



Article Geochemistry, Chronology and Tectonic Implications of the Hadayang Schists in the Northern Great Xing'an Range, Northeast China

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Abstract: The Late Paleozoic tectonic evolution of the Xing'an block in the eastern Central Asian orogenic belt has long been the subject of debate. In this paper, a comprehensive study of U-Pb zircon ages, Lu-Hf isotopes and whole-rock elemental analyses was carried out on Hadayang schists. Representative samples of the epidote-biotite-albite schist and biotite-albite schist yielded the weighted mean 206 Pb/ 238 U ages of 360 \pm 2 Ma and 355 \pm 3 Ma, respectively. This indicated the presence of Late Devonian-Early Carboniferous intermediate-basic rocks in the eastern Xing'an block. The Hadayang schists exhibited a Na-rich, tholeiitic and calc-alkaline affinity in composition with low Mg# (35.2–53.0), Cr (23.7–86.5 ppm), Ni (21.1–40.0 ppm) and Co (12.1–30.6 ppm). They were characterized by enrichment of LILEs, depletion of HFSEs and highly positive zircon $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf}(t)$ values (the average values were +8.93 and +9.29, respectively). The magma source of the Hadayang schists was a mantle that consisted of both spinel and garnet lherzolite, with a partial melting degree of 1%–5%, and it had undergone fractional crystallization of olivine, orthopyroxene and plagioclase. The Hadayang schists, together with other Late Devonian-Early Carboniferous intermediate-basic magmatic rocks in the eastern Xing'an block, were formed in an intracontinental extension tectonic setting similar to that of the North American Basin and Range basalt. Moreover, Late Devonian-Early Carboniferous ophiolite under a similar tectonic background in the western Xing'an block has been reported. We believe that the Xing'an block would have been in the stage of intracontinental extension during the Late Devonian-Early Carboniferous.

Keywords: eastern Xing'an block; late Devonian–early Carboniferous; Hadayang schists; petrogenesis; tectonic implications

1. Introduction

The Central Asian orogenic belt (CAOB) is located between the Siberian craton and the Sino-Korean craton, and is composed of a series of micro-continental blocks and suture zones [1–5] (Figure 1a). The Xing'an–Mongolia orogenic belt (XMOB) is located in the eastern section of the CAOB, and is made up of several microcontinents, including the Erguna, Xing'an, Songnen and Jiamusi–Khanka blocks [6–11] (Figure 1b). Although much progress has been made in the study area of the tectonic pattern and evolutionary history of the XMOB in recent years, there are still many controversies, among which the dating of the integration of the Xing'an (XB) and Songnen blocks (SB) is the most prominent. For example, Xu et al. [6] argued that the XB and SB combined along the Angin Sum–Xilinhot–Heihe line before the Devonian [7,12]; Liu et al. [8] proposed that these two blocks closed along the Hegenshan–Moguqi–Heihe line during the late Early Carboniferous and early Late Carboniferous [9,13–15]; Xu et al. [11] believed that the XB and SB combined along the XI and the time limit was the late Early Carboniferous [16]. In addition, the time limit of convergence is also dated



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to the Late Devonian to Early Carboniferous [17,18], to before the Permian [19,20] and to the Triassic [21,22].

Figure 1. Pre-Devonian blocks in XMOB, northeast China: (**a**) location of the CAOB; (**b**) blocks in the XMOB (modified after [7]).

Through the analysis of the above different views, it can be found that one of the focuses of the debate is whether there was subduction in the ocean basin between the XB and the SB in the late Paleozoic, and the study of the tectonic background of the late Paleozoic igneous rock in the XB can provide important evidence for solving the above problems. Compared with granitic rocks, mafic magmatic rocks originate directly from partial melting of mantle and the geochemistry is less affected by late transformation, so they become ideal objects for the derivation of mantle source characteristics and regional tectonic background [23]. Therefore, we report zircon U-Pb geochronology, Hf isotopes and whole-rock geochemistry studies on late Devonian–early Carboniferous metamorphic intermediate-basic volcanic rocks in the southern XB, to determine their origins and tectonic setting. This study provides a more detailed understanding of the evolution history of the XB and SB in the late Paleozoic. Furthermore, it provides important constraints for the study of the tectonic evolution of the XMOB.

