

PROTEROZOIC PASSIVE CONTINENTAL MARGINS OF BRAZIL-AFRICA

MARGES CONTINENTALES PASSIVES PROTEROZOIQUES AU BRESIL ET EN AFRIQUE

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Outstanding geologic features of Western Gondwana are some orogenic belts (diagonal to the present Atlantic margins) which have developed from typical Proterozoic passive continental margins, following a miogeoclinal evolution(IF → MS → FB3).

They occur surrounding Late-Proterozoic continental plates (foreland) and display litho-stratigraphic assemblages of (diamictite)-quartzite-carbonate-shale-turbidite type, with discrete volcanism and plutonism, most of them now in low to medium metamorphic grade. Some of these belts still preserve faciologic and tectonic zoning of continental margins.

Comparisons/correlations of these fold belts - Medio Coreau / Pharusian ; Sergipano / Oubanguiades; Araçuai / West Congolian - have frequently been outlined by several authors at reconnaissance scale. This type of study, now at detailed level must be emphasized and given high priority by the IGCP 288. For correlation purposes these belts are key areas.

This is necessary because the hinterland regions between the miogeoclinal belts are very complex, gathering a mosaic of different lithosphere blocks (microplates, microcontinents, terranes) and mobile belts (vestigial and shear belts) and will present a practically unsurmountable series of geologic problems in correlation programs.

Mesozoic equatorial and central Atlantic margin have cut across most of these Proterozoic miogeoclinal belts, and the tectonic heritage seems to be restricted to some reactivation of brittle structures and some other major geological discontinuities.

Colloquium of African Geology, 15, 1990, Nancy. Abstracts.