

North Central Iran Salt Diapirs

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Intracontinental Great Kavir basin of Iran mostly is filled by Tertiary clastic-evaporite sediments which in its north Salt Diapir Province about 54 domes have cropped out.

Diapiric salts are mainly attributed to Eocene - Oligocene ages, though, younger salts in Mid. Miocene beds have also distinguished.

Main starts of salt-movements should be younger than Oligocene, because they have influenced the deposition of overlying Qom Formation; but have been continued from Miocene to Present.

Few Pelecypoda and determination of Miliolidae rich samples collected from the relevant beds concluded that the Caprocks may be Late Oligocene in age or probably Qom Formation equivalent and Lower Miocene.

Field observations concluded that salt rocks are not quite contorted as Hormoz Salt Plugs and their original bedding underlying gyprocks of the Capstones could be seen in some localities.

Faults and fractures have dominated as main factors in the emergence of domes. Prominent different shape and elevation of diapirs are evidences for unctemporaneous stress phases and their variant orientations.

As a principle, domes are located in the axis rotation of the structural trends from NW-SE to NE-SW which have formed corresponding rhomb horst - graben systems, whereas, essential ancient N-S trends are usually covered by thick Tertiary deposits. Moreover, rotations caused from asymmetric compressional stress phases, not only have created opportunities for production of evaporites and their associations in the past, but have controled Diapirism durations during younger time intervals.

Similar conditions/locations can be recognized in the Zagros salt diapir province, south Iran.