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Alkaline and carbonatite metasomatism of lithospheric mantle beneath SW Poland- Pilchowice case

Mateusz Ćwiek (1), Magdalena Matusiak- Małek (1), Jacek Puziewicz (1), and Theodoros Ntaflos (2) (1) University of Wroclaw, (2) University of Vienna

The Cenozoic basanites from Pilchowice (SW Poland) form volcanic plug located exactly at Intra-Sudetic Fault. These basanites belong to the Polish part of the Central European Volcanic Province and contain numerous, usually small (<10 cm) peridotitic mantle xenoliths.

Their protogranular texture (olivine up to 8 mm, common kink bands) is obliterated by

intense fissuring and fragmentation of the grains. The peridotites have harzburgitic composition (Ol 87- 86%, Opx 13- 9%, Cpx 3-0%, Spl 8-0%). Fragmentated and sometimes serpentinized olivines (Fo 90.2- 91.5) contains 0.35- 0.45 wt. % NiO. The orthopyroxene Al content varies from 0.02 to 0.12 atoms pfu and mg# from 0.915-0.920 . One xenolith contains clinopyroxene with abundant spongy rims. Primary clinopyroxene is very rare and Al-enriched (mg# 0.92, 0.17 atoms of Al pfu). The spinel is Cr enriched (cr# 0.46-0.68) and is usually associated with clinopyroxene.

Orthopyroxene is depleted in REE compared to primitive mantle. Orthopyroxene from majority of xenoliths are strongly LREE depleted ((La/Lu)N = 0.03-0.21).

All studied peridotites contain clinopyroxene which is enriched (2 to 70 times) in REE compared to primitive mantle. Clinopyroxene patterns show relative low HREE concentration ((La/Lu)N = 4.75-19.99), moreover patterns from three samples are convex-upward shaped with inflection point on Nd ((La/Nd)N = 0.36-0.96).

Clinopyroxene- poor lithology, high cr# in spinel and LREE- depleted nature of orthopyroxene suggest that upper mantle sampled by Pilchowice basanite is a restite after partial melting. The LREE enriched composition of clinopyroxene suggest that peridotites were metasomatised. Clinopyroxene convex- upward shaped REE plots with inflection point on Nd is typical for metasomatism related with alkaline melt. On the other hand very low ratios of Ti/ Eu (24.8- 738.9) and high (La/ Yb)N (3.5- 17) ratio (Coltorti, 1999) suggest that the metasomatic agent was either a mixture of alkaline silicate melt with carbonatite or peridotite reaction with two independent agents is recorded.

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Coltorti, M., Bonadiman, C., Hinton, R. W., Siena, F. & Upton, B. G. J. (1999). Carbonatite metasomatism of the oceanic upper mantle: Evidence from clinopyroxenes and glasses in ultramafic xenoliths of Grande Comore, Indian Ocean. Journal of Petrology 40, 133-165.