



Mineralogical, Geochemical and Radiometric studies on the granitic rocks of Wadi Sabbagh area, South Sinai, Egypt.

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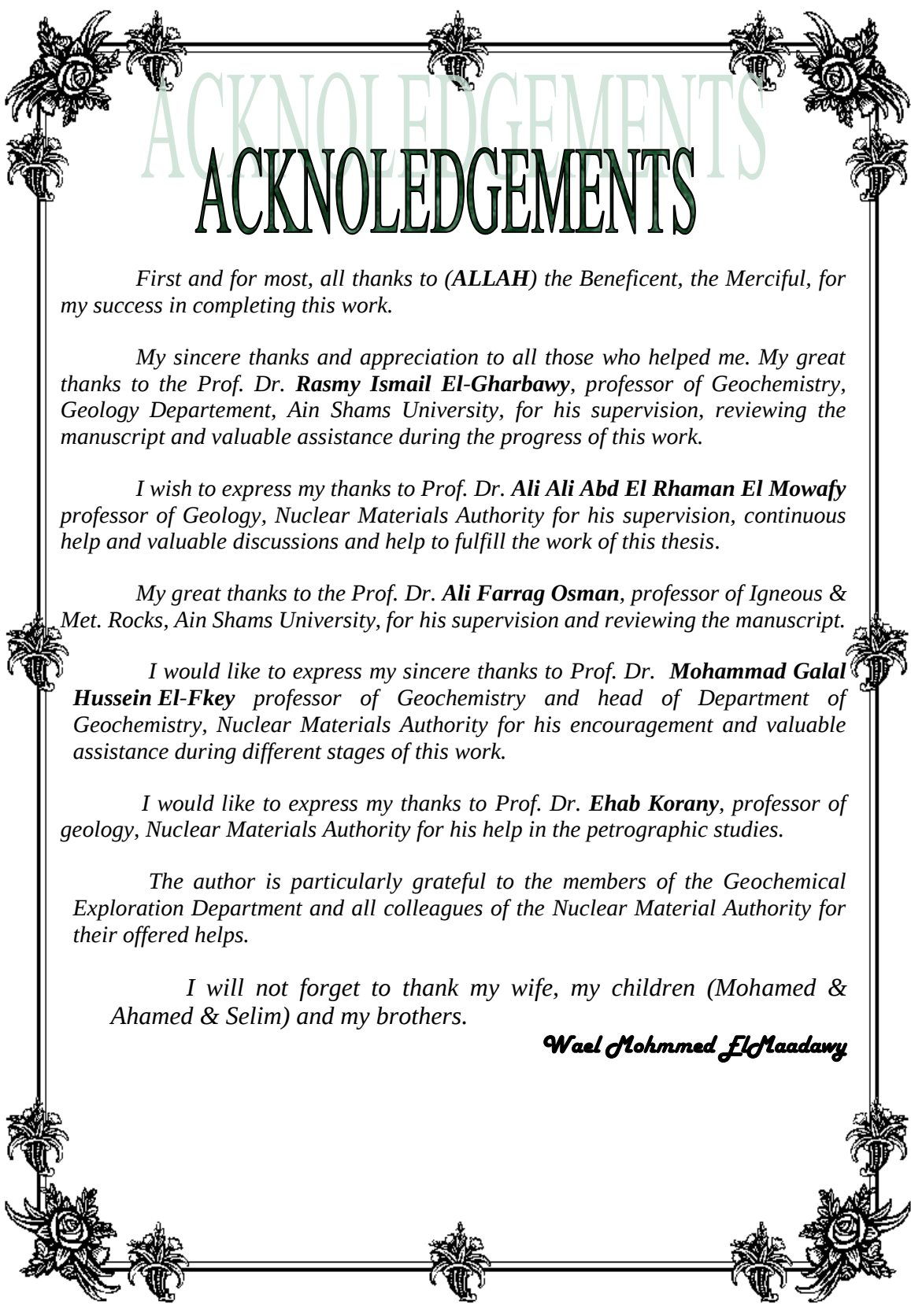
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*To
Memory
Of
My Parents
And my brother
Ahmed*



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ABSTRACT

The main aim of the present work is to throw the lights on the mineralogical, petrographical, geochemical and radiometric characters of the granitic rocks and associated pegmatites at Wadi Sabbagh area, south Sinai, Egypt.

