

PALYNOLOGICAL EVIDENCE OF OLIGOCENE :A MISSING LINK IN THE PALAEOGENE STRATIGRAPHY OF NORTH WESTERN HIMALAYAN REGION(H.P.) INDIA .

RAKESH KAPOOR , and R. Y .SINGH

A palynofloral assemblage dominated by the ribbed spores of water fern belonging to family Parkeriaceae represented by the form genus *Striatrilete* spp. (10 species) was discovered from the lower part of the Dharamsala Formation in the strato type. The palynoflora bears close similarities with the *Striatriletes* spp. Abundance Zone of Singh et al (1986) established in the north-east India, (Assam & Meghalaya) demarcating the Upper Oligocene time interval in the Barail sediments, their homotaxial equivalents. On the global scale the majority elements of the *Magnastiatites howardii*, ZONE of Germmaard et. al (1968) characterising the Oligocene sediments in the tropical south-east Asian region, shared a common appearance in both the assemblages. Thus establishing the first uncontroversial evidence in support of the existence of Oligocene in the PALAEOGENE STRATIGRAPHY OF THE north-western Himalayan region. The fact hitherto remained elusive to the geoscientists for the unproductive nature of the most part of the strata. a palynological correlation, palaeo-climatological reconstruction and deposition environment for these sediments has also been deduced.