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NOTES

DIAMONDS IN OBDUCTED OCEANIC CRUST KIMBERLITES

At the 6th International Conference on the Geology of Middle East held during 20-22 March 2006 at Rotana Hotel, Al-Ain, UAE, S Nasir, A Alharthy, A A Al-Lazki and S Al Khirbash of Sultan Qaboos University, Sultanate of Oman reported the first record of allochthonous kimberlites and carbaonatites in Eastern Oman

The kimberlites and carbonatites crop out in the Batain plains of northeast Oman as tectonically transported Cretaceous age oceanic crust units that predate the Semail ophiolites These Group I kimberlites have been attributed to the mantle upwelling (ocean island) associated with the Reunion mantle plume

Discovery of these kimberlite-bearing tectonically transported oceanic lithosphere has significant implications for diamond exploration and may explain the presence of diamond either in kimberlite or alluvial deposits (glacially transported?) in continental regions that lack the thick lithospheric mantle

The author has attended the above conference and presented a paper on the Malani Supercontinent· The Middle East Connection during Late Proterozoic.

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