

Proterozoic crustal growth along north-western margin of the Indian peninsular shield.

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Continental growth along the north-western margin of the Indian peninsular shield during the Proterozoic period took place through accretion of several sedimentary sequences together with their igneous counter parts around a nucleus of the Archaean basement - the Banded Gneissic Complex. The sequences include Aravalli (Palaeoproterozoic), Delhi (Mesoproterozoic), Vindhyan (Mesoproterozoic to Neoproterozoic), and Marwar Supergroups, Sirohi Group (Neoproterozoic), Malani suite of rocks (Neoproterozoic) and several granitic plutons ranging from Palaeoproterozoic to Neoproterozoic in age and the Malani suite of rocks (Neoproterozoic). The sequences suggest that repeated cratonization and orogenic movements i.e. formation of linear rift basins, accumulation of sediments in them and their folding have taken place along a particular continental margin during the Palaeoproterozoic (Aravalli sedimentation and folding), the Mesoproterozoic (Delhi sedimentation and folding) and the Neoproterozoic (Sirohi sedimentation, Malani volcanism, and deformation and sedimentation of the Vindhyan and the Marwar Supergroups of rocks) period. Repetition of these events along the same continental margin for a pretty long time spanning from the Palaeoproterozoic to the Neoproterozoic hints towards some new concepts about the nature of continental growth during the Proterozoic time.