
Significance of bedded chert at Bukit Koding, Kedah

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A chert unit is exposed at an abandoned limestone quarry at Bukit Koding, Kedah. The chert unit consists of interbedded chert and micritic limestone. The chert occurs as layers and nodules. The thickness of the chert layers varies from 2 cm to 10 cm. The chert exhibits a slump fold. Several chert samples were collected for geochemical analysis by the XRF method. Some chert samples were treated with hydrofluoric acid to retrieve the radiolaria. Several species of radiolaria were identified. They are *Capnuhosphaera cf. triassica*, *Capnuhosphaera tortousa*, *Capnuhosphaera sp.*, *Perispongidium cf. tethyus*, *Xenorum flexum*, *Rhopolodictium sp.*, *Canoptum laxum*, *Triassocampe sulovensis*, *Sontonaella sp.*, *Canesium sp.*, *Acanthocircus usitatus*, *Canoptum sp.*, *Castrum sp.*, *Xiphotheca sp.*, *Pseudocrucella sp.*, *Sarla sp.*, *Spongostylus sp.*, and *Hagiastrum augustum*. The occurrence of *Capnuhosphaera cf. triassica*, *Capnuhosphaera tortousa*, *Xenorum flexum*, *Acanthocircus usitatus*, *Triassocampe sulovensis*, and *Hagiastrum augustum* indicates a late Carnian age (Late Triassic). The occurrence of the chert unit in the Koding limestone is very interesting because both rocks represent two different environments. The environment of deposition of the chert unit will be discussed.