The field observations and relationships between the rock varieties revealed that the studied area is chiefly comprised by four rock units. These rock units can be arranged according to the following sequences, starting from the oldest to the youngest; as migmatites, metasediments, older (syn-collision) granites, younger (post-collision) granites as well as pegmatites and dykes.

Based on the petrographic investigations, the older granites comprise tonalite and granodiorite, while the younger granites are classified as monzogranite, syenogranite and alkaline granite.

Geochemically, the investigated older granites are of calc-alkaline, I-type granites originated at depth ≥ 30 Km and formed in a volcanic arc setting, whereas the younger granites and accompanying pegmatites have calc-alkaline, alkaline to peralkaline features, A-type granites originated at depth 20-30 Km and belong to the within plate tectonic setting. The altered granites in the study area are represented by sericitic, hematitized and albitized granite.

The average of the REE of the studied granitic rocks is 210.3 ppm for tonalite, 233.3 ppm for granodiorite and 247.3 ppm for monzogranites which is below the average REE of the world wide granites (250-270 ppm), whereas syenogranite (270.6 ppm) and alkaline granites (278.1 ppm) averages are relatively higher than the world wide granites.

The field radiometric survey of the study area recorded radioactive anomalies in certain pegmatites and altered monzogranites. The radiometric measurements using γ -ray spectrometer (NaI-Detector) showed that the eU reaching up to 155 ppm in the anomalous pegmatite samples and the eTh content reaches up to 257 ppm, whereas the Ra

content reaches up to 148 ppm. The eU, eTh and Ra reach up to 305, 382 and 127 ppm, respectively in the highly anomalous monzogranites. The mineralogical investigations using XRD besides ESEM techniques revealed that, the radioactivity of the anomalous pegmatites are attributed to the existence of thorite, uranothorite, zircon, fluorite, columbite, samarskite, monazite, xenotime and allanite. The radioactivity of the altered monzogranites are chiefly attributed to existence of thorite, uranothorite, zircon and fluorite.

KEY WORDS: Wadi sabbagh, older , younger granites, pegmatites, anomalies, radioactivity.

CONTENTS	Page No.
List of Figures.....	v
List of Tables.....	xiii
List of Plates.....	xvi
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. General statements.....	1
1.2. Location and accessibility.....	5
1.3. Climate and Water Supply.....	7
1.4. Previous works.....	7
1.4. a. Previous works on the granitoids rocks of E.D. of Egypt.....	7
1.4. b. Previous works on the granitoids rocks of Sinai.....	10
1.4. c. Previous works on the granitoids of Gabal Sabbagh area, Sinai.....	17
1.5. Aim and scope of the study.....	19
1.6. Methodology.....	19
1.6. 1. Review of the previous work.....	19
1.6. 2. Field work.....	20
1.6. 3. Petrography.....	20
1.6. 4. Geochemistry.....	20
1.6. 5. Radiometric investigations.....	21
1.6. 6. Mineralogic investigations.....	21
CHAPTER II GEOLOGICAL SETTING	22
2.1. Metamorphic rocks.....	24
2.1.1 Gneisses and migmatites.....	24
2.1.2 Metasediments.....	24
2.2 Older granites.....	26
2.3 Younger granites.....	26
2.3. 1. Monzogranites.....	28

2.3. 2. Syenogranites.....	28
2.3. 3. Alkaline granites.....	31
2.4. Pegmatites.....	31
2.5. Dykes.....	35
CHAPTER III PETROGRAPHY	37
3.1. The older granites.....	37
3.1. 1.Tonalite.....	37
3.1. 2.Granodiorite.....	45
3.2. The younger granites.....	47
3.2. 1.Monzogranites.....	47
3.2.2.Syenogranites.....	53
3.2. 3.Alkaline granites.....	57
3.3. Pegmatites.....	63
3.4. Dykes.....	66
3. 4.1. Acidic dykes.....	66
3.4.2. Intermediate dykes.....	72
3.4.3. Basic dykes.....	73
CHAPTER IV GEOCHEMISTRY	74
4.1. General Statement.....	74
4.2. Geochemistry of granitic Rocks.....	74
4.2.1. General Geochemical characteristics	74
4.2.1. 1. Major oxides.....	74
4.2.1. 2. Trace elements.....	83
4.2.1. 3. CIPW normative values.....	90
4.2.1. 4. Rare earth elements, (REES).....	91
4.2.1. 5. Some petrogenetic elemental ratios.....	93
4.2.2. Geochemical parameters.....	95
4.2.3. Geochemical Classification and Nomenclature.....	99
4.2.4. Magma Type.....	101
4.2.5. Tectonic Setting.....	105
4.3. Geochemistry of Anomalous pegmatites.....	111

