

Tectonics of the slow spreading system in Gulf of Aden: Bathymetric and magnetic surveys of KH-00-5 legs 2 and 3

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We will present the results of bathymetric and magnetic surveys in Gulf of Aden by R/V Hakuho-maru from December, 2000 to January, 2001. Gulf of Aden is a small ocean basin between Somalia (NE Africa) and Arabia. The continental rifting occurred around Early Miocene.

Our bathymetric survey using multi-narrow beam echo sounder, SEA BEAM 2120, revealed the detailed bathymetric expression of the spreading system in Gulf of Aden. The depth of spreading center becomes shallower as west. The most shallowest area is situated at 45°40'E. We named the high "Aden New Century Mountains". Our magnetic survey exposed that negative magnetic anomalies predominated over the spreading center.