ACTA PALAEONTOLOGICA POLONICA

Late Ordovician brachiopods from the Selety river basin, north Central Kazakhstan

Igor F. Nikitin, Leonid E. Popov, and Michael G. Bassett
Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 48 (1), 2003: 39-54

A medium-diversity fauna of late Ordovician rhynchonelliformean brachiopods occurs in the Tauken Formation (upper Caradoc-lowermost Ashgill) of north Central Kazakhstan. It demonstrates close similarity to the approximately contemporaneous faunas characteristic of shallow clastic shelves (BA 2-3) of the Chingiz and Chu-Ili ranges (both in Kazakhstan) and South China, but is characterized by a high proportion of endemic new species, including *Tetraphalerella bestiubensis* sp. nov., *Glyptomena kaskolica* sp. nov., *Dinorthis taukensis* sp. nov., *Rhynchotrema seletensis* sp. nov., and *Nalivkinia (Pronalivkinia) zvontsovi* sp. nov. The abundance of Rhynchotrema is somewhat unusual by comparison with faunas from other Kazakhstanian terranes, where rhynchonellides of the family Ancistrorhynchidae are usually dominant in near-shore biofacies. The occurrence of the atrypides Sulcatospira and early Nalivkinia demonstrates a clear biogeographical linkage with approximately contemporaneous faunas of South China.

Key words: Brachiopoda, Upper Ordovician, taxonomy, biogeography, Kazakhstan.

Igor F. Nikitin [oigronina@nursat.kz], Institute of Geological Sciences, Kabanbai–Batyr st. 69a, Almaty 480100, Kazakhstan; Leonid E. Popov [Leonid.Popov@nmgw.ac.uk] and Michael G. Bassett [Mike.Bassett@nmgw.ac.uk], Department of Geology, National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP, Wales, U.K.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (for details please see creativecommons.org), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Full text (1,168.7 kB)