

Mineral Chemistry and Thermobarometry of the Volcanic Rocks in Torud, Iran

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Abstract

This paper elucidates the compositional studies on clinopyroxene, plagioclase of basalts to andesitic rocks of Torud area to understand the geotectonic and geothermobarometry conditions. Early Eocene-Oligocene calc-alkaline volcanic rocks are exposed around Torud in the Central Iranian zone. Volcanic rocks consist of basaltic, andesite basalt, Tracyandesite, and andesite. Minerals in the volcanic rocks exhibit degrees of disequilibrium features. Plagioclase as dominant mineral in these rocks generally displays oscillatory zoning. Mineral chemistry studies show that clinopyroxenes in the volcanic rocks are diopside, augite and plotted in medium pressure field. The clinopyroxene composition yields the crystallization temperatures 900° C - 1000° C. The mineral composition indicates that these rocks are formed in a tensional environment.

Keywords

Volcanic Rocks, Mineral Chemistry, Clinopyroxenes, Plagioclase, Torud

1. Introduction

Central Iran is one of the main and most complex geological zones of Iran (Figure 1). The oldest metamorphism (Precambrian) and the youngest semi-active volcanism occurred in this zone. In fact, this region is the oldest micro-continent plate in Iran which has suffered various geological processes. One of the most important and interesting geological events in Iran is the occurrence of orogenic movements comparable with the Katangan in

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Figure 1. Geographical location of the study area of (1:250,000) Troud map (Housh-mandzadeh, Alavi, Right Pvr, 1357) [14].

Gondwanaland and Baikalian in the Eurasian continent. In Central East Iran the Microplate was more or less connected to the southern rim of Eurasia during the Paleozoic and early Mesozoic. A significant separation from Eurasia took place during the Jurassic (Soffel and Forster, 1984) [1]. As a result of Neo-Tethys subduction beneath the Central Iran Microplate (CIM) and following the collision of Iranian and Afro-Arabian plates, various structural zones developed in Iran (Alavi, 2004, Nadimi, 2007, Sengör and Yilmaz, 1981 and Ahmadzadeh, Jahangiri, Lentz and Mojtahedi, 2010) [2]-[5]. However, peak of this subduction-related calc-alkaline magmatic activity is thought to have been in the Eocene age (Stocklin, 1973, Farhoudi, 1978, Emami, 1981, Jahangiri, 2007, Berberian and King, 1981, Dupuy and Dostal, 1984, Azizi and Jahangiri, 2008, Jung, Küsten and Tarkian, M., 1976) [6]-[13]. The area under studied is located in the 115 km south of Damghan city and120 km north southwest of Shahrood with 70 square kilometers. And longitudes of 54°30' and 54°45' and latitudes of 35°15' and 35°30' (Figure 1) are part of Troud 1:250000 scale map of Central Iran micro plate.

2. Geology

Volcanic rocks and volcanic—sedimentary rocks of Middle to Upper Eocene in Torud area are composed of lava alternate with basic-intermediate pyroclastic rocks and they are deposited with the sedimentary layers (siltstone, nummulities bearing limestone) in a shallow marine environment. Combined spectrum of volcanic rocks consisting of basalt, andesite, trachyandesite, andesite and dacite were obtained by fractional crystallization and eventually contamination process, and clinopyroxene, amphibole and plagioclase, are the major minerals in the rocks. Porphyritic to mga-Porphyritic textures microlithic groundmass are the nature of these rocks. These features are along with its alkaline nature, and represent rocks formed in a back-arc tectonic position of the Middle Eocene—upper area.

3. Analytical Methods

In order to achieve the aims of this work, at the first field surveying and sampling was done, then thin and 38 thin polished sections were prepared. About the rocks of area, 5 rocks include andesitic basalt, basaltic 39 andesite and andesite were selected for microprobe analysis and their olivine, clinopyroxene and 40 plagioclase minerals by using XGT-7200 micro-XRF analyzer—Horiba with voltage of 50 kv and a 41 current of 3 mA in Kansaran Binaloud Laboratory were analyzed. A total of 80 points was analyzed 42 which results of this analysis are given in Tables 1-3.

