

127, 17 27, 17 (20) 77, 17 (20









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AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF SCIENCE

AN ATTEMPT TO EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION USING TECTONO-MAGNETIC STUDIES

A Thesis Submitted To The Geophysical Department, Faculty Of Science, Ain Shams University

for **DOCTOR OF PHYLOSOPHY**

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CAIRO 1997

P.F. F.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the first place, praise be to GOD and gratitude is due to almighty GOD who ided and guided me to bring forth this thesis to light. Thanks GOD.

I would like to express my great indebtedness and deep gratefulness to Prof. Dr. A. S. A. Abu El-Ata, Professor of Geophysics, Geophysics Department, Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University, for kind supervision, for doing his best in solving all the problems which I'd faced during the long run of research work, the interpretation and guidance in the preparation of this thesis.

My heartfelt gratitude to **Prof. Dr. N. M. Abu Ashour**, Professor of Geophysics and Head of Geophysics Department, Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University, for his offering the facilities for this work.

I have great pleasure in expressing my deep gratitude to Prof. Dr. A. G. Hussain, Professor of Geophysics and Head of Geomagnetism and Geoelectric Department, National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics, Helwan, Cairo, who suggested this point of research, for his joint supervision, valuable scientific discussion, comments and his continuous and effective moral assistance which encourage me to complite this work.

I would like to express my deep thanks to Prof. Dr. A. Schult, Professor of Geophysics, Institute of Geophysics, Ludwig Maximillians University, Munich, Germany for his kind supervision, for doing his best in solving all the problems which I'd faced during the long run of research work, the interpretation and guidance in the preparation of this thesis valuable scientific discussion, comments and his continuous moral assistance.

The gratitude also extended to **Prof. Dr. F. M. Ahmed**, Professor of Geophysics and Head of Geomagnetic laboratory, **N.R.I.A.G**, Helwan, Cairo, for his kindly offered facilities to finishing this work.

Special thanks are also to **Prof. Dr. A. GH. Hasanain**, Professor of Geophysics and Head of Geoelectric laboratory, **N.R.I.A.G**, Helwan, Cairo, for his kindly cooperation in this work

My heartfelt gratitude to the staff members of the institute of geophysics, Munch, Germany, Prof. Dr. H. Soffel, Prof. Dr. Petersen, Prof. Dr. E. Schmidbauer, Dr. J. Pohl, Dr. F. Bachtadse, Dr. F. Heider and Dr. V. Hoffman and Dr. U. Koerner for their valuable scientific discussion, comments and his continuous moral assistance.

The author express his thanks and gratitude to the staff members of the Geomagnetism Laboratory, Dr. M. El Said, Dr. H. Odah, Mr. T. Abd EL-lattif, Mr. A. Bakr and Mr Mekawy for their assistance in the field.

Special thanks are also to Mr. S. Saleh of the Seismological laboratory, for his assistance in this thesis.

My thanks for **DAAD** organization for its financial support for completing this thesis.

Finally, from all my heart, I feels indebted to My Family for their great help and permanent care.

ABSTRACT

Ahmed Saleh Mohamed Moustafa. An Attempt to Earthquake Prediction using Tectono-Magnetic Studies. A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University for the degree of Ph. D. of Science in Geophysics, 1997.

The area located in the northern part of Egypt has been studied using the observation and interpretation of tectonomagnetic field changes. Here, a strong magnetic formation within a basaltic rock was chosen as a geomagnetic stress sensor.

First, laboratory measurements are starting by measuring or detecting the magnetic rock properties (natural remanent magnetization (NRM), bulck susceptibility (K), Koenigsbuerger factor (Q factor), declination angle (D) and inclination angle (I) for 200 representative oriented samples collected from the investigated areas (Qatrani, Abu Roash, Abu Zaabal and Wadi Abu Tereifya).

The curie temperatures were measured by the curie balance. The Ms (T) curves for Qatrani, Abu Zaabal and Abu Roash of curie points 510°± 40° C indicated that the present magnetic minerals are Ti-poor titanomagnetites. The curie points of Wadi Abu Tereifya basalt are 300°± 50° and 550°C. The cooling curves showed higher magnetization values than the heating curves. This is characteristic of samples containing titanomaghemite, which inverts to magnetite and ilmenite during the heating process.

The magnetic hystersis properties were observed with a PAR vibration magnetometer, in which the hystersis parameters of the basaltic samples indicate that, most of the magnetite grains of the samples are in the PSD to MD size range.

The microscopic studies of Qatrani, Abu Roash and Abu Zaabal showed that, the volume percentage of the magnetic minerals consists of 2.1, 1.7 and 1 %, respectively of the basalt and the big crystals of magnetite and some ilmenite of fine lamellae are parallel to certain direction. The volume percentage

of magnetite phase of Wadi Abu Tereifyia basalt ranges from 2.8 % to 7.9 % as small crystals of homogenous distribution.

Secondly, measurement apparatus for the stress change of the initial magnetization has been constructed. Some modifications were added to the instrument to measure the remanent and induced magnetizations parallel and perpendicular to the applied stress axis. Uniaxial stress was applied via a long rod using a hydraulic press situated outside the magnetometer. This system makes it possible to change the load while observing the magnetization. This enables the observation of the dynamic response of the magnetization versus stress.

Morover, high stress produces an increase in the magnetization perpendicular to the applied stress axis and a decreaese parallel to the stress axis. The relation between magnetization and stress was determined for the basaltic rocks of the four locations. By using vector addition, the variations of the total magnetization versus stress per 100 bars have been determined for the basaltic bodies of the studied areas. The stress sensitivity of Qatrani, Abu Roash, Abu Zaabal and Wadi Abu Tereifya are 4.8, 2, 4.5 and 9.4 mA/m change at 100 bars, respectively.

The differential total magnetic intensity field with time was observed through 160 magnetic observartion points set up in may 1994 on both sites of the basaltic sheet at Qatrani and 6 October City. Magnetic surveys have been repeated exactly at the same observation points every 6 months until may 1996. To reduce the time dependent variations of the regional magnetic field, the measurements at the observation points were carried out simultaneously with recordings at the base station located within the investigated area.

The changes of the magnetic field between the observation periods were was interpreted as tectono-magnetic field changes. These observed temporal variations of the magneization can be interpreted as stress loading parallel to the regional stress field in the order 70 ± 30 bar, according to the stress sensitivity of the precursor basalt.

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