Chemical composition of biotite as a guide to petrogenesis of granitic rocks from Maherabad, Dehnow, Gheshlagh, Khajehmourad and Najmabad, Iran

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Abstract: Biotite, the dominant ferromagnesian mineral in granitoid rocks, can be used to discriminate tectonic setting, magma types and magnetite-ilmenite series. In this study, we analyzed biotite with an electron microprobe (wavelength dispersion) from different granitoids. Intrusive rocks from Maherabad porphyry Cu-Au prospecting are meta-aluminous. Biotite from Maherabad are Mg-rich type and the ratio of $\text{Fe}/(\text{Fe+Mg})$ is 0.286-0.309. Maherabad biotite compositions fall in the field of (sub-alkaline) calc-alkaline orogenic suites. Based on High TiO$_2$ and low Al$_2$O$_3$ in biotites, Maherabad also belongs to magnetite series. Intrusive rocks from Najmabad, Dehnow, Gheshlagh and Khajehmourad (NDGK) are classified as belonging to the ilmenite-series of reduced S-type granitoids. Biotite from NDGK areas are Fe-rich and the Fe/(Fe+Mg) ratio in Najmabad is 0.491-0.511, in Dehnow-Kuhsangi 0.583-0.675, Gheshlagh 0.56-0.58, and Khajehmourad 0.705-0.720. respectively NDGK biotite compositions fall in the field of peraluminous granite (P) suites (S-type). Based on low TiO$_2$ and high Al$_2$O$_3$ in biotites, Najmabad, Dehnow and Gheslagh biotite belong to ilmenite series.

Keywords: Biotite, Najmabad, Maherabad, Khajehmourad, susceptibility.

Introduction

Biotite from five plutons (Maherabad, Najmabad, Gheslagh, Dehnow and Khajehmourad) are selected for this study (Fig. 1). At the early stages of mica studies, evaluations were mainly focused on the chemical composition of different types of host rocks. For example, Heinrich [1] used the mica composition to investigate the variation with rock types from granites to diorites. Later, Foster [2] observed that there were important overlaps from different rock types when octahedral mica composition plotted on ternary $\text{Al}^{VI}+\text{Fe}^{III}+\text{Ti}^{IV}$-Fe$^{II}$+Mn$^{II}$-Mg$^{II}$ diagram. In those studies, there was no emphasis on the rock names for mica composition. For that reason, Neilson and Haynes [3] proposed a plot comparable to Foster’s [2] biotite composition.

In recent years, Nachit [4] used mica composition in granitoids to relate magma types in which biotite crystallized. In Allot vs. Mg classification diagram, the nature of granitoid magmas grouped into four types such as peraluminous (P), calcalkaline (C), subalkaline (SA), and alkaline–peralkaline (A–PA). Abdel-Rahman [5] gave discrimination diagrams between alkaline (A), calc-alkaline (C), and peraluminous (P) granite suites based on the biotite chemistry. Rieder et al., [6] has written an article regarding the nomenclature of the micas. Yavuz [7] wrote a program for estimating Li from electron-microprobe mica analyses and classifying trioctahedral micas in terms of composition and octahedral site occupancy. Yavuz [8] has written a program for evaluating and plotting microprobe analyses of biotite from barren and mineralized magmatic suites.

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Analytical Techniques

All elemental analyses of biotites were obtained from polished thin sections using a JEOL JXA-8900R electron microprobe at the University of Colorado Boulder (USA). Element determinations (Si, Al, Fe, Mg, Ti, Mn, Total Ba, Na, K, F and Cl) were carried out using a beam size of 3 µm, an accelerating potential voltage of 15 kV, a probe current of 15 nA, and a counting time of 20 s for each element analyzed. Natural biotite, amphibole, sandine, tugtupite, and willemite standards were used in the analytical procedure for F, Si, Al, Fe, Mg, Ti, Cl, Ba, and Mn. Matrix effects were corrected using the ZAF software provided by JEOL. The accuracy of the reported values for the analyses is 1%-5% in 1s. Depending on the abundance of the element. A microprobe analysis is defined as the arithmetic mean of five spot analyses of a biotite grain. The OH values are calculated on the basis of 11 oxygen formula units. The X and X values Mg Fe are determined from cation fractions and are defined as Mg/Fe + Mg and (Fe +AlVI)/(Mg +Fe + AlVI), respectively (Zhu and Sverjensky, 1992). The X, X, and X are the mole fractions of F, Cl, F, Cl. OH and OH in the hydroxyl.