	PL				
	E28-b-1	E28-b-2	E75-An-1	E75-An-2	E65-An-1
Element	Mass (%)				
Na ₂ O	0.01	4.37	6.64	4.09	5.45
Al_2O_3	19.12	23.38	22.18	23.58	22.3
MgO	18.31	0.09	0.49	0.81	0.5
CaO	9.45	12.53	4.02	5.95	5.4
P_2O_5	0	0	0.04	0.01	0.01
Fe ₂ O ₃	5.96	0.77	0.7	0.79	0.7
SiO ₂	45.82	57.57	64.48	63.33	64.5
K ₂ O	0.16	1.07	1.26	1.16	1.2
Cr ₂ O ₃	0	0	0	0	0
Rb ₂ O	0	0.01	0	0.01	0.01
ZrO ₂	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
SO ₃	0.01	0.02	0	0.04	0.04
SrO	0.01	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.09
MnO ₂	0.93	0.06	0.03	0.05	0.03
TiO ₂	0.07	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.04
V_2O_5	0.05	0.02	0	0	0
ZnO	0.06	0	0	0.03	0.03
Total	99.97	100	99.99	99.99	100.31
SiO[2]	1.84	2.31	2.58	2.55	2.57
TiO[2]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Al[2]O[3]	1.02	1.25	1.18	1.27	1.18
Cr	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FeO	0.48	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
MnO	0.08	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.02
MgO	1.47	0.01	0.04	0.02	0.04
CaO	0.76	1.00	0.32	0.48	0.43
Na[2]O	0.00	0.70	1.06	0.66	0.87
K[2]O	0.03	0.17	0.20	0.19	0.19
Total	5.66	5.50	5.46	5.23	5.36
Or	3.269	9.141	67.003	49.726	58.29
Ab	0.204	37.334	20.283	36.17	28.88
An	96.527	53.524	12.714	14.103	12.83

Table 1. EPMA data of representative plagioclases from basalts to andesite composition of Torud area.

Table 2. Type of plagioclase using Spreadsheet.							
Samples	Or	Ab	An	Sum			
E69-BA-1	3.56	0.45	95.9	100			
E69-BA-2	3.67	0.86	95.47	100			
E28-BA-1	3.269	0.204	96.52	100			
E28-BA-2	9.141	37.334	53.52	99.99			
E115-Ba-1	2.75	3.66	93.59	100			
E115-Ba-2	2.87	0.65	96.48	100			
E94-GA-1	57.203	15.352	27.445	100			
E94-GA-2	68.928	16.519	14.553	100			
E75-AN-1	67.003	20.283	12.714	100			
E75-AN-2	49.726	36.17	14.103	99.99			
E65-An-1	58.288	28.877	12.834	100			

Table 3. EPMA data of re	presentative Clinopyro	xene from basalts to	andesite compo	sition of Tor	ud area

