

Triassic-Jurassic radiolarian biostratigraphy in the Dimanglet Section, Calamian Islands, North Palawan Block, Philippines

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Pelagic sequences are widely distributed in the North Palawan Block in the Philippines. Radiolarian fossils of Permian to Early Cretaceous in age have been reported from many localities. However, radiolarian biostratigraphic researches in continuous pelagic sequences are still limited. We attempted detailed mapping and sampling for biostratigraphic research along several continuous chert sequences exposed along coast lines in the Calamian Islands, North Palawan Block.

The Dimanglet Section, cropped out along the southwest coast of Dimanglet Island and ca. 100 m in thickness, is lithologically divided into three parts; northern, middle and southern parts. The Triassic and Jurassic radiolarian biostratigraphic frameworks established in Japan and the west Pacific were well applicable for the section. Late Triassic (Norian-Carnian) radiolarian and conodont faunas were recognized from the northern part; latest Triassic (Rhaetian) assemblages were recovered from the middle part; Early Jurassic (Hettangian-Sinemurian?) radiolarian assemblages were obtained from the southern part.

The Dimanglet Section can be a candidate for a reference section encompassing the Triassic-Jurassic pelagic sequence in the North Palawan Block because of its continuous nature, accessibility and a high potential for micropaleontological investigations.