2. Geological Settings and Sampling

The study area was located in the Hadayang area of Molidawa Banner in the eastern part of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and it tectonically belongs to the southern part of the XB (Figure 2). As the oldest block in the XMOB, the Precambrian record of the EB is well developed, and the oldest rock exposed is a set of Neoarchean–Paleoproterozoic granitic gneiss [24–27]. The Xinghuadukou Group, which was previously considered to be of Paleo–Mesoproterozoic age, may have formed in the Neoproterozoic [27–31].

In addition, Neoproterozoic magmatism is also well developed in the EB [31–34]. The XB is traditionally based on Precambrian strata such as the Xinghuadukou Group, the Jiageda Formation and the Wolegen Group, but recent research shows that these strata were formed in the Paleozoic [35–37]. In recent years, a series of Neoarchean–Paleoproterozoic magmatic rocks [38–42] and metamorphic rock series [43] have been identified in the Ulanhot–Longjiang area, suggesting the existence of Precambrian basement in the XB. After the convergence of the EB and XB along the XXS in the early Paleozoic [44–49] (Figure 1b), the Erguna-Xing'an block (EXB) was covered by the Early Paleozoic–Lower Permian marine and continental alternative deposition, the Upper Permian continental sedimentary strata and the Mesozoic volcaniclastic rocks, and developed multistage Paleozoic–Mesozoic magmatic intrusion. The SB is located in the southeast of the EXB, which is bounded by the XHS (Figure 1b). The Dongfengshan Group and Tadong Group in the eastern SB, which are traditionally considered as "Paleoproterozoic", were formed in the Neoproterozoic [50–52], accompanied by contemporaneous magmatic intrusions [53–56]. The western SB is mostly covered by late Mesozoic–Cenozoic volcaniclastic sediments.



Figure 2. Simplified geological map of Hadayang area and locations of samples used in this study.

The late Paleozoic strata in the study area include the Lower Devonian Huolongmen Formation and the Lower Carboniferous Morgenhe Formation (Figure 2). The Lower Devonian Huolongmen Formation is mainly composed of clastic sedimentary rocks with a small amount of intermediate volcanic rocks, and is affected by a poorly developed ductile deformation. The formation age of chlorite muscovite schist (protolith is volcanic rock) is 414 Ma [57]. The Lower Carboniferous Morgenhe Formation is mainly composed of weakly metamorphic intermediate-acid volcanic rocks, which are generally mylonitic. The zircon U-Pb age of the volcanic rocks is 353 to 352 Ma [58,59]. Late Paleozoic intrusive rocks include Late Devonian mylonitic syenite granite [60], Late Carboniferous–Early Permian granodiorite, syenogranite and alkali feldspar granite. The above are mostly covered by Mesozoic volcanic rocks and Cenozoic detrital sedimentary rocks. In addition to the above features, there is also a Hadayang melange developed in the study area [61,62]. The matrix in the melange is mainly composed of schist, while blocks consist of schist, mafic–ultramafic rocks and meta-acidic volcanic rocks [62].

Two samples were collected from the blocks of Hadayang melange for age dating, and the sample locations are shown in Figure 2. At each of these two sites, six additional samples were collected for geochemical and petrological analysis. Sample G1631-1, an epidotebiotite-albite schist (49°18'28" N, 125°06'33" E, Figures 2 and 3a-b), showed porphyroblastic, lepidoblastic texture and schistose structure (Figure 3c). The mineral assemblage consisted of albite (\sim 27%), biotite (\sim 30%), chlorite (\sim 8%), epidote (\sim 20%), quartz (\sim 8%) and opaque mineral (~7%) (Figure 3c). The content of the remaining phenocryst was about 5%, and the composition included opaque mineral aggregates and albite. The matrix included biotite, chlorite, epidote, quartz and albite. Sample G1631-4, a biotite-albite schist (49°18′25″ N, 125°06'31" E), was located near Sample G1631-1 (Figures 2 and 3d-e). Petrographically, the biotite-albite schist had porphyroblastic, lepidoblastic texture and schistose structure, consisting of biotite (~15%), chlorite (~8%), epidote (~12%), albite (~40%) and quartz (~25%) (Figure 3f). The crystalloblasts were composed of oligoclase and albite, and the oligoclase was semi-euhedral wide plate with matrix components interspersed, and content of less than 1%. The albite was granular and contained matrix minerals biotite, chlorite and epidote inclusions, accounting for about 5%. The matrix included biotite, chlorite, epidote, quartz and albite (Figure 3f).



Figure 3. Field occurrence and microscope views of the Hadayang schists. (**a**–**c**) Epidote-biotite-albite schist. (**d**–**f**) Biotite-albite schist.

3. Analytical Methods

3.1. Major and Trace Element Analysis

The major and trace element analyses were carried out at the Shenyang Mineral Resources Supervision and Inspection Center, Shenyang, China. Whole-rock major element concentrations were determined by X-ray fluorescence spectrometry, yielding an analytical precision better than 2%. Trace element and rare earth element (REE) concentrations were determined by ICP–MS, yielding an analytical precision better than 5% for elements with concentrations of >10 ppm, <8% for elements with concentrations of <10 ppm and <10% for the transition metals.

3.2. Zircon U-Pb Dating

U-Pb dating analyses were conducted by LA-ICP-MS at Beijing Createch Testing Technology Co., Ltd. (Beijing, China). The detailed operating conditions for the laser ablation system and the ICP-MS instrument and data reduction were the same as described by Hou et al. [63]. Laser sampling was performed using an ESI NWR 193 nm laser ablation system. An AnalytikJena PQMS Elite ICP-MS (Analytik Jena AG, Jena, Germany) instrument was used to acquire ion-signal intensities. Helium was applied as a carrier gas. Argon was used as the make-up gas and mixed with the carrier gas via a T-connector before entering the ICP. Each analysis incorporated a background acquisition of approximately 15-20 s (gas blank) followed by 45 s of data acquisition from the sample. Off-line raw data selection and integration of background and analyte signals, and time-drift correction and quantitative calibration for U-Pb dating, were performed by ICPMSDataCal [64]. Zircon GJ-1 was used as the external standard for U-Pb dating, and was analyzed twice every 5–10 analyses. Time-dependent drifts of U-Th-Pb isotopic ratios were corrected using a linear interpolation (with time) for every 5–10 analyses according to the variations of GJ-1 (i.e., 2 zircon GJ-1 + 5-10 samples + 2 zircon GJ-1) [64]. Uncertainty of preferred values for the external standard GJ-1 was propagated to the ultimate results of the samples. In all analyzed zircon grains, the common Pb correction was not necessary due to the low signal of common ²⁰⁴Pb and high ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb. U, Th and Pb concentration was calibrated by NIST 610. Concordia diagrams and weighted mean calculations were made using Isoplot/Ex_ver3. The zircon Plesovice was dated as unknown samples and yielded a weighted mean 206 Pb/ 238 U age of 337.5 \pm 2.4 Ma (2SD, n = 5), which was in good agreement with the recommended ${}^{206}\text{Pb}/{}^{238}\text{U}$ age of 337.13 \pm 0.37 Ma (2SD) [65].

3.3. Lu-Hf Isotope Analysis

Zircon in situ Hf isotope analysis was carried out using a RESOlution SE 193 laserablation system attached to a Thermo Fisher Scientific Neptune Plus MC-ICP-MS at Beijing Createch Testing Technology Co., Ltd (Beijing, China). Instrumental conditions and data acquisition protocols were as described by Hou et al. [66]. A stationary spot used a beam diameter of ~55 μ m. Helium was used as the carrier gas to transport ablated material from the laser-ablation cell after which it was mixed with Ar prior to entering the ICP-MS torch. ¹⁷⁶Lu/¹⁷⁵Lu = 0.02658 and ¹⁷⁶Yb/¹⁷³Yb = 0.796218 ratios were determined to correct for the isobaric interferences of ¹⁷⁶Lu and ¹⁷⁶Yb on ¹⁷⁶Hf. For instrumental mass bias correction, Yb isotope ratios were normalized to ¹⁷²Yb/¹⁷³Yb = 1.35274 and Hf isotope ratios to ¹⁷⁹Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf = 0.7325 using an exponential law. The mass bias behavior of Lu was assumed to follow that of Yb; the mass bias correction protocol was as described by Hou et al. [66].

4. Analytical Results

4.1. Whole-Rock Geochemistry

Results of the major element, trace element and REE analyses of the samples from the Hadayang schists are listed in Table 1.

Lithology			Epidote-Bioti	te-Albite Schis	t	Biotite-Albite Schist						
Sample No.	G1631-1.1	G1631-1.2	G1631-1.3	G1631-1.4	G1631-1.5	G1631-1.6	G1631-4.1	G1631-4.2	G1631-4.3	G1631-4.4	G1631-4.5	G1631-4.6
SiO ₂ (%)	49.28	50.55	50.47	50.16	49.46	51.15	58.07	58.36	58.82	55.44	57.72	56.23
Al ₂ O ₃ (%)	16.75	16.56	16.76	16.51	16.99	16.73	15.98	15.84	16.17	16.46	16.27	16.30
Fe ₂ O ₃ (%)	8.08	7.80	7.18	7.97	7.95	7.61	2.97	2.73	2.65	2.89	5.57	5.18
FeO (%)	3.05	3.28	3.32	3.14	3.41	3.32	3.73	4.00	4.09	4.40	2.43	2.97
CaO (%)	12.68	11.54	9.51	11.27	12.09	11.42	4.43	4.93	4.24	5.30	5.93	6.97
MgO (%)	3.31	3.59	3.99	3.45	3.19	3.28	3.96	3.83	4.01	4.40	3.04	3.17
K ₂ O (%)	0.17	0.18	0.73	0.26	0.09	0.02	0.76	0.86	1.40	0.90	1.38	1.97
Na ₂ O (%)	0.32	0.42	1.28	0.47	0.26	0.03	4.82	3.86	4.33	3.97	2.77	2.68
TiO ₂ (%)	1.80	1.70	1.79	1.68	1.77	1.66	1.08	1.02	1.02	1.06	1.58	1.34
P ₂ O ₅ (%)	1.07	1.02	1.12	1.02	1.05	1.03	0.61	0.57	0.58	0.61	0.75	0.69
MnO (%)	0.14	0.15	0.13	0.15	0.16	0.15	0.18	0.17	0.13	0.19	0.13	0.15
LOI (%)	3.48	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.36	3.47	3.24	3.59	2.67	4.05	2.23	2.26
SUM	100.14	100.26	99.75	99.53	99.78	99.86	99.83	99.75	100.11	99.67	99.81	99.90
FeO ^T	10.33	10.29	9.79	10.32	10.57	10.18	6.40	6.45	6.47	7.01	7.44	7.63
Mg#	36.51	38.50	42.25	37.53	35.14	36.62	52.61	51.58	52.63	52.97	42.30	42.74
Na_2O/K_2O	1.96	2.31	1.76	1.84	2.98	1.56	6.35	4.47	3.08	4.43	2.01	1.36
Na ₂ O+K ₂ O	0.51	0.62	2.09	0.76	0.36	0.04	5.77	4.91	5.88	5.09	4.26	4.76
σ	0.03	0.04	0.46	0.06	0.02	0.00	1.95	1.37	1.99	1.73	1.12	1.55
Y	27.63	27.19	28.93	27.84	26.50	27.18	28.98	26.43	26.03	27.01	43.88	36.10
La	34.09	33.83	30.10	31.19	32.41	32.91	44.17	36.95	38.22	43.43	54.62	49.92
Ce	75.52	75.02	68.90	71.33	72.55	72.89	93.02	80.91	82.54	93.07	119.90	109.83
Pr	9.97	9.50	9.39	9.51	9.56	9.69	10.92	10.07	10.20	11.56	14.78	12.36
Nd	47.38	48.12	46.47	46.41	45.61	46.99	55.88	47.35	47.19	53.38	66.40	58.93
Sm	11.51	11.46	11.63	11.25	11.13	11.25	12.39	11.05	11.07	11.84	15.27	12.42
Eu	2.54	2.39	2.76	2.58	2.41	2.51	3.17	2.90	2.97	3.22	2.93	2.78
Gd	7.49	7.54	7.80	7.65	7.48	7.68	7.91	7.21	7.41	7.88	10.35	8.31
Tb	1.18	1.20	1.25	1.20	1.15	1.21	1.25	1.15	1.14	1.21	1.68	1.41
Dy	6.10	6.05	6.47	6.21	5.91	6.05	6.47	5.93	5.95	6.31	9.14	7.19
Ho	1.13	1.07	1.20	1.19	1.11	1.11	1.20	1.15	1.11	1.16	1.71	1.34
Er	3.05	2.86	3.18	2.98	2.95	3.07	3.59	3.15	3.05	3.17	4.92	4.09
Tm	0.46	0.42	0.46	0.46	0.42	0.46	0.52	0.48	0.47	0.50	0.76	0.66
Yb	2.28	2.25	2.41	2.26	2.15	2.25	2.93	2.63	2.59	2.58	3.91	3.36

Table 1. Analytical results for the major (w%) and trace elements ($\times 10^{-6}$) of Hadayang schists.

