

Karstic bauxite of Iraq

Petrology, geochemistry and origin

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A large number of Karsts are present on the surfaces of the dolomitic rocks of Ubaid tormation (L.Jurassic) in the Western Desert. Within the Karst deposits three horizons representing two sedimentary cycles are distinguished: A(top) the overburden, B and C are made up of four sedimentary facies: bauxitic clay (top), bauxite, sandstone and claystone. The bauxite is mainly oolitic and pisolitic. It is made up of boehemite and gibbsite. Al_2O_3 content is 42.5 to 60.9 wt% . source rocks and bauxitization process is discussed.