

## **LATE PALAEOZOIC STRIKE-SLIP FAULTS AROUND JUNGGAR BASIN, XINJIANG, NW CHINA.**

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The north Xinjiang is a key region for the geological understanding of central Asia. This area was mainly built during Palaeozoic accretion events and underwent subsequent strike-slip faulting. Our structural studies in the Tianshan and in the Altaï mountains provide new information about Late Palaeozoic and Early Mesozoic strike-slip tectonics events. In the Tianshan, the main east-west ductile shear zones are dextral, as indicated by field evidence and quartz c-axis analysis in the central and east part of the orogen. This dextral deformation occurred in an eastward decreasing greenschist metamorphic gradient as indicated by biotite recrystallization and typical quartz microfabric. Few kinematics indicators show that an earlier sinistral movement might have affected the eastern Tianshan. Undeformed Mid Permian sandstones overlie unconformably the shear zones. In the spur of Altaï mountains, the north-eastern margin of the Junggar basin is formed of two major ductile shear zones trending NW-SE. First, the Erqishi zone is the Chinese extension of the Late Palaeozoic Kazakhstan sinistral shear zone of Irtysh. Mylonitized volcano-clastic rocks with sinistral s and d-type porphyroclasts illustrate this strike-slip shear zone. Second, the north-west area of Fuyun is a complex folded ductile shear zone which shows a sinistral deformation in amphibolite facies. This zone, composed of orthogneisses, amphibolites and meta-tuffs, could be a north-westward thrust zone (some foliation with south-east low dip were observed) with development of NW-SE A-type folds and L-type tectonics. Those results help to understand how the central Asia was divided by late strike-slip fault during the Palaeozoic-Mesozoic transition.