4.4. Geochemistry of altered younger granites.....	117
CHAPTER V RADIOMETRIC INVESTIGATIONS	132
5.1. General Statement.....	132
5.2. Field Radiometric Survey.....	133
5.3. Radiometric Characteristics.....	133
5.3.1. Radionuclides Distribution in non-anomalous rocks.....	134
5.3.1.1. Gneisses and migmatites.....	134
5.3.1.2. Metasediments.....	135
5.3.1.3. Older granites.....	136
5.3.1.4. Younger granites.....	137
5.3.1.5. Dykes.....	139
5.4. Radiometric Anomalies.....	141
5.4.1. Anomalous pegmatites.....	141
5.4.2. Anomalies monzogranites.....	142
5.5. Radioactive Equilibrium.....	144
5.6. Uranium Mobilization.....	146
5.6.1. Criteria for Mobilization.....	148
5.6.1.1. eU / eTh Ratio.....	148
5.6.1.2. eU/Ra Ratio.....	148
5.6.1.3. Radionuclides Variation Diagrams.....	148
5.6.2. Type and Amount of Uranium Mobilization.....	151
5.7. Radio-elements Favorability.....	153
5.7.1. Uranium Favorable Areas.....	153
5.7.2. Thorium Favorable Areas.....	154
5.7.3. Potassium Favorable Areas.....	154
5.7.4. F-Parameter.....	155
CHAPTER VI MINERALOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS	156
6.1. General Statement.....	156
6.2. Methodology.....	156
6.3. Minerals identification.....	156
6.3.1. Radioactive Minerals.....	157
6.3.1.1. Thorite.....	157

6.3.1.2. Uranothorite.....	157
6.3.2. Radioelements-bearing minerals.....	160
6.3.2.1. Zircon.....	160
6.3.2.2. Fluorite.....	164
6.3.2.3. Columbite.....	166
6.3.2.4. Samarskite.....	167
6.3.2.5. Monazite.....	168
6.3.2.6. Xenotime.....	169
6.3.2.7. Allanite.....	170
6.3.3. Non-radioactive minerals.....	171
6.3.3.1. Pyrite.....	171
6.3.3.2. Goethite.....	171
6.3.3.3. Hematite.....	172
6.3.3.4. Magnetite.....	172
6.3.3.5. Ilmenite.....	173
6.3.3.6. Rutile.....	173
CHAPTER VII SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	176
REFERENCES.....	183
ARABIC SUMMARY.....	

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. No.		Page
1	The Arabian–Nubian Shield (ANS), showing its relationship to adjacent areas of older continental crust, after (Drury and de Souza Filho, 1998).....	4
2	Schematic illustration of stages in the development of ANS, after (Stern and Johnson, 2010).....	4
3	Simplified geologic map of the Sinai Peninsula, Egypt (after Shimron, 1980). Inset is a location map of the study area.....	6
4	Geological sketch map of NE Africa showing the juvenile Arabian–Nubian Shield and the Saharan metacraton, after (Liégeois and Stern, 2010).....	8
5	Sketch map of post-collisional calc-alkaline and alkaline peralkaline plutonic rocks in the Sinai Peninsula (Egypt) and southern Negev. Compiled on the basis of the Geological map of Sinai 1: 500,000 (Eyal et al., 1980).....	12
6	Geologic map of Wadi Sabbagh area, South Sinai, Egypt.....	23
7	Dissected alternations of melanocratic (M) and leucocratic (L) bands parallel to the foliation planes in migmatites, Wadi Qasab.....	25
8	Ptygmatic structure of migmatite, Wadi Qenaia, looking SE.....	25
9	Intrusive contact between metasediments (M.S) and the younger granites (Y.G) showing Intensive folding and crenulations, up stream of Wadi Qenaia, looking SE.....	27
10	Mafic Microgranular enclaves in older granites with intrusive sharp contact, Wadi Qasab, looking SE.....	27

