

Accretionary terranes of the central segment of the Mediterranean mobil belt

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Within the central segment of the Mediterranean belt one can distinguish displaced terranes which mostly are composite. These are: the Greater Caucasian, the Black Sea-Centraltranscaucasian, the Baiburt-Sevanian, the Anatolian and the Iran-Afghan terranes. During the Paleozoic, Mesozoic and early Cenozoic these terranes underwent horizontal displacement in different directions within the oceanic area of Proto-, Paleo-, Meso- and Neotethys what is confirmed by paleomagnetic data.

Composite terranes often include complexes which were formed in different geodynamic conditions (island arc, intraarc rift, marginal sea, microcontinent etc.).

As a result of early Cimmerian, Bathonian (Adygean), Austrian (mid-Cretaceous), Subhercynian (mid-Senonian) and Pyrenean (late Eocene) orogenic phases they were consecutively joined to the Eurasian continent. Later, in Late Alpine time, in the postcollision stage, the above-named accretionary terranes underwent intense deformation and formed contemporary structure of the Mediterranean mobil belt. At present they are limited by ophiolite sutures of different age.

It should be noted that in many places of the Mediterranean belt remain fragments of ophiolite terranes which represent overthrust relics of the oceanic crust of small and large oceanic basins. They are overthrust both on the continental frame of the Mediterranean mobile belt and on the various terranes within them.