

THE STRUCTURE OF THE WESTERN FOLDBELT IN PAKISTAN DERIVED FROM LANDSAT IMAGERY

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LANDSAT images have been used to analyse the Western Foldbelt in Pakistan from the Arabian Gulf to the Himalayan Foreland, including the Salt-Range and Potwar Plateau. There are three distinctive zones discernible. From east to west there is a zone composed of the sedimentary cover of the Indian Plate, followed in the west by the remnants of the former Tethys and called the Bela-Waziristan-Ophiolite-Zone, and further to the geosyncline of the Makran-Khojak-Pishin Flysch Zone, accreted to the southern margin of the Afghan Block. The structural analysis of the foldbelt from satellite imagery clearly revealed that the Indian platform sediments underwent a regionally variable deformation during the Indian-Eurasian collision. This observation led to the identification of three different basement blocks covered by sediments with three different deformation styles: The Hazara-Block in the east, the Sulaiman-Block in the centre and the Khuzdar-Block in the west, adjacent to the Bela-Waziristan-Ophiolite-Zone. All blocks are apparently separated by deep reaching, N-S trending basement faults, along which the Indian Plate was dissected during the progressing plate-collision. New data on young uplift and denudation indicate rates exceeding 1 cm/a in the Sulaiman-Block.