



MIDDLE JURASSIC OSTRACODA FROM THE NORTHERN ISLAND BELT, RANN OF KACHCHH, GUJARAT, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Seventy-four ostracod species from the Middle Jurassic of the Northern Island belt, including Bela, Khadir and Pachchham islands, Rann of Kachchh, Gujarat are described. Twenty-seven species – *Citrella belaensis*, *Cytheropteron micropunctata*, *Fastigatocythere belaensis*, *F. elongata*, *F. flebilis*, *F. indica*, *F. jakhari*, *F. kachchhensis*, *F. mouwanaensis*, *F.? pachchhamensis*, *Galliaecytheridea gujaratensis*, *G. lodraniensis*, *Glabellacythere hussaini*, *Mandawacythere kachchhensis*, *M. multicostata*, *Mandelstamia biswasi*, *M. kachchhensis*, *Monoceratina mouwanaensis*, *M. rannensis*, *Morkhovenicythereis rectangularis*, *Neurocythere? kachchhensis*, *Paracypris kachchhensis*, *P. mohani*, *Pseudoperissocytheridea concentrica*, *Timiriasevia khadirensis*, *Trichordis amraparensis*, and *T. hadibhadangensis* – are new. Forty species are assigned to already known taxa and seven species are left in open nomenclature.

Based on the distribution of ostracods, five zones are proposed for the Middle Jurassic of the Northern Island Belt. They are, in ascending order: *Trichordis hadibhadangensis* Assemblage Zone (Bajocian-Bathonian), *Cytheropteron micropunctata* Assemblage Zone (Bathonian), *Progonocythere laeviscula* Assemblage Zone (late Bathonian-early Callovian), *Fastigatocythere mouwanaensis* Assemblage Zone (Callovian), and *Majungaella perforata kachchhensis-Galliaecytheridea remota* Concurrent Range Zone (middle-late Callovian). The correlation of these beds with those of Mainland Kachchh, the composition, age and palaeozoogeography of the ostracod fauna are also discussed.

Key words: Middle Jurassic, Ostracoda, Bela, Khadir, Sadhara Dome, Rann of Kachchh