Table 1. Cont.

Lithology	Epidote-Biotite-Albite Schist							Biotite-Albite Schist						
Sample No.	G1631-1.1	G1631-1.2	G1631-1.3	G1631-1.4	G1631-1.5	G1631-1.6	G1631-4.1	G1631-4.2	G1631-4.3	G1631-4.4	G1631-4.5	G1631-4.6		
Lu	0.31	0.31	0.34	0.33	0.31	0.30	0.38	0.37	0.36	0.37	0.55	0.47		
ΣREE	202.99	202.01	192.34	194.53	195.14	198.36	243.82	211.29	214.24	239.68	306.92	273.07		
LREE	181.00	180.32	169.25	172.27	173.66	176.24	219.56	189.22	192.18	216.50	273.90	246.24		
HREE	21.98	21.69	23.10	22.27	21.48	22.12	24.25	22.07	22.06	23.18	33.02	26.83		
L/H	8.23	8.31	7.33	7.74	8.09	7.97	9.05	8.57	8.71	9.34	8.29	9.18		
La_N/Yb_N	10.73	10.78	8.97	9.89	10.80	10.49	10.82	10.09	10.58	12.06	10.02	10.65		
δCe	0.99	1.01	1.00	1.01	1.00	0.99	1.01	1.01	1.00	1.00	1.01	1.05		
δΕυ	0.78	0.74	0.83	0.80	0.76	0.78	0.92	0.93	0.94	0.96	0.67	0.79		
Li	18.58	20.34	27.07	22.73	20.42	21.77	25.75	25.34	26.55	29.34	36.92	40.63		
Sc	14.27	14.17	15.34	15.52	15.04	15.69	11.35	12.81	12.47	12.44	13.23	12.99		
V	401.29	379.56	347.99	361.07	417.77	400.93	107.69	126.32	111.54	131.04	202.25	166.49		
Cr	39.74	43.51	29.62	42.25	41.89	39.04	86.51	82.63	75.99	82.93	23.71	36.53		
Co	24.30	24.63	30.59	27.44	25.92	27.25	12.06	12.83	13.02	13.17	16.46	15.25		
Ni	21.15	22.40	21.70	21.98	22.28	23.29	34.82	39.55	36.45	40.00	23.84	24.71		
Ga	23.20	23.44	21.69	22.00	24.98	23.42	18.47	19.86	18.39	19.02	20.92	20.71		
Rb	8.83	8.46	31.45	13.85	5.57	3.97	26.70	30.04	48.56	30.16	45.00	59.66		
Sr	1100	1200	893	995	1400	1300	566	586	554	5408	944	942		
Zr	87.75	61.90	71.92	73.22	88.55	80.19	185.02	176.05	166.34	168.27	27.95	51.58		
Nb	10.84	10.27	11.11	10.74	9.10	8.95	15.52	14.40	14.34	15.77	30.61	23.04		
Ba	78.40	106.57	146.80	113.68	82.57	71.06	308.28	357.57	419.52	400.07	474.22	591.36		
Hf	0.84	0.75	0.80	0.81	0.76	0.83	0.78	0.66	0.80	0.74	0.83	0.64		
Ta	0.85	0.80	0.85	0.76	0.87	0.77	0.67	0.64	0.68	0.63	1.60	1.07		
Th	17.66	7.07	6.77	5.97	5.97	5.51	7.27	6.82	7.21	7.56	7.74	6.39		
U	2.11	2.20	2.24	2.13	2.14	2.08	2.44	2.33	2.16	2.40	3.19	2.29		

4.1.1. The Epidote-Biotite-Albite Schists

The epidote-biotite-albite schists had 49.28-51.15 wt% SiO₂, 3.19–3.99 wt% MgO, 15.84–16.99 wt% Al₂O₃, 1.66–1.80 wt% TiO₂, 0.03–1.28 wt% Na₂O, 0.02–0.73 wt% K₂O, 9.51–12.68 wt% CaO and 9.79–10.57 wt% total FeO. They had Mg# of [Mg# = 100 × MgO_{molar}/(MgO_{molar} + FeO_{molar})] 35.14–42.25. The Na₂O/K₂O ratios ranged from 1.56~2.98, indicating that the samples belonged to the sodium series. As can be seen from the plot of SiO₂ vs. K₂O + Na₂O and Nb/Y vs. Zr/TiO₂*0.0001 diagrams (Figure 4a-b), all of these metavolcanic rocks plot in the basalt and basaltic andesite field. On a plot of SiO₂ vs. ^TFeO/MgO (Figure 4c), the samples plot in the tholeiitic field.