Fig 1. Map shows location of the study areas.
Petrography & Whole rock geochemistry
Maherabad
The Maherabad porphyry copper-gold prospect area is located about 70 km SW of Birjand city (center of South Khorasan Province), eastern Iran. It is located in the eastern part of Lut block. Fifteen intrusive rocks (Upper Eocene) range in composition from diorite to monzonite have been distinguished [9, 10].

Based on mineralogy and high values of magnetic susceptibility [(300 to 2000) × 10⁻⁵ SI], these intrusive rocks are classified as belonging to the magnetite-series of I-type granitoids. Chemically, they are met-aluminous (Fig. 2), high-K calc-alkaline to shoshonite intrusive rocks which were formed in island arc setting. These rocks are characterized by average of SiO₂ > 59 wt%, Al₂O₃ > 10 wt%, MgO < 2 wt%, Na₂O > 3 wt%, Sr > 870 ppm, Y < 18 ppm, Yb < 1.90 ppm, Sr/Y > 55, moderate LREE, relatively low HREE and enrichment LILE (Sr, Cs, Rb, K and Ba) relative to HFSE (Nb, Ta, Ti, Hf and Zr). They are chemically similar to some adakites, but their chemical signatures differ in some ways from normal adakites, including higher K₂O contents and K₂O/Na₂O ratios and lower Mg#, (La/Yb)N and (Ce/Yb)N in Maherabad rocks [9, 10]. Maherabad intrusive rocks are the first K-rich adakites that can be related to subduction zone.

Najmabad
Najmabad is located about 15 Km southeast of Gonabad. An east-west trending biotite granodiorite porphyry pluton, 26×4 km² in size, intruded Jurassic slates and quartzites. The granodiorite has porphyry texture with 35 to 55 percent phenocrysts. The mineral content, based on the phenocrysts, are: 15%–20% plagioclase, 10%–15% K-feldspar, 10%–15% quartz, 5%–10% biotite and less than 2% accessory phases. Based on mineralogy and low values of magnetic susceptibility [(5 to 11) × 10⁻⁵ SI], this granodiorite is classified as belonging to the ilmenite-series of reduced S-type granitoids. Chemically it is met-aluminous (Fig. 2), with relative enrichment in LILE = Rb, Ba, Zr, Th, Hf, K and LREE, and depletion in Sr, P, Ti and HREE. Based on REE content and low (La/Yb)N = 7-11.5, this pluton originated from melting of continental crust during the Jurassic-Cretaceous orogeny that caused regional metamorphism [11].

Dehnow Kuhsangi
The Dehnow Kuhsangi quartz diorite to granodiorite is situated within the Binaloud Mountains, south and west of Mashhad city in northeastern Iran, between Longitude 59°23'55" to 59°33'41"E and Latitude 36°16'19" to 36°22'55"N. Its composition ranges from hornblende biotite quartz diorite to granodiorite. The quartz diorite contains 35%–50% plagioclase, 10%–14% K-feldspar, 9%–14% quartz, 15%–11% biotite, 2% hornblende and less than 2% accessory phases. Plagioclase shows minor weak zoning [12]. Quartz is in anhedral form and is found as interstitial grains. Accessory minerals are apatite, zircon, and ilmenite. Xenoliths within the hornblende biotite diorite mainly represent the country rocks such as slates, meta-peridotite, and meta-gabbro.

Based on mineralogy and low values of magnetic susceptibility [(5 to 20) × 10⁻⁵ SI], this diorite to granodiorite are classified as belonging to the ilmenite-series of reduced S-type granitoids. Chemically, the Dehnow diorite and Kuhsangi granodiorite are moderately per-aluminous (Fig. 2) S-type plutons with (La/Yb)N = 7 to 22 and no, or only small, negative Eu anomalies (Eu/Eu* = 0.55 to 1.1) [12].

