

THE GEOLOGY AND GOLD MINERALISATION OF WONDALLI BLOCK, HUTTI-MASKI GREENSTONE BELT, KARNATAKA, INDIA.

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The Wondalli Gold Deposit forms a part of the Hutti-Maski Greenstone belt and is situated about 14 kms. east of world-class Hutti lode gold deposit. The area had witnessed the ancient and modern mining activities. There is a profusion of ancient mines. The mines were worked by Hyderabad Deccan Company during 1896 to 1901 through five shafts and about 465 kgs. of gold was produced. Some of the lodes had yielded as much as 200 g/t gold. In all the three mines Viz: Lord Harris, west and well shafts were developed with very little amount of stoping, the deepest working being 213 mtr. from surface.

The main litho-units of the area are amphibolites, acid volcanics, carbonphyllite and veins of granodiorite and quartz. The gold mineralisation is mainly hosted by metabasic volcanic rocks and one lode has been found in association with metacid volcanic rock and carbonphyllite. The mineralisation is in altered chlorite-biotite-schist with veins & vein-lets of quartz-carbonates and disseminations of arsenopyrite, pyrite, pyrrhotite & chalcopyrite, at a places in the mineralised zone gold occurs in nodular & platy forms. Generally the ore shoots are en-echelon along the strike & dip, at a places lodes shows the branching & merging nature with the presence of cought up patches of barren rock.

The synthesis of the exploration data points a very optimistic scenario for Wondalli area.