СРХ	E38-Ba-1	E38-Ba-2	E38-Ba-3	E6-BA	E12-AN-1	E12-AN-2	E12-AN-3	E21-AN-1	E21-AN-2	E21-AN-3
Element	Mass (%)									
Na ₂ O	0.03	0.21	1.38	1.22	0.1	0.36	0.11	0.25	0.2	0.178
Al ₂ O ₃	2.67	2.25	5.3	5.4	2.19	1.84	1.83	2.23	2.14	1.35
MgO	17.56	14.65	12.31	12.46	14.55	14.22	14.01	14.25	14.8	15.2
CaO	18.46	18.97	16.64	17.2	19.91	18.99	20.06	20.36	21	20.12
P_2O_5	0.51	0	0	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0
Fe ₂ O ₃	8.22	9.85	10.43	11.72	8.7	7.9	8.18	8.5	7.5	7.5
SiO ₂	52.04	53	51.91	51.03	53.51	55.88	55.14	53.25	52.63	55.34
K2O	0.02	0.01	0.26	0.28	0.02	0	0	0.12	0.19	0.14
Cr ₂ O ₃	0	0	0.11	0.11	0	0	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Rb ₂ O	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0
ZrO ₂	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0	0
SO ₃	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.01	0	0.04	0	0
SrO	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0	0	0	0	0
MnO ₂	0.31	0.38	0.33	0.35	0.44	0.42	0.55	0.4	0.5	0.5
TiO ₂	0.51	0.57	0.71	0.75	0.49	0.33	0	0.45	0.44	0.5
V_2O_5	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.08	0	0.04	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.05
ZnO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	100.43	112.31	99.53	100.67	99.99	100.01	99.99	99.95	99.48	100.908
SiO[2]	1.919	1.928	1.966	1.90	2.025	2.039	1.977	0.983	1.01	2.014
TiO[2]	0.014	0.020	0.016	0.02	0.000	0.009	0.014	0.008	0.00	0.011
Al[2]O[3]	0.116	0.232	0.098	0.24	0.079	0.079	0.095	0.066	0.05	0.058
Cr	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.00	0.001	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.001
FeO	0.253	0.324	0.305	0.36	0.251	0.241	0.269	0.305	0.25	0.228
MnO	0.010	0.010	0.012	0.01	0.017	0.013	0.014	0.012	0.02	0.015
MgO	0.966	0.682	0.810	0.69	0.767	0.773	0.801	0.810	0.77	0.825
CaO	0.729	0.662	0.754	0.69	0.789	0.742	0.788	0.754	0.79	0.784
Na[2]O	0.002	0.132	0.015	0.09	0.008	0.025	0.007	0.030	0.02	0.013
K[2]O	0.001	0.012	0.000	0.01	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.00	0.006
Total	4.011	4.006	3.977	4.01	3.938	3.924	3.966	2.969	2.91	3.955
Wo	37.20	36.59	39.71	37.27	42.98	41.24	41.88	42.74	41.24	42.97
En	49.30	37.67	42.68	37.58	41.77	42.97	42.59	41.63	42.97	42.97
Fs	13.39	18.45	16.82	20.37	14.82	14.37	15.14	14.68	14.37	42.97
Ac	0.11	7.28	0.80	4.78	0.43	1.41	0.38	0.95	1.15	0.67

4. Discussion

4.1. Plagioclases

Plagioclase (PLAG) is largely unaltered in rocks from this site and shows a distinct difference in habit related to the type of occurrence and the magmatic affinity of the host lava. It occurs either as phenocrysts or microlites. Plagioclase compositions determined by microprobe are listed in **Table 1**. The overall and range is 97% - 30%, so the majority of plagioclase crystals are oligoclase, andesine, labradorite, by townite and anorthite in composition between basalt and esite to andesite composition. PLAG plotting in the ternary classification diagram Ab-An-Or (**Figure 2**) shows that there may be some overlap between phenocrysts of each magma compositions. The petrographic evidence that the PLAG was the liquidus phase is confirmed by the occurrence of individuals relatively rich in anorthite component (up to 95%). The most An-rich plagioclase phenocrysts occur in the Ba-salt rocks, while the most An-poor crystals are from the Andesitic rocks (**Figure 2**). Of albite, anorthite and al-kali feldspar component is determined by the file Spreadsheet (**Table 2**).

The textural and compositional disequilibrium evidences in plagioclase are important. Sieve texture and zonation of plagioclase is noticeable in these volcanic rocks (Figure 3). This may be interpreted as resulting from either partial dissolution during the magma mixing process (Feeley and Dungan, 1996) [15], or a decompression effect (Nelson and Montana, 1992) [16].

4.2. Clinopyroxene

Clinopyroxene is one of the most abundant mineral phases in the mafic-intermadiate, calc-alkaline rocks from study areas. It occurs as large (up to 4 mm) isolated phenocrysts, glomerocrysts, microphenocrysts, and as a groundmass phase. The compositions of clinopyroxenes are predominantly augite and diopside according to the classification (Morimoto, 1989) [17] (Table 3) (Figure 4). Reverse zoning of phenocrysts can be explained by a number of processes, including: 1) decompression during magma ascent (Kontak, *et al.*, 1984) [18]; 2) more oxidizing conditions during later stages of crystallization (Luhr and Carmicheal, 1980) [19] and (Grunder and Mahood, 1988) [20]; or 3) magma mixing (Nixon and Pearce, 1987) [21]. Sector zoning also occurs in some samples and can be interpreted to have originated from rapid crystal growth (Morrice and Gill, 1986) [22]. Of Anstatie Frosilit, Actinolite and Wollastonite component is determined by the file Spreadsheet (Table 4).

