



Petrogenesis of Skenderbeu Peridotites (Western Ophiolitic Belt, Albania)

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Abstract: This paper presents results of a study on the field relations, petrographic features, mineral and rock chemistry and petrology of peridotites from the Skenderbeu massif, which belongs to western belt of Jurassic Albanian ophiolites. As confirmed by petrological characteristics, the geological section of the Skenderbeu massif consists, from the bottom to the top, of a mostly harzburgite and diopside harzburgite tectonite sequence, plagioclase lherzolite transitional zone, magmatic gabbros and troctolites and basalts. Based on the bulk chemistry, mineral chemistry and modal composition, the peridotites of Skenderbeu massif have undergone a relatively low partial melting grade which increases from the centre of the massif towards its western sectors. The low partial melting grade was also supported by the very limited abundance of the dunites and chromite ore bodies which, in turn, are higher in Al. Both high-temperature asthenospheric fabrics and high-stress and relatively low temperatures lithospheric fabrics are present in the peridotites of the Skenderbeu massif.

Key Words: Ophiolite, Skenderbeu massif, ultramafic, tectonite, cumulate

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