

**CORRELATION OF THE TRIASSIC STRATIGRAPHY BETWEEN SIMAO AND
LAMPANG-PHRAE BASINS : IMPLICATIONS FOR THE TECTONOPALEO GEOGRAPHY
OF SOUTHEAST ASIA**

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Abstract

The correlation of the tectonopaleogeographic units of northern Thailand with those of western Yunnan (P.R.China) is still little understood mainly because of the paucity of geological data from the Union of Myanmar and the P.R. of Laos. In this contribution, based on our extensive fieldwork in northern Thailand and western Yunnan and detailed stratigraphic and paleontological studies, we propose that the Triassic Simao-Mojiang basin can be correlated with the Triassic Lampang-Phrae basin. The stratigraphic sequence equivalent to the southern Lancangjiang sub-basin has not been identified in the Lampang-Phrae basin of northern Thailand. The Simao-Mojiang and the Lampang-Phrae basins should belong to the same tectonopaleogeographic unit during the Triassic. The orogenic belt east of this paleogeographic unit includes Nan-Uttaradit and Ailaoshan sutures. In northern Thailand, the “Shan-Thai Block” can be divided into the Sukhothai, the Chiang Mai, and the Shan

terrane from east to west respectively. According to our tectonopaleogeographic correlation, the Sukhothai terrane which includes the Lampang-Phrae basin should belong to a part of the Cathaysian domain, not to the Gondwana domain. The geosuture corresponding to the Changning-Menglian suture should be located west of the Lampang-Phrae basin.

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