Experimental and petrological studies have demonstrated that partitioning of minor elements (e.g., Ti and Al) in pyroxene is strongly growth-rate dependent, although equilibrium partitioning of Ca, Mg and Fe may not be seriously affected by cooling rates (Gamble and Taylor 1980) [23] and hence increase in Al/Ti ratios even in liquids fractionating plagioclase (Table 2 and Table 3). On the pyroxene classification of (Morimoto, 1988) [17]



Figure 2. Ternary classification diagram of Ab-An-Or for felds pars (Deer, *et al.*, 1997) [25].



Figure 3. Photomicrographs of thin sections of lavas: (a) pyroxen phenocrysts in a andesite (XPL); (b) plagioclase phenocrysts in a basaltic andesite (XPL); (c) clinopyrpxene with microlitic texture in andesite basalt (XPL); (d) amphibole crystals extracted from a cavity filled by calcite in the andesite; (e) the mikrolite rounded olivine and plagioclase with clinopyroxene phenocrysts of the lavas tracks mikrolite andesitic basalt and porphyritic texture create Stream; and (f) plagioclase phenocrysts with reaction and sieve-textured, resorption-generated zone in mixed lavas (XPL).



Figure 4. Composition of clinopyroxenes from Tafresh volcanic rocks are plotted in (a) (Deer, *et al.*, 1997) [25], and (b) the Q-J clinopyroxene classification diagram (Morimoto, 1988) [17].

the pyroxenes plot in the augite field approaching diopside compositions, similar to pyroxenes from other orogenic volcanic rocks (Ewart, 1979) [24] (Figure 4).

4.3. Evaluation of Oxygen Fugacity

Oxygen fugacity plays an important role in changing of the liquidus temperature, melt and crystals composition

Table 4. Type of clinopyroxen using Spreadsheet.								
Samples	Wo	En	Fs	Ac	Sum			
E38-BA-1	37.20	49.30	13.39	0.11	100.00			
E38-BA-2	36.59	37.67	18.45	7.28	100.00			
E38-BA-3	39.71	42.68	16.82	0.80	100.00			
E6-BA-1	37.27	37.58	20.37	4.78	100.00			
E12-AN-1	42.98	41.77	14.82	0.43	100.00			
E12-AN-2	41.24	42.97	14.37	1.41	100.00			
E12-AN-3	41.88	42.59	15.14	0.38	100.00			
E21-An-1	42.74	41.63	14.68	0.95	100.00			
E21-AN-2	43.55	42.71	13.00	0.75	100.00			
E21-AN-3	42.00	44.15	13.18	0.67	100.00			

magmatic processes controlling, crystallization sequence and types of crystallized minerals (France, *et al.*, 2010) [26], (Kilinc, *et al.*, 1983) [27], (Moretti, 2005) [28], (Botcharnikov, *et al.*, 2005) [29]. Using Al^{IV} + Na vs. Al^{IV} + 2Ti + Cr diagram which depend on the amount of 3-valent iron in pyroxenes, we can get oxygen fugacity. The diagram is set based on the aluminum balance in the tetrahedral position with and Cr³⁺ in the octahedral position. The Fe³⁺ in pyroxenes can be displaced 3-valence elements such as Al^{VI}, Ti and Cr in the octahedral position. In the other hand, Fe³⁺ in pyroxenes depends on the amount of Al^{VI} which means it depends on the aluminum balance in tetrahedral and octahedral position. **Figure 5** shows that the pyroxenes which crystallized at high oxygen fugacity, has been situated above the line of Fe³⁺. Furthermore, (Papike and Cameron, 1976) [30] have mentioned the distances of the samples from the Fe³⁺ line and noted that further distances of the samples from this line were indicating more oxygen frugalities in their geological setting. In this diagram some samples are located above the line of Fe³⁺ line and some are below that (**Figure 5**).

