



NOTE ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *ARUMBERIA BANKSI* AND ASSOCIATED FOSSILS FROM THE JODHPUR SANDSTONE, MARWAR SUPERGROUP, WESTERN RAJASTHAN

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ABSTRACT

The paper records the occurrence of *Arumberia banksi* Glaessner and Walter, *Rameshia rampurensis* Kumar and Pandey, *Aspidella* sp., cf. *Hiemalora* sp. and *Beltanelliformis minuta* McIlroy *et al.* from the Jodhpur Sandstone, Jodhpur – Khatu area, western Rajasthan. *Arumberia banksi* is a microbial mat structure recorded on the sole and top of the sandstones with a restricted time range within the Late Neoproterozoic. Another associated microbial mat structure is *Rameshia rampurensis*. Three body fossils *Aspidella* sp., cf. *Hiemalora* sp. and *Beltanelliformis minuta* are also reported from the Jodhpur Sandstone. The fossil assemblage supports an Ediacaran age to the Jodhpur Sandstone. On the basis of the presence of microbial assemblage and *Beltanelliformis minuta*, the middle part of the Jodhpur Sandstone is correlated with the Maihar Sandstone of the Bhandar Group, Satna district, Madhya Pradesh, which is well exposed in the Central India and represents the youngest horizon of the Vindhyan Supergroup in the Son Valley section. It is suggested that during Ediacaran period the Vindhyan sea was connected with the Marwar sea through the Lesser Himalayan corridor of the Krol Formation.

Keywords: *Arumberia*, Jodhpur Sandstone, Marwar Supergroup, Maihar Sandstone, Ediacaran fossils, Neoproterozoic, Microbial mats