Khajehmourad
The Khajehmourad leucogranite batholith is located in northeastern Iran and it lies between Longitude 59°33′ to 59°42′ E and Latitude 36°08′ to 36°13′ N. The biotite-muscovite leucogranite batholith is an NW/SE-elongated body with maximum dimensions of ~17 km length and ~7 km width. The batholith comprises of different Zones: The border zone is mainly a tourmaline bearing aplite granite, but the bulk of the batholith is made up of biotite-muscovite leucogranite. Pegmatite dykes, which are locally very abundant, are the youngest intrusive rocks and cutting the biotite-muscovite leucogranite [13].

The biotite-muscovite leucogranite has fine-grained equigranular texture and is poorly foliated. It contains 35-38 % quartz, 25-29 % K-feldspar, 27-32 % albite, 2.5-5 % muscovite and 1.5-2.5 % biotite. Common accessory minerals include tourmaline, garnet, apatite and zircon [13].
Chemically, biotite muscovite leucogranite and aplite granite are per-aluminous S-type pluton (Fig. 2). Magnetic susceptibility of biotite muscovite leucogranite and aplite granite are between than \([0 \text{ to } 5] \times 10^{-5} \) SI and the ratio of ferric to ferrous ratio \(< 0.35\), therefore they are classified as belonging to the ilmenite-series (reduced type) (Fig. 3). The low field strength elements (LFSE) (Rb, Ba and Sr) content of biotite-muscovite leucogranite are in general high. Leucogranite has the highest Rb \(\approx 235-261\) ppm. The Rb/Sr is in the range of 1.07 to 1.27 in biotite muscovite leucogranite. The Ba content of biotite-muscovite leucogranite ranges from 550 to 708 ppm. The total REEs content of biotite muscovite leucogranite is between TREEs = 130-176 and aplite is very low is Total REEs = 50.79. They have small negative Eu anomalies (Eu/Eu* = 0.52 to 0.76) [13].

**Gheshlagh**

Monzogranite is exposed in the southeastern plutonic belt of Mashhad. It lies between Longitude 59° 35' to 59° 51' E and Latitude 36° to 36° 10'. It contains 32 to 40 %, quartz, 32 to 42 %, K-feldspar, 8 to 17 %, plagioclase, 5 to 10 %, biotite and minor muscovite [14]. Accessories phases are zircon and apatite. Monzogranite has a coarse grained texture with typically coarse pink K-feldspar phenocrysts (2-3 cm long).

Chemically, monzogranite is moderately per-aluminous S-type granitoids (Fig. 2). It has low values of magnetic susceptibility \([(5 \text{ to } 11] \times 10^{-5} \) SI] therefore it is classified as belonging to the ilmenite-series of reduced type granitoids (Fig. 3)[14]. Rock/orogenic normalized spidergrams of monzogranite show well defined negative anomalies for Ta, Hf, Y and Yb. Rb, Th, Nb, Sm and Ce show positive anomalies. Rb shows the highest positive anomaly. High Rb indicates that the magma originated from a source with high feldspar and most of the feldspar was melted. Monzogranite contains high K₂O, with high potassium feldspar. Th content of this rock is very high.

Monzogranite is characterized by strong light rare earth element (LREE) enrichment and low heavy REE (HREE). All samples have very small negative Eu anomalies (Eu/Eu* = 0.62 to 0.88). Total REE content of monzogranite ranges from 212-481 ppm [14].

**Magnetic susceptibility**

Magnetic susceptibility is the degree of magnetization of a material in response to an applied magnetic field. Granitic rocks were classified into magnetite-series and ilmenite-series by Ishihara [16]. Ishihara [16] recognized that in Japan there is a distinct spatial distribution of granitic rocks that contain magnetite coexisting with ilmenite and those that contain ilmenite as the only Fe–Ti oxide. He recognized that the magnetite-series granitoids are relatively oxidized whereas the ilmenite-series granitoids are relatively reduced. Granites show magnetic susceptibility of > 3.0 \(\times 10^{-5} \) (SI units) are classified as belonging to the magnetite-series (Fig. 3) [17].

