

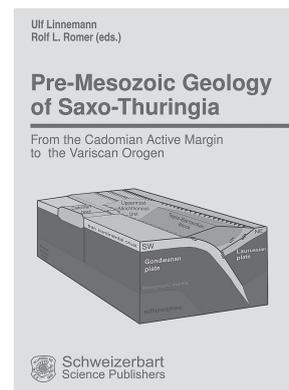
BOOK REVIEW

# Pre-Mesozoic Geology of Saxo-Thuringia

From the Cadomian Active Margin to the Variscan Orogen

Editors: **ULF LINNEMANN & ROLF L. ROMER**

2010. Schweizerbart Science Publishers, Stuttgart.  
488 pages, 190 figures, 6 tables, 1 Sheet Map, 1 DVD,  
1 foldout, 25x17 cm, 1400 g. Language: English  
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The monographic work is a summary of results of a wider team of authors, who have contributed to the five dominant **Parts**, each of which consists of several **Chapters** focused on individual problems of the Saxo-Thuringian Region, its geological structure and its development in time and space.

It is a classical analysis of the development of the **Pre-Mesozoic stage from the Cadomian Active Margin to the Variscan Orogene**. Saxo-Thuringia represents a very important region displaying development of the Variscides in one part of the Pangea supercontinent. The first chapter of the first part (**Introduction**) of the book is absolutely devoted to the location of this region of Saxo-Thuringia in the context of the Pangea supercontinent, followed by detailed recapitulation of the geological maps and results from geological mapping in historical survey from oldest documents to almost present-day works, which are well preserved and represent for the reader the classical and modern school of regional geology of this region. The third chapter of this part completely untraditionally, but in a very interesting way shows the region of Saxo-Thuringia from the point of view of geochemical potential. The whole first part of this book is under the full direction of the Chief Editors of the monograph: **ULF LINNEMANN & ROLF L. ROMER**.

The second part of the book is devoted to **The Autochthonous Domain and the Wrench-and-Thrust Zone** of this whole region. This whole region is very interesting geologically. It is valued on the basis of results presented in four chapters following one after another (4, 5, 6, 7). They present the manifestations and consequences of the Cadomian Orogeny, as well as the individual transitional stages between the Cadomian and Variscan orogenes. On the basis of the development of basins and in this framework also of the tectonomagmatic evolution of the southern margin of the Rheic Ocean the Saxo-Thuringian Zone (North Gondwana shelf) is represented. In a further two chapters of the monograph, Biostratigraphy is treated in detail. The faunal province of the southern margin of the Rheic Ocean and consequently also Early Carboniferous synorogenic sedimentation in the Saxo-Thuringia Basin and adjacent Allochthonous Domain are covered.

The third part of the monograph represents an extensive study in six chapters devoted to **The Allochthonous Domain**. The Mid-German Crystalline Zone, Early Variscan allochthonous domains Münchenberg Complex, Frankenberg, Wildenfels and Góry Sowie are evaluated here. In a further chapter the Saxon Granulite Massif as the key to the evolution of Variscan central Europe is evaluated. A very exhaustive chapter dedicated to the Erzgebirge region follows. The conclusion of this monograph part is the tectonic model of the Allochthonous Domain of the Saxo-Thuringian Zone and Carboniferous magmatism treated in detail.

The fourth part of the book deals with **Late and post-Variscan reactivation**. The reader receives here complete information on Late Variscan development on the basis of analyses: Variscan Early Molasses in the Saxo-Thuringian, completed by the chapter *The Late Variscan Molasses (Late Carboniferous–Late Permian) of the Saxo-Thuringian Zone* and following is *Post-Variscan deformation and hydrothermal mineralization in the Saxo-Thuringian Zone and beyond: a geochronological review*.

The fifth part of the book represents a perfect finale designated as a **Synthesis**. In this part important information is summarized under the chapter *Baltica and meets Gondwana the isotope geochemical record* and a particular chapter *The Saxo-Thuringian Zone — tip of the Armorican Spur and part of the Gondwana plate*.

The last part of the book includes a complete register of applied literature and Index of terms. The book is treated graphically very well, perhaps some figures and schemes are of medium low graphical level, but on whole they are legible and applicable for the user.

List of Contributors represents the present-day European professional elite, which has presented the most important information on the geology of the **Saxo-Thuringian Zone**, to the professional public in individual chapters.

The book includes **Digital Appendices** on a DVD with additional maps and explanatory notes, supplements to chapters and a series of additional figures.

The book represents a perfectly specialized work as a source of information and stimulation to further research into the problems given.

We are indebted and congratulate the Editors and Authors!

*Jozef Vozár, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava*