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REVIEW ARTICLE



CONTRIBUTION TO THE PALEONTOLOGY, STRATIGRAPHY AND PALEO-BIOGEOGRAPHY OF SOME DIAGNOSTIC PAKISTANIAN PALEOGENE FORAMINIFER IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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ARTICLE DETAILS	ABSTRACT
Article History:	ABSTRACT
Received 01 February 2019 Accepted 29 March 2019 Available online 29 March 2019	This paper deals with new information on paleontology and stratigraphy of eighteen Pakistanian Paleogene foraminiferal species and its paleogeographic distribution in the Tethyan Middle East. These species are: Tritaxia elongata, T. limbata, Siphogaudryina daviesi, S. elongata, Textularia sp. (=T. farafraensis, T. punjabensis, Pseudoclavulina pseudohumilis (=P.farafraensis), Globanomalina ovalis (=G. luxorensis, Fursenkoina dubia, Sakhiella nammalensis, Valvulineria nammalensis, Discorbis globiformis, Cibicidoides grandis, C. nammalensis, Rectoeponides dubia (=Karreria fallax), Ornatanomalina hafeezi and Pararotalia khirthari. One of the illustrated species is believed to be new: Nonionella haquei Anan, n. sp. Detailed study of rich and well preserved Pakistanian taxa were introduced by Haque made it possible to correlate them with those previously identified species in the coeval sequence in different Middle East and other Tethyan localities. KEYWORDS Paleontology, stratigraphy, paleogeography, foraminifera, Paleogene, Pakistan, Egypt, Tethys, Middle East

1. INTRODUCTION

The present study aims at throwing light on eighteen Pakistanian diagnostic Paleogene foraminiferal species and its paleogeographic distribution in the Tethyian Middle East and Europe (Figure 1): Asia (India, Pakistan, Iran, UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan), North Africa (Egypt, Tunisia, Nigeria) and Europe (France, Italy). An additional

informations about the paleogeography of these species are also presented in other Northern and Southern Tethyan localities (Figure 2) [1-7]. These wide paleogeographic distribution indicate that the ancestral Tethys is connected with the ancestral Atlantic and Indian Oceans via Mediterranean Sea in that time (Figure 3).



Figure 1: Location map of Pakistan related to other countries in the Middle East in Southeast Asia (Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and UAE) and North Africa (Egypt).

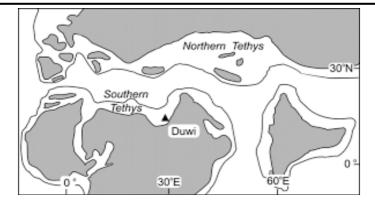


Figure 2: Paleocene Paleogeography distribution of the Northern Tethys and the Southern Tethys throughout the West Africa (extend to Nigeria), which also detected the location of the Gabal Duwi section (Egypt), after Anan [37].



Figure 3: Paleogeographic map in the K/T showing some Tethyan localities from Atlantic Ocean to Indian Ocean via Mediterranean Sea, including Pakistan and also UAE, Qatar, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, France [34, 35].

2. TAXONOMY

Eighteen Paleogene Pakistanian foraminiferal species are identified and illustrated in Plates (1, 2). The classification is followed in this study [8]. Seven out of these species are agglutinated, one species is plankton, while

the other ten benthic foraminiferal species are related to Rotaliids. Brief remarks will be added to all identified species.

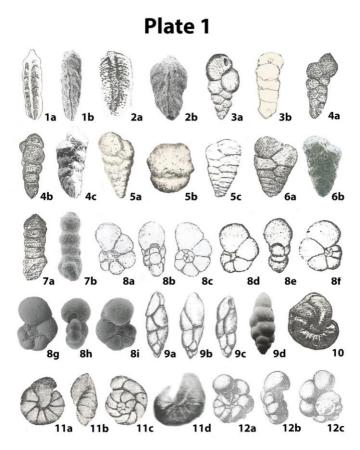


Figure 1a, b: Tritaxia elongata (Haque, 1956): (a) Clavulinoides lakiensis elongata Pakistan; (b) Tritaxia lakiensis elongata (Haque), Anan (1996), Jabal Hafit, UAE.

Figure 2a, b: Tritaxia limbata (Haque, 1956): (a) Clavulinoides lakiensis limbata Haque (1956); (b) Tritaxia lakiensis limbata (Haque), Anan (1996), Jabal Hafit, UAE.