The magnetic susceptibility (MS) measurements of intrusive rocks from the study
areas were carried out in the field on smooth rock surfaces using hand-held GM–S2 magnetic susceptibility meter. Magnetic susceptibility data are plotted in Figure 3, Maherabad with high magnetic susceptibility is plotted in the field of Magnetite series (Fig. 3), while Najmabad, Dehnow, Khajehmourd and Gheslagh with low magnetic susceptibility [(5 to 20) \times 10^{-5} \text{SI}], are plotted in the field of Ilmenite series (Fig. 3).

**Biotite mineral chemistry**

Biotite from five plutons (Maherabad, Najmabad, Khajehmourd, Gheslagh, and Dehnow), with different chemical and physical properties, were analyzed with electron-microprobe. Representative chemical analyses of biotite are given in Table (1a-d).

Using the spreadsheet excel program designed by Tindle and Webb [18], structural formulae of biotite were calculated on the basis of 24 (O, OH, Cl, F) and 8 cations (Table 1a-d). According to the nomenclature of Deer [19], the biotite of the Maherabad pluton is classified biotite of Mg–rich (phlogopite) and Dehnow, Gheslagh and Najmabad are as biotite (Annite- siderophyllic) (Fig. 4). The Fe/(Fe+Mg) ratio in Maherabad biotite is 0.286-0.309, in Najmabad 0.491-0.511, in Dehnow–Kuhsangi 0.583-0.675, Gheslagh 0.56-0.58, and Khajehmourd 0.705-0.720 respectively.

Foster [2] suggested discrimination diagrams on the basis of Mg, Fe$^{+2}$ +Mn and Al$^{+3}$+Fe$^{+3}$+Ti (Fig. 5). He classified biotite into: siderophyllites, Fe-biotites, Mg-biotites and phlogophite (Fig. 5). Based on this classification, Khajehmourd is plotted in field of siderophyllites, Gheslagh and Dehnow in the field of Fe-biotites, Najmabad in the field of Mg-biotite and Maherabad in the field on phlogophite (Fig. 5).

**Fig 3.** Based on Magnetic susceptibility, Najmabad, Dehnow-Kuhsangi, Gheslagh and Khajehmourd are belonging to Ilmenite series and Maherabad is magnetite series.

**Fig 4.** Classification of biotite based on Deer (1992).
Fig 5. Plot of biotite from the study areas on Foster's [2] classification diagram.

Table 1a. Representative electron-microprobe analyses of biotite from Maherabad-Khopik Cu-Au porphyry prospecting areas.

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### Table 1b. Representative electron-microprobe analyses of biotite from Dehnow-Kuhsangi Areas

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Luhr et al. 84 | 915.5       | 900.8       | 827.6        | 896.5       | 885.0       | 879.0       | 888.3       | 900.8       | 827.6       | 896.5       | 885.0       | 879.0       | 888.3       |

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<td>Lahr et al. 84</td>
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Table 1c. Representative electron-microprobe analyses of biotite from Gheshladh and Khajehmourad.
Table 1d. Representative electron-microprobe analyses of biotite from Najmabad.

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<tr>
<td>MnO</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101.22 101.43 101.22 101.19 100.47 100.96 101.58</td>
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Nachit [4] used mica composition in granitoids to relate magma types in which biotite crystallized. In Al(tot) vs. Mg classification diagram, the nature of granitoid magmas was grouped into four types such as peraluminous, calc-alkaline, sub-alkaline, and alkali–peralkaline (Fig. 6). Biotite from Gheshtlagh, Dehnow, Khajehmourad, and Najmabad are plotted in the field of peraluminous but Maherabad is plotted in the field of sub-alkaline (Fig. 6). The negative correlation between Al and Mg observed among biotite compositions is usually accounted for a number of substitutions operating between four end-members (Fig. 6).

Abdel-Raham [5, 20] suggested MgO-Al₂O₃ diagram of biotite chemistry for discriminating between alkaline magma (A), peraluminous magma (P) (including S-type), and calc-alkaline magma (C) (Fig. 7). Khajehmourad, Najmabad, Gheshtlagh and Dehnow biotite compositions fall in the field of
peraluminous granite (P) suites (S-type) in the biotite discrimination diagrams of Abdel-Rahman [5] (Fig. 7). This is consistent with the aluminum saturation index of intrusive rocks (Fig. 2). Maherabad biotite compositions fall in the field of calc-alkaline orogenic suites (Fig. 7). This is consistent with the aluminum saturation index of intrusive rocks (Fig. 2).

Abdel-Rahman [5] suggested discrimination diagrams on the basis of major elements (FeO, MgO, Al$_2$O$_3$) of biotites in igneous rocks crystallized from A, P and C magma types. Based on his classification; Biotite from Khajehmourad, Najmabat, Gheshlagh and Dehnow belong to peraluminous granite (P) suites (S-type) (Fig. 8). Biotite from Maherabad belongs to calc-alkaline orogenic suites (Fig. 8).

Biotites from Maherabad are calc-alkaline orogenic suites (field C) and are moderately enriched in Mg (with an average FeO*/MgO 0.85, near phlogopite), while Najmabad, Gheshlagh, Khajehmourd and Dehnow are peraluminous (including S-type) suites (field P) and are siderophyllic in composition and have an FeO*/MgO ratio of 2-3.
Fig 8. Distribution of micas on Abdel-Rahman’s [5] ternary \( \text{MgO–FeOtot–Al}_2\text{O}_3 \) tectonomagmatic discrimination diagram.

Biotites from Maherabad has high TiO\(_2\) and low Al\(_2\)O\(_3\) but Najmabad, Dehnow and Gheslagh have low TiO\(_2\) and high Al\(_2\)O\(_3\) (Fig. 9). The Ti content of biotites is believed to be dependent on the temperature of crystallization of biotite and the oxygen fugacity (fO\(_2\)) [21] and possibly on the volatile content of the magma. A low Ti content correlates with low temperature of crystallization and low oxygen fugacity [22].

Maherabad with high magnetic susceptibility [\( > 500 \times 10^5 \text{SI} \)], belong to Magnetite series (Fig. 3). Based on High TiO\(_2\) and low Al\(_2\)O\(_3\) in biotites, Maherabad is also belonging to magnetite series (Fig. 9). Najmabad, Dehnow, Khajehmourad and Gheslagh with low magnetic susceptibility [\( 5 \text{ to } 20 \times 10^5 \text{SI} \)], they are plotted in the field of ilmenite series (Fig. 3). Based on low TiO\(_2\) and high Al\(_2\)O\(_3\) in biotites, Najmabad, Dehnow and Gheslagh are also belonging to ilmenite series (Fig. 9).

**Fig 9.** plot of TiO\(_2\) v.s Al\(_2\)O\(_3\).

**Discussion & Conclusions**

The processes responsible for chemical variations in the biotites are primary magmatic. Gathering evidence from studies of natural systems [23, 24, 25] and experimental systems [26, 27] suggest that compositions of biotites are very sensitive to prevailing magmatic physico-chemical conditions, especially oxygen fugacity (fO\(_2\)). The availability of oxygen leads to early crystallization of iron-rich amphibole and iron oxides (typically magnetite), which in turn precludes the build-up of iron in calc-alkaline melts from which a moderately Mg-rich biotite crystallizes. Biotites from Maherabad are Mg-rich and the ratio of Fe/(Fe+Mg) is 0.286-0.309. Based on high TiO\(_2\), low Al\(_2\)O\(_3\), and low FeO, these biotites were crystallized from calc-alkaline orogenic granitoids magma belonging to magnetite series. Biotite from Gheslagh, Dehnow, Khajehmourad and Najmabad are Fe-rich, low TiO\(_2\), high Al\(_2\)O\(_3\), and low MgO. These biotites were crystallized from peraluminous S-type granitoids magma belonging to ilmenite series.

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**References**