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Geochemical evolution of a symplectite from the Horoman: redistribution of trace elements on phase transition and metasomatism

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We examined textural and geochemical characteristics of a spinel-pyroxene symplectite in a lherzolite taken from the lowest part of the Horoman Peridotite Complex, Japan. The studied symplectite have approximately inherited both major- and trace-element signatures from pre-existing garnet. Disequilibrium distribution for HREE and Zr was caused by the slow diffusion rates of trace-element. Chemical equilibrium in LREE and Sr among minerals has possibly resulted from the metasomatism by LREE-enriched melts or fluids after or during formation of the symplectite.

We examined textural and geochemical characteristics of a spinel-pyroxene symplectite in a lherzolite taken from the lowest part of the Horoman Peridotite Complex, Japan. The modal variation of the symplectite minerals is orthopyroxene : clinopyroxene : spinel = 53 : 25 : 22. Average of the width of the symplectite spinels is 2.3 micron meters and is the finest among the Horoman peridotites. Major-element composition of bulk symplectite is placed between pyrope-rich garnet and olivine. Primitive-mantle normalized pattern (PM pattern) in trace element for the symplectite has depletion of light REE relative to heavy REE with an abrupt change of slope in the vicinity of Nd and shows slightly positive anomaly of Zr. The studied symplectite have approximately inherited both major- and trace-element signatures from pre-existing garnet. Symplectite minerals are not in equilibrium with each other for HREE and Zr whereas chemical equilibration has been achieved in LREE and Sr among constituent minerals in the studied rock. Disequilibrium distribution for HREE and Zr was caused by the slow diffusion rates of trace-element. Chemical equilibrium in LREE and Sr among minerals has possibly resulted from the metasomatism by LREE-enriched melts or fluids after or during formation of the symplectite.