5. Tectonic Setting

Pyroxene composition depends on the chemical composition and tectonic setting of the host lava which can be used widely to determine geological setting of the rocks (Schweitzer, *et al.*, 1979) [32], (Kushiro, 1960) [33] (Hout, *et al.*, 2002) [34] (Figure 6). Ti + Cr vs. Ca and TiO₂ vs. Na₂O + CaO diagrams define the pyroxenes which generated by tholeiitic and calc-alkaline magmas from those of alkaline. Plotting data on Ti + Cr vs. Ca and TiO₂ vs. Na₂O + CaO diagrams define the extensional setting of the area when the rocks are formed.

6. Barometers

The ratios AI^{VI}/AI^{IV} , $Ti + AI^{IV}/Si$ and $TiO_2/(Mg + Mg + Fe)$ in pyroxene could be used as a pressure gauge. The diagram AI^{VI}/AI^{IV} samples are in the range of moderate pressures (**Figure 7(a)**). Also, the structure of clinopyroxene, chrome is in equilibrium with AIVi, The ratio of Cr*100/Cr + AI^{VI} pressure is directly related to the pyroxene (Nimis and Taylor, 2000) [36]. The aluminum content in clinopyroxene at high pressure to the Reaction NaAlSi₃O₈ = NaAlSi₂O₆ + SiO₂ and low-pressure reaction is controlled CaAl₂Si₂O₆ = CaAl₂SiO₆ + SiO₂ (Green and Ringwood, 1967) [37]. The first reaction in the depth of about 120 km (containing garnet peridotite), and the second reaction occurs at depths less than 40 km. To determine the depth of the magma reservoir of aluminum in the octahedral positions of tetragonal and clinopyroxene suitable criteria for estimating the water content of the magma and the pressure of the environment is the formation of igneous rocks. With this model, the pyroxene crystallized at a pressure of 5 kbar and water content of the magma is less than 10% (Figure 7(b)).

7. Conclusions

• The composition of feldspars and clinopyroxenes determined by XPMA in Torud intrusive bodies is consistent with the results obtained from determination of extinction angles in microscopic thin-sections.



Figure 5. (a) TiO₂ vs. Al₂O₃ binary diagram after (Le Bas, 1962) [31], for pyroxene; (b) SiO₂ vs. Al₂O₃ binary diagram after (Le Bas, 1962) for pyroxene; (c) Al^{VI} + Na vs. Al^{IV} + 2Ti + Cr diagram for Oxygen fugacity estimation of the clinopyroxenes of in volcanic rocks (Schweitzer, *et al.*, 1979) [32].



Figure 6. (a) TiO₂-Na₂O + CaO diagram; (b) Ti + Cr-Ca diagram (Leterrier, *et al.*, 1982) [35]; (c) diagram Tectonic setting (Hout, *et al.*, 2002) [34]; (d) diagram Tectonic setting (Lebas, 1962) [31]. Abbrivation: O—Volcanic arc Basalt; D—MORB and other tholeiites of extentional setting; I—Island arc tholeiitic; C—Calc-alkaline basalt.

- Mineral types and P-T conditions of magma during crystallization can be calculated using Excel spreadsheet programs.
- The composition of clinopyroxenes, magmatic series and tectonic environments can be determined using XPMA data.



Figure 7. (a) AI^{VI} vs. AI^{IV} diagram (Aoki and Shiba, 1973) [39], for pressure estimation of the clinopyroxenes of in volcanic rocks. HP = High-pressure field, MP = Medium-pressure field, LP = Low-pressure field. (b) diagram (Helz, 1973) [38], for pressure estimation of the clinopyroxenes of in volcanic rocks.

- The compositions of clinopyroxenes are predominantly augite and diopside according to the classification of Morimoto in 1989.
- According to the distribution of aluminum in clinopyroxenes, these minerals have been formed at <5 Kb pressure and water content between 5 to 10 percent.
- The mineral compositions of the rocks display an alkaline nature which indicates a tensional setting.

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