Fig. No.		Page
11	Intersected Joints and exfoliation in younger granites, Wadi Abou Sommar, looking SE.....	29
12	Monzogranites show boulder weathering, Wadi Abou Sommar, looking SE.....	29
13	Cavernous structure in monzogranites , Wadi Lethi, looking SE.....	30
14	Sharp contact between monzogranites (M) and syenogranites (S), Wadi Abou Sommar, looking SE.....	30
15	Pegmatite pockets invading syenogranites, Wadi Umm Adawi, looking NE.....	32
16	Extensively fractured, highly jointed and weathered syenogranites, Wadi Yahmid, looking NE.....	32
17	Sharp contact between monzogranites (M) and alkaline granites (A), Wadi Lethi, looking NE.....	33
18	Alkaline granites extruded in syenogranites with sharp contact, Wadi Umm Adawi, looking NE.....	33
19	Zoned pegmatite pockets (Peg) invading syenogranites (SY), Wadi Umm Adawi, Looking SE.....	34
20	Zoned pegmatite pocket (Peg) in syenogranites (SY), Wadi Yahmid, Looking NE.....	34
21	Rhyolite (Rh) and basaltic dykes (An) trending NNS-SSW cutting across the younger granites (Y.G), Wadi Yahmid. Looking NNE.....	36
22	Andesitic dykes trending NS-SW cutting across the younger granites, Wadi Lethi. Looking NE.....	36
23	QAP diagram for the studied granitic rocks, Wadi Sabbagh area, after Streckeisen (1976).....	42

Fig. No.		Page
24	Harker diagrams of SiO ₂ versus major oxides for the studied granitic rocks.....	84
25	SiO ₂ versus trace elements variation diagrams for the studied granitic rocks.....	86
26	Chondrite normalized REE patterns of the study older granites, Normalization after Anders and Grevesse (1989).....	92
27	Chondrite normalized REE patterns of the study younger granites, Normalization after Anders and Grevesse (1989).....	92
28	D.I versus some elemental ratios for the studied granitic rocks.....	97
29	Felsic index versus Mafic index for the studied granitic rocks, after Nockolds (1954).....	98
30	R1-R2 binary diagram for the studied granitic rocks, after De La Roche et al. (1980).....	99
31	P versus Q binary diagram for the studied granitic rocks, after Debon and La Fort (1983).....	99
32	Normative Ab-An-Or diagram, (Barker, 1979).....	100
33	(Na ₂ O + K ₂ O) versus SiO ₂ (TAS) diagram of Middlemost (1994) for the studied granitic rocks.....	100
34	F index versus SiO ₂ diagram of Frost* and Frost (2008) for the studied granitic rocks.....	102
35	(Na ₂ O+K ₂ O – CaO) MALI versus SiO ₂ diagram for the studied granitic rocks, after frost et al. (2001).....	102
36	ANK versus ACNK diagram for the studied granitic rocks, after Maniar and Piccoli (1989).....	103

Fig. No.		Page
37	Calc-alkaline and alkaline granite suites diagram for the studied granitic rocks. The diagram after Greenberg (1981) and the fields after Rogers and Greenberg (1981).....	103
38	Agpaitic index (AI) vs. SiO ₂ diagram showing the alkaline and peraluminous affinity of the studied granitic rocks, after Bailey and McDonald (1970).....	104
39	AFM diagram for the studied granitic rocks, after Irvine and Baragar (1971). The extensional and compressional trends, after Petro et al. (1979).....	104
40	Rb (ppm) versus Y + Nb (ppm) for the studied granitic rocks, after Pearce, et al. (1984). Post-collisional granite field, after Pearce (1996).....	106
41	Rb (ppm) versus Y (ppm) for the studied granitic rocks, after Pearce, et al. (1984).....	106
42	SiO ₂ (wt %) versus Al ₂ O ₃ (wt %) plot for the studied granitic rocks, after Maniar and Piccoli (1989).....	107
43	R1–R2 diagram for the studied granitic rocks, after Batchelor and Bowden (1985). Multicationic parameters devised by De La Roche et al. (1980).....	107
44	Whalen et al. (1987) discriminated (10.000 Ga/Al) diagrams.....	109
45	Na ₂ O (wt %) versus K ₂ O (wt %) diagram for the studied granitic rocks after White and Chappell (1973). T-type field after Liew et al. (1989).....	110
46	Rb (ppm) versus Sr (ppm) diagram for the studied granitic rocks after Condie (1973).....	110