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A study of the structure and evolution of the oceanic lithosphere inferred from mantle xenoliths and drilling samples

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Deep-seated rock xenoliths often included in oceanic island basalts and abyssal peridotite sampled by oceanic drilling and dredges provide us a lot of information about the deep structure and evolution of the oceanic lithosphere. Here a review of recent studies on such peridotite and the deep crustal materials from the oceanic lithosphere will be presented.

Keywords: oceanic lithosphere, mantle xenoliths, ocean drilling, abyssal peridotite