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Maastrichtian-Paleocene Foraminifera from NW Nigeria and their paleogeography

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Maastrichtian and Paleocene beds of southeastern Iullemmeden basin contain rich but poorly preserved foraminiferal'microfaunas. Twelve species are described, none of which is new. Although foraminiferal species were noted in these sediments by other workers, no previous attempt has been made to figure and describe them. The Paleocene benthic foraminifera assemblage of the Saharan epicontinental sea that flooded the Iullemmeden Basin has many taxa in common with the European Boreal and Meridional epicontinental faunas. The ancient Tethys Sea served as a corridor for this faunal exchange. However, the benthic foraminiferal microfaunas of the Iullemmeden Basin are very distinct from those of the Southern Nigerian Sedimentary Basin. This suggests that the two basins were not directly connected during the Paleocene.

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