

Hsin Yi Ling : Significance of Radiolaria in the South and Southeast Asian Ophiolite sequence

Laporan (Report)

Professor Hsin Yi Ling of Department of Geology, Northern Illinois University, gave the above talk to about 25 members on the 24th October, 1991 at the Department of Geology, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur.

Abstrak (Abstract)

With the collaboration of international scientists from England, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Pakistan, intensive ongoing research on Radiolaria from the ophiolitic sequence throughout South and Southeast Asia is in progress to apply this group of siliceous microfossils to regional biostratigraphy control and tectonic interpretation.

Early and Late Eocene assemblage have been recognized from Waigeo Island, suggesting there were at least two accretional episodes. Recovery of Mesozoic faunas, in addition to Eocene forms similar to those from Waigeo samples, indicates multiple terrane amalgamation for the island as reflected in the complicated surface geology. Whether Waigeo and Halmahers Islands belong to the same geological tectonic element awaits future study.

The finding of these radiolarians is significant in view of the fact that a similar Early Eocene fauna has been observed from Andaman-Nicobar Island of India and Early Cretaceous assemblages are being documented from Pakistan. Altogether, these data would ascertain the timing of a mega-suture which extends from Indonesia westward to the Middle East via Himalayas, and represents the Indo-Austral vs. Eurasia plate boundary.

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Hsin Yi Ling



Sep-Oct 1991