

PETROLOGICAL AND GEOCHIMICAL CONSIDERATION ON THE TUYSERKANITE METEORITE

M.H. EMAMI ¹, R. MONSEF ²

1- Research Institute of Geosciences – Geological Survey of Iran
2- Department of Geology – Estahban Azad University – Fars, Iran

On June 27th, 1985, near midnight, according to the visual observation of people in Tuyserkhan, a light gray meteorite with dark vein system in 5.7 kg weight fell from the sky that its landing in Esmaeel Abad (Hamedan province, Iran). The meteorite was radiating a yellow to red light at the time of falling and it was hot till tomorrow morning. Thermal temperature of the meteorite is estimated between 700 to 1000 C and in external surface it has a thin glassy layer which its thickness not exceed than 1 mm. The mentioned layer is the result of external melting and fast getting cold of meteorite in moving to atmosphere. Its dimension is 21 cm length, 19 cm width and diameter of it is 14.5 cm. Density of the whole meteorite is 2.30 kg/m³, which in parts with less vesicular and more concentrated dark minerals and basic materials, it reaches to 2.40 kg/m³. Because of its falling place in Tuyserkhan city, we called it Tuyserkhanite (fig1). Regarding to the size and weight of the meteorite, meteorite crater in ground wasn't considerable. Tuyserkhanite, in respect of chemical compounds and higher amount of silica (SiO₂=93%), is only comparable with some Tektites. It consists of two dark and light ones. The light part is contain of cristobalite, quartz and a little amount of alkali feldspar, accompanying with some minerals such as magnetite, hematite, ilmenite and rutile, and it is enriching of mafic minerals such as olivine, in form of skeletal crystal and pyroxene with radiating spinifex texture. Chemical compounds of dark parts are equal to phenotephrite alkali basic rocks. The existence of vesicular texture and more vesicular vitric veins and veinlets in mafic and dark part are some pronounced features of Tuyserkhanite. Both dark and light parts of Tuyserkhanite with distinct and contrast composition is somewhat similar to immiscible liquids. This phenomenon is resembled of magma crystallization in residual fluid of lunar rocks (low temperature), that it has seen in form of inclusion in many samples which were collected by Apollo 11&12. In main texture of the meteorite, we could see lunar regolith, along with Breccia which is resulted by shock effect. The mineralogy compound of this meteorite is similar to residual rhyolite observed in lunar basic rocks. But in compare to lunar rhyolite residual, Tuyserkhanite is rich-silica rocks relatively poor in alkali feldspar (perhaps due to partial melting of k-feldspar during the shock effects). Isotope activity of ²⁶Al in the meteorite is equal to { 1.8± 2.5 dpm/kg } and activities of Isotope ²⁰⁸Th, ²¹⁴Pb and ⁴⁰K are high in it and are similar to the more terrestrial differentiation rocks. The ratios of Isotope ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr & ⁸⁷Rb/⁸⁶Sr in the whole of the Tuyserkhanite are {0.711625} and {1.257± 1}, But the problem is that tuyserkhanite is fall sample and consist of high temperature minerals. In contrast with the comparative distribution of existing elements in crust, in the main compound of Tuyserkhanite, we see high comparative amounts of Zn, Cr & Se, while Sr & Ba are lower and Zr is comparable with the mean compound of crust. Also in compound of basic vein part of Tuyserkhanite in compare with the mean compound of crustal abundance of Basic rocks (diabase), we see high enriching of both Zn & Pb. The pattern of REE distribution in Tuyserkhanite is similar to the relative pattern of Tektites of South Eastern Asia (fig2). Primary shock effects in Tuyserkhanite indicate the impact between cosmolite that cause, partial melting of primary rocks and melt injection into the fractures and tracks in different direction, vein system in Tuyserkhanite convert to vesicular vitric texture due to high cooling of melting material. According to our study studies, this sample could be derived from high fractionate rhyolite composition which is similar to lunar residual rhyolitic rocks.



Fig 1: Tuyserkante Meteorite

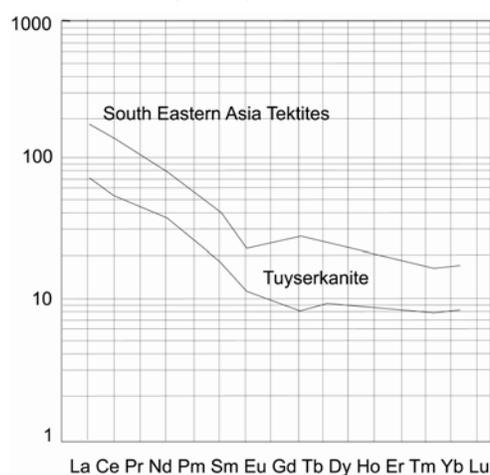


Fig 2 : Comparable REE pattern distribution diagram

REFERENCE:

- 1-Emami M.H., 1985, Study of Tuyserkante meteorite, 4th geosciences conference, Geological Survey of Iran.
- 2-Emami , M.H.,1986, Petrology of Tuyserkante meteorite. Internal report of Geological Survey of Iran,45p
- 3-Emami, M.H. and Monsef, R.,2004 ,New observation on understanding the problem of Tuyserkante meteorite. Internal report of Geological Survey of Iran,25p.
- 4-Hassanzadeh, J.,1998 , What is the Tuyserkante stone, indeed?.Iran journal of Earth science.Vol.6 , No.25
- 5-Hess,P.C.,1989,Origins of igneous rocks.Harvard Univ. Press. Cambridge, Massachusetts,336 p.
- 6-Koeberl.C.,Reimold, W.U., Blum, J.D and Chamberlin, C.P.,1998, Petrology and geochemistry of target rocks from the Bosumtwi impact structure , Ghana, and comparison with Ivory Coast tektites.
- 7-Ryder, G.,1976, Lunar sample 15405: remnant of a KREEP basalt-granite differentiated pluton.Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.,29,255-268.
- 8- Ryder, G.,1975,Large granite xenoliths in an Apollo 16 KREEP matrix. Eos,56,470-471.