Figure 3a, b: Siphogaudryina daviesi (Haque, 1956): (a) Gaudryina daviesi Haque (1956), Pakistan; (b) G. elegantissima Said and Kenawy (1956), Egypt.

Figure 4a-c: Siphogaudryina elongata (Haque, 1956); (a) Gaudryina laevigata Franke var. elongata Haque (1956), Pakistan; (b) G. soldadoensis tellburmaensis Futyan (1976), Jordan.

Figure 5a-c: Textularia farafraensis LeRoy (1935); (a, b) Textularia farafraensis LeRoy, (1953), Egypt; (c) Textularia sp. Haque (1956), Pakistan.

Figure 6a, b: Textularia punjabensis Haque (1956); (a) Textularia punjabensis Haque (1956), Pakistan; (b) T. punjabensis Haque, Orabi & Zaky (2016), Egypt.

Figure 7a, b: (a) Pseudoclavulina pseudohumilis Haque (1956), Pakistan; (b) P. farafraensis LeRoy (1953), Egypt.

Figure 8a-i: Globanomalina luxorensis (Nakkady, 1950), Egypt; (a-c) Anomalina luxorensis Nakkady, (1950); d-f: Globanomalina ovalis Haque (1956), Pakistan; (g-i) G. luxorensis (Nakkady), Speijer and Samir (1997), Egypt.

Figure 9a-d: Fursenkoina dubia (Haque, 1956), Pakistan; (a-c) Virgulina dubia Haque (1956), (d) Fursenkoina dubia (Haque), Gabal Duwi, Egypt (this study).

Figure 10: Sakhiella nammalensis Haque (1956), Pakistan.

Figure 11a-d: Valvulineria nammalensis Haque (1956), (a-c) V. nammalensis Haque, Pakistan; (d) Valvulineria sp. Anan (1993), Jabal Malaqet, UAE.

Figure 12a-c: Discorbis globiformis Haque (1962), Pakistan.

Order Foraminiferida Eichwald, 1830 Suborder Textulariina Delage & Hérouard, 1896 Superfamily Verneuilinacea Cushman, 1911 Family Tritaxiidae Plotnikova, 1979 Genus *Tritaxia* Reuss, 1860 Type species *Textularia tricarinata* Reuss, 1860

> *Tritaxia elongata* (Haque, 1956) (Pl. 1, Figure 1a, b) 1956 *Clavulinoides lakiensis elongata* [1], p. 45, pl. 21, figure 13. 1996 *Tritaxia lakiensis elongata*; [9], p. 150, figure 3.5.

Remarks: This Early Eocene species belongs here to the genus *Tritaxia* due to its triangular cross section along the elongate test. This species was recorded from Pakistan and UAE (Jabal Hafit).

Tritaxia limbata (Haque, 1956) (Pl. 1, figure 2a, b)

1956 Clavulinoides lakiensis limbata [1], p. 45, pl. 21, figure 8. 1996 Tritaxia lakiensis limbata; [9], p. 150, figure 3.6.

Remarks: This Early Eocene species has wider test than *Tritaxia elongata*. It was recorded from Pakistan and UAE (J. Hafit). Family Verneuilinidae Cushman, 1911 Subfamily Verneuilininae Cushman, 1911 Genus *Siphogaudryina* Cushman, 1935 Type species *Gaudryina stephensoni* Cushman, 1928

Siphogaudryina daviesi (Haque, 1956) (Pl. 1, figure 3a, b) 1956 Gaudryina daviesi [1], p. 37, pl. 31, figure 14.

1956 Gaudryina elegantissima [10], p. 123, pl.1, figure 21.

Remarks: This Paleocene-Early Eocene species belongs here to the genus *Siphogaudryina* due to its subterminal aperture on the apertural face of the last formed chamber. It seems that the Pakistanian Early Eocene form *daviesi* is more resemble the Egyptian Paleocene form *elegantissima* [10]. This species was recorded from Pakistan, Egypt, UAE and Qatar.

Siphogaudryina elongata (Haque, 1956) (Pl. 1, figure 4a-c)

1956 Gaudryina laevigata Franke var. elongata [1], p. 35, pl. 9, figure 5. 1976 Gaudryina soldadoensis tellburmaensis [11], p. 522, pl. 81, fig. 1, nonfigure 2).

Remarks: This Early Eocene species belongs here to the genus *Siphogaudryina*. It seems that the Jordanian *tellburmaensis* [11] is most related to Haque's *elongata* (Pakistan). This species was recorded, so far, from Pakistan and Jordan. Superfamily Textulariacea Ehrenberg, 1838

Family Textulariacea Enrenberg, 1838 Family Textulariidae Ehrenberg, 1838 Subfamily Textulariinae Ehrenberg, 1838 Genus *Textularia* Defrance, 1824 Type species *Textularia sagittula* Defrance, 1824

Textularia farafraensis LeRoy, 1953, p. 51, pl. 2, figs. 3, 4 (Pl. 1, figure 5a-c) 1953 *Textularia farafraensis* [2], p. 51, pl. 2, figures. 3, 4. 1956 *Textularia* sp. [1], p. 32, pl. 9, figure 10. Remarks: Remarks: This Paleocene-Early Eocene species has rather coarse wall with inflated biserial chambers, about twice as long as broad, periphery broadly rounded, sutures nearly straight. It seems that the figured specimen of Haque is mostly related to the Egyptian *T. farafraensis* [2]. This species was recorded, so far, from Pakistan and Egypt.

Textularia punjabensis Haque, 1956 (Pl. 1, figure 6a, b) 1956 *Textularia punjabensis* [1], p. 31, pl. 9, figure 12. 1990 *Textularia punjabensis*; [15], p. 4, pl. 1, figures. 5, 6.

2016 Textularia punjabensis; [12], p. 187, pl. 2, figure 18.

Remarks: This Paleocene species is characterized by its biserial test with coarsely agglutinated sand grains. It seems that the figured specimen *Textularia* sp. [1] (1956, p. 40, pl. 32, figure 2), the French *Gaudryina* sp. [13] (2005, p. 218, pl. 11, figure 29), and the Iranian *Textularia* sp. of [14] (2016, p. 6, pl. 2, figure 22) are closely related to the Pakistanian *T. punjabensis* Haque. It was recorded also from Egypt [12] and India [15], 1990, p. 4, pl. 1, figures. 5, 6.

Subfamily Pseudogaudryininae Loeblich & Tappan, 1985 Genus *Pseudoclavulina* Cushman, 1936 Type species *Clavulina clavata* Cushman, 1926

Pseudoclavulina farafraensis LeRoy, **1953** (Pl. 1, figure 7a, b) 1953 *Pseudoclavulina farafraensis* [2], p. 44, pl. 2, figure 9. 1956 *Pseudoclavulina pseudohumilis* [1], p. 42, pl. 9, figure 1.

Remarks: This Paleocene species has smooth wall, pronounced triserial stage, bulbous to discoidal chambers uniserial stage. It seems that the figured specimen of Haque' species *pseudohumilis* is mostly related to the Egyptian *T. farafraensis* [2]. It was recorded from Pakistan and also Egypt, Qatar [16], 1993 (p. 481, pl. 6, figures. 5, 6) and UAE [17], p. 360, figure 3y. Suborder Globigerinina Delage & Hérouard, 1896 Superfamily Hantkeninacea Cushman, 1927 Family Globanomalinidae Loeblich & Tappan, 1984 Genus *Globanomalina* Haque, 1956 Type species *Globanomalina ovalis* Haque, 1956

Globanomalina luxorensis (Nakkady, 1950) (Pl. 1, figure 8a-i) 1950 Anomalina luxorensis [3], p. 691, pl. 90, figures. 39-40. 1956 *Globanomalina ovalis* [1], p. 148, pl. 14, figure 3.

1997 Globanomalina luxorensis; [18], p. 53, pl. 1, figures. 4-6; pl. 2, figures. 1-4.

2006 *Globanomalina luxorensis*; [19], p. 415, pl. 14.1, figure 1-10. 2016 *Globanomalina ovalis* [14], p. 4, pl. 1, figure 2.

Remarks: This Early Eocene species belongs now to the planktic foraminifera. It is characterized by tightly coiled test, only five chambers in the last whorl with equatorially asymmetric aperture. It seems that the Pakistanian species (*G. ovalis* and *G. simplex* [1], p. 149, pl. 30, figure 2) are strongly suggested a close affinity to the Egyptian *G. luxorensis* [3]. This Early Eocene species were recorded from Pakistan and also some Middle East countries: Egypt [3] and Iran [14]. It is also recorded out of the Middle East, so far, in New Zealand, after [18]. Suborder Rotalina Delage & Hérouard, 1896 Superfamily Fursenkoinacea Loeblich & Tappan, 1961

Cite The Article: : Haidar Salim Anan (2019). Contribution To The Paleontology, Stratigraphy And Paleo-Biogeography Of Some Diagnostic Pakistanian Paleogene Foraminifer In The Middle East. Earth Sciences Pakistan, 3(1): 29-34. Family Fursenkoinidae Loeblich & Tappan, 1961 Genus *Fursenkoina* Loeblich & Tappan, 1961 Type species *Virgulina squammosa* d'Orbigny, 1826

Fursenkoina dubia (Haque, 1956) (Pl. 1, figure 9a-d)

1956 *Virgulina dubia* [1], pl. 25, figures. 3, 4. 2003 *Fursenkoina* sp., [20], pl. 8, figure 14.

Remarks: The genus *Fursenkoina* [21] and they choice the *Virgulina squammosa* [22] as the type species of it. The Late Paleocene-Early Eocene species *V. dubia* has an elongated biserial test, rounded to ovate in section, slightly inflated chambers, the biserial twisted chambers throughout the test axis, suture depressed with smooth surface. It seems that the Egyptian figured form [20] (*Fursenkoina* sp., pl. 8, figure 14) is mostly related to Haque' species. Our figured specimen from Gabal Duwi, Egypt is closely related to the holotype of *F. dubia* ([1], pl. 25, figure 4), especially in the initial part of the test. This species was recorded, so far, from Pakistan and Egypt.

Superfamily Discorbacea Ehrenberg, 1838 Family Bagginidae Cushman, 1927 Subfamily Baggininae Cushman, 1927 Genus Sakhiella Haque, 1956 Type species Sakhiella nammalensis Haque, 1956

> Sakhiella nammalensis Haque, 1956 (Pl. 1, figure 10) 1956 Sakhiella nammalensis [1], p. 155, pl. 10, figure 1. 2002 Sakhiella nammalensis; [23], p. 49, pl. 3, figure 10.

Remarks: This species has biconvex trochospiral test but with spiral side completely involute, aperture extending from umbilicus to the periphery covered by a distinct umbilical flap. It was originally recorded from Paleocene-Early Eocene of Pakistan, but from Maastrichtian subsurface rocks of Simsima Formation of Qatar [23].

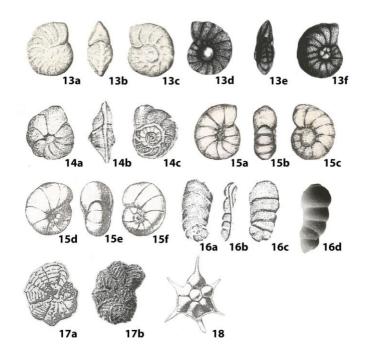
Genus Valvulineria Cushman, 1926 Type species Valvulineria californica Cushman, 1926 Valvulineria nammalensis Haque, 1956 (Pl. 1, figure 11a-d) 1956 Valvulineria nammalensis [1], p. 159, pl. 7, figure 10. 1993 Valvulineria sp. [24], p. 316, pl. 3, figure 3.

Remarks: This Paleocene-Early Eocene species has two and a half dorsal whorl, 9-10 ventral chambers, and interiomarginal umbilicalextraumbilical aperture with broad thin apertural flap projecting over the umbilicus. It seems that *Valvulineria* sp. [24] from Jabal Malaqet of UAE is mostly related to the Pakistanian species, which considered, so far, the second record of *V. nammalensis* outside Pakistan.

> Family Discorbidae Ehrenberg, 1838 Genus *Discorbis* Lamarck, 1804 Type species *Discorbis vesicularis* Lamarck, 1804 **Discorbis globiformis Haque, 1962 (Pl. 1, figure 12a-c)** 1962 *Discorbis globiformis* [14], p. 21, pl. 1, figures 3-5. 2002 *Discorbis globiformis*; [23], p. 49, pl. 3, figure 11.

Remarks: This Maastrichtian-Early Eocene species is distinguished by its gradually inflated chambers and increasing gradually, highly trochospiral coil, umbilical region wide and covered by a long flap with smooth surface. This Early Eocene species was recorded from Pakistan, but from the Maastrichtian subsurface rocks of Qatar [23].

Plate 2



Superfamily Discorbinellacea Sigal, 1952 Family Parrelloididae Hofker, 1956 Genus *Cibicidoides* Thalmann, 1939 Type species *Truncatolina mundula* Brady, Parker and Jones, 1890

Cibicidoides grandis LeRoy, 1953 (Pl. 2, Figure 13a-f) 1953 Cibicidoides grandis [2], p. 18, pl. 9, figures. 6-8.

