

Key Points of the Geology of Morocco

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Abstract:

Morocco is one of the most fascinating lands in the world for studying Earth Sciences and Astrogeology. It is a friendly country, provided with a good network of roads. Morocco is the key point between one passive margin (the Atlantic Ocean), one ocean acting to closure (the Mediterranean Sea) and an old cratonic block (the West African Craton). This results in a rugged topography with a wide range of outcropping terranes spanning from Archean to Cenozoic in age, as well as diverse tectonic systems from sedimentary basins to metamorphic fold belts. Minerals and fossils from Morocco are curated in Museums the world over. Finally, it is worth emphasizing that natural resources extracted from the Moroccan subsoil are important for the national economy (phosphate, Gold, Ag, Pb, Zn, barite, fluorspar, etc.). At the moment, there is also active offshore exploration for oil and gas.

This talk is a general introduction to the geodynamic evolution of Morocco, focusing on some key points of its geology.

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