



CYCLICITY IN LATE HOLOCENE MONSOONAL CHANGES FROM THE WESTERN BAY OF BENGAL: FORAMINIFERAL APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

Benthic foraminiferal characteristics, including abundance of total benthic foraminifera, angular asymmetrical benthic foraminifera, *Uvigerina* sp. and *Bulimina marginata*, have been studied in a piston core (exhibiting ~700 years record as per AMS dating) collected from the region off central east coast of India. Six prominent peaks have been noted in the down core variation in all of these parameters. Based on the already well established inverse relationship between angular asymmetrical benthic foraminifera and monsoon precipitation from the region off west coast of India, it is inferred that the six prominent episodes of variations as noted in the core, indicate changes in monsoon intensity in this region. Based on the spectral analysis, a periodicity of 200 ± 50 years has also been inferred in the monsoonal changes.

Keywords: Angular asymmetrical benthic foraminifera, Paleomonsoon, Bay of Bengal, Holocene, cyclicity