

## **PALEOBIOGEOGRAPHIC RELATIONS BETWEEN EMSIAN OSTRACOD AND TRILOBITE ASSOCIATIONS FROM THE ALTAI-SAYAN FOLDED AREA (SOUTH OF WEST SIBERIA, RUSSIA) AND WESTERN GONDWANA**

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Devonian faunas from the Altai-Sayan Folded Area, as whole, have no close relations with faunas from southern hemisphere. The only Emsian time slice is characterized by certain Gondwanan elements in ostracod and trilobite associations. The most affinities are revealed between silicified ornamented ostracods. They belong to so-called "Thuringer Okotyp". Diverse ostracod associations of this type from south of West Siberia, Germany (Thuringia), France (Montagne Noire) and Spain (Asturias) have some common species: *Ctenoloculina longivelum* K.Zagora, *Berounella spinosa* (Blum.), *Tricornina robusticerata* Blum., *Praepilatina praepilata* (Pol.) as well as many close related species among such genera as *Acanthoscapha*, *Amphissites*, *Bairdiocypris*, *Kirkbyella*, *Parabolbina*, *Saumella*, *Ulrichia* and others.

The Emsian West Siberan trilobite association includes "Probolium" *altaicus* Khalfin. Morphology of this dalmanitid species has clear affinity with general structures of carapaces of such genera as *Neoprobolium*, *Synphoroides*, *Synphoria*, *Odontochile*, representatives of which are widely distributed in Western Gondwana and North America. These facts could support an existence of open sea-ways during Emsian times along the southern margin of the Siberian continent, Western Gondwana and its fragments. Such conditions were provided by certain short-term disposition of crustal blocks.