Compositional variation of volcanic rocks and magmatic differentiation in the Taradake volcano, northwest Kyushu

Tomohiko Higo [1], Hidehisa Mashima [2], Takeru Yanagi [1]


Taradake volcanic rocks show triangular form in any MgO vs. oxide variation diagram. These show a evolution trend different from the those of melts experimentally produced, suggesting that the variation of volcanic rocks is due to a certain type of crystallization differentiation. The most probable mechanism so far we know is the batch fractionation. The volcanic rocks show a decline in CaO at MgO less than 7 wt.%. They show the maximum enrichment of Al2O3 at 4 wt.% of MgO. These facts suggest the crystallization sequence of olivine, olivine + clinopyroxene and olivine + clinopyroxene + plagioclase in basalts. The Al2O3 declining trend of andesites shifts the higher MgO side, probably suggesting the gradual movement of the chamber toe shallower levels in the crust with time.