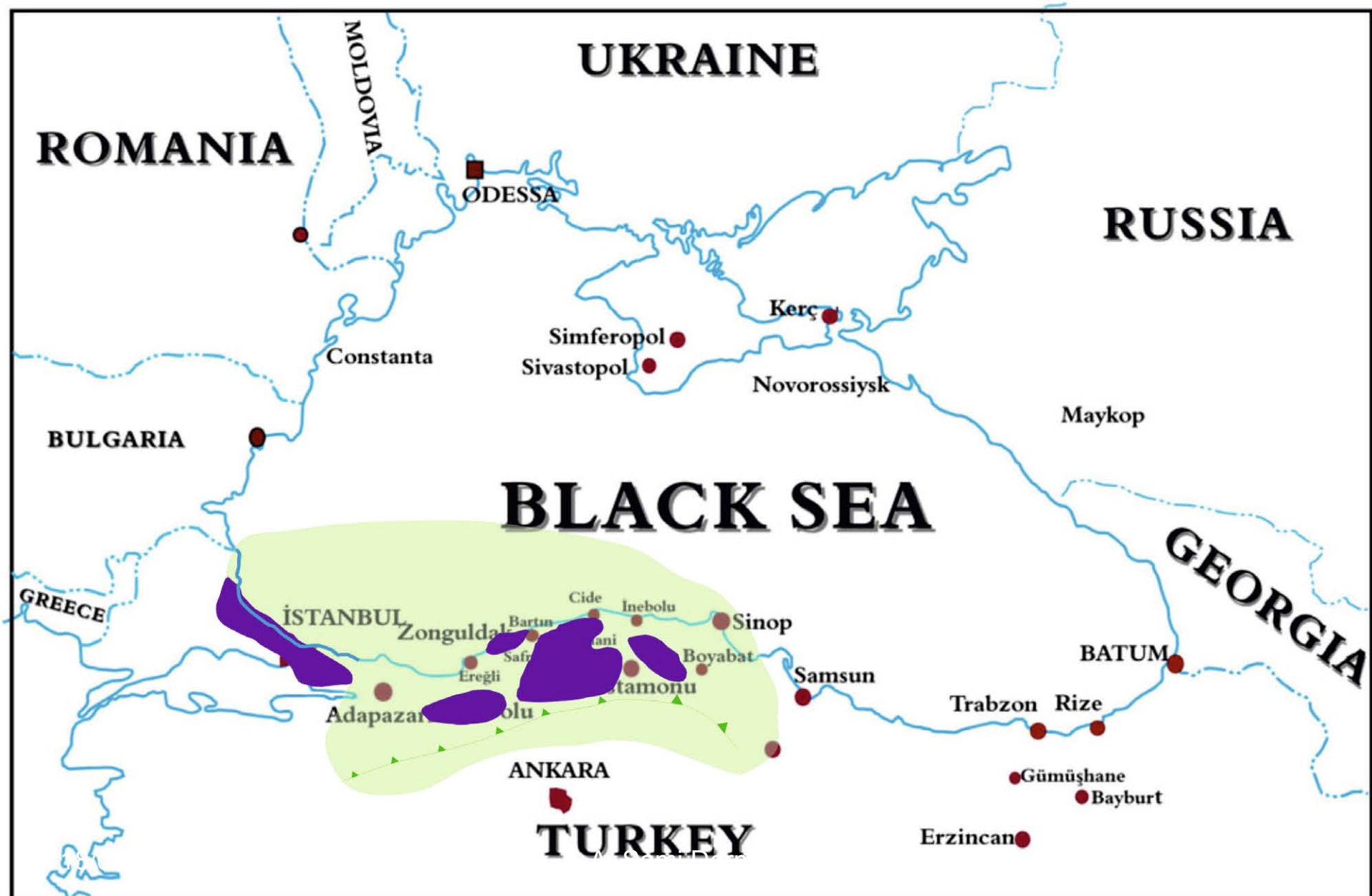


Çandağ





# Late Campanian-Maestrichtian



# Late Paleocene-Eocene





# POST EOCENE



# CONCLUSIONS

- No marine deposition during Triassic Time in the Western Black Sea Region except Kocaeli Peninsula.
- Early Jurassic marine sedimentation is not present in the same area
- Middle Jurassic Sea advanced from the east and north and covered Palaeozoic unit in Zonguldak area.
- An important deformation caused an uplift and sea level fall paralleling the present coastal zone as indicated by alluvial fan.
- Late Jurassic was the time of platform development and sea was advanced from east, north and south of the Palaeozoic highland.
- At the beginning of Early Cretaceous Marginal faulting created horst-graben system and this has been interpreted the onset of opening of the Black Sea. At about Coniacian Time, volcanic Island Arc started to develop and marginal faulted margin limited southern extension of the volcanoclastics.
- Late Campanian was the time of maximum subsidence. Some local uplifts occurred.
- Eocene was limited smaller basinal areas in the south while Black Sea area was a deep basinal area.
- Sea was withdrawn from most of the areas and marine deposition was limited to Black Sea trough.



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