Remarks: This Maastrichtian-Paleocene Pakistanian species is characterized by its coarsely perforated large test with more than ten chambers in the last whorl, biumbonate test with distinct boss in the ventral side, limbate raised sutures in both sides with acute in edge view. It seems that *Cibicidoides jamburoensis* [5], (p. 230, pl. 3) is closely related to the Egyptian Maastrichtian species *C. grandis* [2], (p. 18, pl. 9, figures. 6-8), but topmost Maastrichtian-Paleocene in Sinai, Egypt [10]. This species was recorded, so far, from Egypt and Pakistan.

Cibicidoides nammalensis (Haque, 1956) (Pl. 2, Figure 14a-c) 1956 *Cibicidoides nammalensis* [1], p. 205, pl. 20, figure 10. 2005 *Cibicidoides nammalensis*; [13], p. 226, pl. 15, figure 35. 2012 *Cibicidoides nammalensis*; [25], p. 10, figure 9. 20.

Remarks: This Early Eocene species is characterized by its biconvex test with keel, about 10-11 chambers in the ventral side with umbo, three whorls in the dorsal side. It is recorded from Pakistan, France, and later from Iraq [25].

Superfamily Nonionacea Schultze, 1854 Family Nonionidae Schultze, 1854 Subfamily Nonioninae Schultze, 1854 Genus *Nonionella* Cushman, 1926 Type species *Nonionella miocenica* Cushman, 1926

Nonionella haquei Anan, n. sp. (Pl. 2, figure 15a-f)

1956 Nonionella sp. [10], p. 156, pl. 7, figure 21. 1960 Nonionella sp. [7], p. 24, pl. 6, figure 2. Holotype: specimen of pl. 2, figure 15d-f. Dimension: Diameter 1.45 mm, 0.43mm Etymology: in the honor of the late Pakistanian paleontologist A.F. Haque. Type locality: Sor Range, Quetta District, West Pakistan. Age: Paleocene-Late Eocene.

Diagnosis: Test large, inflated, and equally biconvex but not symmetrically developed, periphery rounded, chambers about twelve in the last formed whorls, suture distinct, a slit on the periphery at the base of the last chamber.

Remarks: It seems that the Paleocene *Nonionella* sp. of Said & Kenawy [10] and *Nonionella* sp. [7] strongly falls within the morphological characters of the new species. The Early Eocene *N. haquei* n. sp. differs from the Early Eocene Egyptian *N. africana* of [2], p. 42, pl. 10, figures. 9-11) in its larger and more elongated test and chambers. It was recorded, so far, from Pakistan and Egypt.

Superfamily Chilostomellacea Brady, 1881 Family Karreriidae Saidova, 1981 Genus *Karreria* Rzehak, 1891 Type species *Karreria fallax* Rzehak, 1891

Karreria fallax Rzehak, 1891 (Pl. 2, figure 16a-d)

1953 *Stichocibicides* sp. [2], p. 51, pl. 8, figure 27. 1956 *Rectoeponides dubia* [1], p. 153, pl. 6, figure 6.

Remarks: This Maastrichtian-Early Eocene species is characterized by its trochospirally enrolled early stage with one and more volution, alter stage uncoiled, suture slightly depressed with terminal and rounded aperture. It seems that the *Stichocibicides* sp. [2] is closely related to *K. fallax* [6]. It was recorded also from the Rockall Bank in the North Atlantic ([26], p. 444, pl.4, figure 9), France [13], p.189, pl.17, figure 18), Tunisia [27], p. 468, pl.12, figure 5), and Egypt [2]; ([28], p.113, pl. 9, figures 11,12). Superfamily Rotaliacea Ehrenberg, 1839 Family Rotaliidae Ehrenberg, 1839 Subfamily Cuvillierininae Loeblich & Tappan, 1964 Genus *Ornatanomalina* Haque, 1956 Type species *Ornatanomalina geei* Haque, 1956

Ornatanomalina hafeezi Haque, 1956 (Pl. 2, figure 17) 1956 Ornatanomalina hafeezi [1], p. 201, pl. 18, figure 6.