Figure 4. Classification and series diagrams of the Hadayang schists. (a) Plot of SiO₂ vs. $K_2O + Na_2O$ (after [67]), with the alkalic/subalkalic boundary of [68] shown; (b) plot of Zr/TiO₂*0.0001 vs. Nb/Y (after [69]); (c) plot of ^TFeO/MgO vs. SiO₂ (after [70]).

The epidote-biotite-albite schists had total rare earth element (REE) concentrations from 194.53 to 202.99 ppm, with an average value of 197.56 ppm. On the chondrite-normalized REE diagram (Figure 5a), the light rare earth elements (LREEs) are moderately enriched relative to the heavy rare earth elements (HREEs) with (La/Yb)_N ratios ranging from 8.97 to10.78, while the HREEs are relatively flat. These metavolcanic rocks had slightly negative Eu anomalies (δ Eu = 0.74–0.83). The primitive-mantle-normalized incompatible element diagrams (Figure 5b) show that the epidote-biotite-albite schists were relatively enriched in large ion lithophile elements (LILEs) (such as Rb, Ba, Th and U) relative to high-field-strength elements (HFSEs) (such as Nb, P and Ti).



Figure 5. Chondrite-normalized REE patterns (**a**) and primitive-mantle-normalized trace element spidergrams (**b**) for the Hadayang schists. Normalization values are taken from [71,72].

4.1.2. The Biotite-Albite Schists

The biotite-albite schists had SiO₂ of 57.59–60.69 wt% and high TiO₂ (1.05–1.62 wt%), Σ FeO (6.63–7.81 wt%) and Al₂O₃ (16.47–17.21 wt%). Their alkalis (K₂O + Na₂O) ranged

from 4.26 to 5.77 wt%, and the low K_2O/Na_2O ratio (0.16 to 0.74) indicated that the samples belonged to the sodium series. All of the samples plot in the andesite field on a SiO₂ vs. $Na_2O + K_2O$ diagram (Figure 4a). As can be seen from the plot of $Zr/TiO_2 \times 0.0001$ vs. Nb/Y (Figure 4b), most of the samples plot in the subalkaline basalt and andesite fields. On the other hand, on the plot of FeO^T/MgO vs. SiO₂, except for two samples that fall into the tholeiitic field, the biotite-albite schist samples plot in the calc-alkaline field.

The biotite-albite schists had variable total rare earth element (REE) concentrations from 211.29 to 306.92 ppm, with an average value of 248.17 ppm. These metavolcanic rocks exhibited LREEs enrichment ((La/Yb)_N = 10.02–12.06) and slight negative Eu anomalies (δ Eu = 0.67–0.96) (Figure 5a). On a primitive-mantle-normalized trace element plot (Figure 5b), the biotite-albite schist samples also appear as enriched in large ion lithophile elements (LILEs) relative to the high-field-strength elements (HFSEs), which were similar to those in the epidote-biotite-albite schists.

4.2. Zircon U-Pb Dating

Cathodoluminescence (CL) images and concordia plots for the analyzed zircons are shown in Figure 6. Zircons from the epidote-biotite-albite schist sample (G1631-1) and biotite-albite schist sample (G1631-4) were mainly euhedral and elongate, with aspect ratios of 1:1–2:1. They showed straight rhythmic stripes, typical oscillatory zoning or sector zoning in CL images (Figure 6), with high Th/U ratios (0.49–1.38, Table 2), which is characteristic of magmatic zircons [73]. In total, 60 concordant 206 Pb/ 238 U ages, obtained from 70 zircon grains, ranged from 338 to 370 Ma. Two samples yielded similar zircon U-Pb ages around 360 Ma (Figure 7), with weighted mean 206 Pb/ 238 U ages of 360 ± 2 Ma (G1631-1, n = 35, MSWD = 1.4) and 355 ± 3 Ma (G1631-4, n = 35, MSWD = 2.1). The two ages were interpreted as the crystallization ages of the magmatic protolith of the two schists.



