

New Discoveries in the late Neoproterozoic of Iran

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During late 2015 new discoveries of Neoproterozoic metazoans were made in the Bafq Region of Central Iran, a joint Iranian-Australian expedition, hosted by the Iranian Geological Survey and the International Geological Program Project IGCP587. Previous to the newly discovered material supposed Vendian/Ediacaran metazoans including *Permoria*, *Beltanella*, and forms similar to *Dickinsonia*, *Spriggina* and *Medusites* [1], a medusa imprint - *Persimedusites chahgazensis* [2], along with *Charnia* [3], had been reported, but not well documented. Other ediacaran/vendian-aged material was also reported in the Elborz Mountains by [4]. The new material discovered in 2015 both questions the identity of the previously described material and adds new taxa to the list of late Precambrian metazoans previously reported, increasing the biodiversity for this region and reinterpreting other taxa based on these new discoveries.

References

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- [4] Hamdi, M et al. (1989) Geol Mag 126 (3):283-289



Figure 1. New material from the Bafq region of Iran similar to *Persimedusites* reported in the past as a medusa imprint.