



3rd Palaeontological Virtual Congress

Book of Abstracts

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REDATING THE LOWER TALCHIR FORMATION (WARDHA BASIN, CENTRAL INDIA) TO THE UPPER PENNSYLVANIAN BY PALYNOMORPHS

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The Talchir Formation corresponds to the Gondwana (Permian–Carboniferous) Sequence in India and its age assessed herein in the light of palynostratigraphic record associated with radiometric dating generated in Gondwana. The lower part of this formation in the Well 131 drilled at Penganga area of Wardha Valley Coalfield (Maharashtra State, central India) analysed. Two assemblages were demarcated based on the stratigraphic distribution of spores (23 taxa), pollen grains (35 taxa), and phytoplankton. Palynoassociation I (PI) recognized in the two basal core samples yielded few *Punctatisporites* spores and monosaccate pollen grains. Palynoassociation II (PII) delimited in the overlying three core samples characterized by more diversified and abundant spores and pollen grains than in the other two overlying samples. Several guide taxa such as, *Concavissimsporites grumulus*, *Converrucosisporites confluens*, *Cyclogranisporites gondwanensis*, *Verrucosisporites andersonii*, *Latusipollenites quadrisaccatus*, *Marsupipollenites striatus*, *Pakhapites fusus*, *Striatoabieites multistriatus*, *Vittatina subsaccata*, *Vittatina vittifera* are consistent with palynozones radiometrically constrained to the latest Pennsylvanian–early Cisuralian in Argentina, Brazil, Africa, and Australia. Therefore, we propose a Kasimovian to Ghezelian–Asselian age for the PI and PII associations of the Talchir Formation. A correlation with the *Potonieisporites neglectus* and *Plicatipollenites gondwanensis* Zones of Tiwari & Tripathi, respectively significantly improves the stratigraphic correlations of the Indian palynozones in Gondwana.