THE PANAFRICAN OROGENY

CHARACTERISTICS THAT HELP IN IDENTIFYING ANCIENT SUTURE ZONES AND COLLISION ZONES

- (1) Local Preservation (LP) of rifted (Atlantic-type) margin rocks
- (2) LP of ophiolite fragments
- (3) LP of fragments of island and Andean arc rocks and arc roots. Often representative of the Altaid style of orogenic development.
- (4) LP of "Ultra-High Pressure" metamorphic rocks
- (5) Regional presevation of igneous and metamorphic rocks with reset isotopic systems in reactivated blocks
- (6) LP of Deformed Alkaline rocks and Carbonatites (DARCS)
- (7) Paired positive and negative Bouguer gravity anomalies
- (8) Post-collisional granites
- (9) Foreland basins
- (10) Evidence of tectonic escape and post-collisional rifts.
- (11) Evidence of gravitational collapse and post-collisional rifts.
- (12) Evidence indicative of the former continuity of suture zones.
- (13)Occurrence of "impactogenal" rifts
- (14)Juxtaposition of reactivated and unreactivated blocks (in the absence of any of the other characteristics) in a "cryptic suture zone"



DR - DEMERARA RISE G - GRANULITE GM - GOIAS MASSIF GN - GUINEA NOSE JU - JEBEL UWEINAT M - MADAGASCAR MOZ - MOZAMBIQUE RIDGE MP - MALVINAS PLATEAU PCR - POST COLLISIONAL RIFTS RDP - RIO DE LA PLATA S - SRI LANKA SY - SEYCHELLES

How Africa was assembled

3 Cratons. Oceans closed at Margins Reactivated > 1 Ga continental Crust. Altaid style.

Rifts formed at breakup in Congo And W.Africa. Wide thrust-belts Marked them at collision.

Amazon rift formed at collision. As an "impactogen".

Foreland basins (line ornament on cratons) formed as oceans Closed and after collision.

Florida and parts of E.coast were Left in NOAM when Pangea Broke up

G symbols are granulites. They May mark where continents were Thick after collision.

Newly assembled Gondwana ca. 550 Ma



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