

# **LATERITIC MINERAL DEPOSITS OF KUMTA PLATEAU, NORTH KANARA DISTRICT, KARNATAKA, INDIA.**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Laterites are obiquitious in Kumta plateau which is falling in mid land topography of western ghat region, rich in alumina, show much variations in elemental behaviours and different stages of transformations of lateritic minerals. These lateritic minerals have been investigated by XRD, IR and SEM. The Principal lateritic mineral assemblages are Al-bearing minerals (gibbsite, boehmite), Fe-bearing minerals (hematite, goethite), clay minerals (Kaolinite, illite), Ti-bearing mineral (anatase) and relic minerals. The investigation of these lateritic minerals and physical environmental characteristic of these deposits reveals that the lateritic minerals are of In-situ origin derived only from granitic gneiss during the process of lateritization.