Remarks: The Pakistanian genus *Ornatanomalina* [1] was considered [8] as a senior synonym of *Saudella* [29] from Saudi Arabia (SA), and considered *O. hafeezi* as a junior synonym of *O. geei*. This species was recorded in different localities in the Tethys: SA [29], Qatar [30] and Nigeria ([31], p. 68, pl. 7, figures. 1-8; pl. 8, figures. 1-6; pl. 9, figure 1). The record of an unknown species of the genus *Ornatanomalina*, in cross sections, [32], p. 141, pl. 3, figs. 10-122 from Italy), and [25], p. 6, figures. 5.10; 8.4,12; 9.2,10 from Iraq) expands the paleogeographic distribution of it from Southern Tethys (Pakistan, UAE, Qatar, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Nigeria) to Northern Tethys (Italy) (Figure 2). Subfamily Pararotalinae Reiss, 1963 Genus *Pararotalia* Le Calvez, 1949 Type species *Rotalia inermis* Terquem, 1882

Pararotalia khirthari Haque, 1960 (Pl. 2, figure 18) 1960 Pararotalia khirthari [7], p. 3, pl. 6, figure 5. 2010 Pararotalia khirthari; [33], p. 171.

Remarks: This Middle-Late Eocene species has low trochospiral test with axially pointed long spine for each chamber. This diagnostic species was recorded, so far, in Pakistan [7] and UAE [33].

3. PALEOGEOGRAPHY

The ancestral Tethys is connected with the ancestral Atlantic and Indian Oceans via Mediterranean Sea [34]. A wider Tethyan connections, as far as the Carpathian and Pakistan was suggested [31]. About 50% (9/18) of the total recorded Pakistanian species in this study are described from Egypt, 22% (4/18) from UAE, 11% (2/18) from Qatar, and only one species from Iraq, SA and Jordan. The differences between the number of recorded species in different localities in the Middle East with that in Pakistan may be due to non-detailed or detected faunal studies, or the deficiency of available literatures, or also less homogeneity in the species concept between different authors. The Maastrichtian-Early Eocene *Karreria fallax* [6] has wide geographic distribution: North Atlantic, France, Tunisia, Egypt and Pakistan. The cosmopolitan planktic foraminiferal species

Globanomalina luxorensis [3] is recorded here from Northern Tethys (Spain), and also Southern Tethys (Tunisia, Egypt, Pakistan, Iran, New Zealand).

Ornatanomalina hafeezi [1] expands its paleogeographic distribution from Northern Tethys (Italy) to Southern Tethys (Pakistan, UAE, Qatar, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria). *Textularia punjabensis* [1] are recorded from Pakistan, India, Iran, Egypt and France. *Siphogaudryina daviesi* [1] and *Pseudoclavulina farafraensis* [2] is are recorded from Pakistan, UAE, Qatar and Egypt. *Tritaxia elongata* [1], *T. limbata* [1], *Valvulineria nammalensis* [1] and *Pararotalia khirthari* [7] are recorded in both Pakistan and UAE. *Fursenkoina dubia* [1], *Textularia farafraensis* [2], *Cibicidoides grandis* [2], *Nonionella haquei* Anan, n. sp., are recorded in both Pakistan and Egypt. *Sakhiella nammalensis* [1] and *Discorbis globiformis* [4] are recorded in Pakistan and Qatar. *Siphogaudryina elongata* [1] is recorded in Pakistan and Jordan. *Cibicidoides nammalensis* [1] is recorded in Pakistan, Iraq and France.

4. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The analysis of the eighteen Pakistanian benthic foraminiferal taxa in this study led to the following conclusions: Haque [1] noted that the Ranikot beds of Pakistan may be correlated to the Esna Shale (Paleocene-Early Eocene) of Egypt. He also noted that many foraminiferal forms which were recorded from Europe, America and Egypt are also recorded in the Laki formation of Pakistan. This study emphasizes the interpretations that have been presented by different authors about the extended realms of Indo-Pacific via ancestral Tethys, which was connected with the ancestral Atlantic Ocean [33]. Due to the high abundance of pelagic Pakistanian foraminiferal assemblage indicate open connections to the Tethys and represents middle-outer neritic environment (100-200 m depth) and shows an affinity with " Midway-Type Fauna" of Berggren & Aubert [36]. About 50% of the total recorded Pakistanian species in this study are described in Egypt, but less of that number are from UAE, Qatar, Iraq, SA and Jordan, which may be due to non-detailed or detected faunal studies, or the deficiency of available literatures, or also less homogeneity in the species concept between different authors. Moreover, one of the illustrated species is believed here to be new: Nonionella haquei Anan.

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