Figure 6. Cathodoluminescence images of zircon grains selected for analysis from the epidotebiotite-albite schist (**a**) and biotite-albite schist (**b**). The smaller white circles represent locations of LA-ICP-MS U-Pb dating, whereas the bigger yellow circles (dotted line) indicate locations of Hf isotopic analyses.

					0		, 0										
							Isotopic	: Ratio					Age	(Ma)			
Analytical No.	Th (10 ⁻⁶)	U (10 ⁻⁶)	Th/U	²⁰⁶ Pb ^{/238} U		²⁰⁷ Pt	²⁰⁷ Pb ^{/235} U		²⁰⁷ Pb ^{/206} Pb		²⁰⁶ Pb ^{/238} U		^{/235} U	²⁰⁷ Pb	²⁰⁶ Pb	Concordance	
	(10)	(10)		Ratio	1σ	Ratio	1σ	Ratio	1σ	Age	1σ	Age	1σ	Age	1σ	_	
G1631-1 Epidote bi	otite albite sc	hist															
1	334.7	354.2	0.94	0.0582	0.0011	0.4358	0.0097	0.0543	0.0008	365	7	367	7	387	32	99.5%	
2	551.7	501.4	1.10	0.0601	0.0009	0.4499	0.0080	0.0543	0.0006	376	5	377	6	389	19	99.7%	
3	484.3	436.0	1.11	0.0573	0.0008	0.4235	0.0067	0.0537	0.0007	359	5	359	5	367	28	100.0%	
4	1201.1	1055.1	1.14	0.0589	0.0010	0.4434	0.0073	0.0547	0.0005	369	6	373	5	398	16	98.9%	
5	640.3	554.4	1.15	0.0576	0.0011	0.4249	0.0077	0.0536	0.0007	361	7	360	6	354	30	99.7%	
6	1369.8	927.8	1.48	0.0582	0.0010	0.4373	0.0075	0.0545	0.0006	365	6	368	5	391	24	99.2%	
7	610.1	586.2	1.04	0.0591	0.0009	0.4304	0.0073	0.0529	0.0007	370	5	364	5	324	30	98.4%	
8	550.6	744.5	0.74	0.0585	0.0009	0.4291	0.0062	0.0533	0.0006	366	5	363	4	339	24	99.2%	
9	691.4	608.9	1.14	0.0578	0.0008	0.4215	0.0066	0.0528	0.0006	362	5	357	5	320	24	98.6%	
10	1105.5	1001.7	1.10	0.0575	0.0008	0.4288	0.0065	0.0541	0.0005	360	5	362	5	372	20	99.4%	
11	475.6	522.9	0.91	0.0570	0.0009	0.4269	0.0072	0.0543	0.0006	357	5	361	5	383	21	98.9%	
12	1172.7	909.3	1.29	0.0583	0.0008	0.4349	0.0063	0.0541	0.0005	365	5	367	5	376	20	99.5%	
13	168.8	288.6	0.59	0.0565	0.0008	0.4316	0.0069	0.0554	0.0007	354	5	364	5	432	5	97.2%	
14	230.1	272.5	0.84	0.0563	0.0009	0.4239	0.0084	0.0546	0.0008	353	5	359	6	395	36	98.3%	
15	473.3	483.8	0.98	0.0568	0.0008	0.4233	0.0070	0.0540	0.0006	356	5	358	5	372	24	99.4%	
16	1575.6	1139.1	1.38	0.0574	0.0009	0.4213	0.0071	0.0532	0.0005	360	6	357	5	345	22	99.2%	
17	480.5	534.4	0.90	0.0569	0.0014	0.4268	0.0189	0.0539	0.0013	357	8	361	14	365	49	98.9%	
18	656.6	584.9	1.12	0.0571	0.0008	0.4252	0.0068	0.0544	0.0007	358	5	360	5	387	25	99.4%	
19	1081.4	877.1	1.23	0.0574	0.0008	0.4238	0.0076	0.0535	0.0006	360	5	359	5	350	32	99.7%	
20	740.6	669.2	1.11	0.0558	0.0009	0.4160	0.0083	0.0539	0.0006	350	5	353	6	365	24	99.1%	
21	538.6	513.2	1.05	0.0579	0.0010	0.4330	0.0073	0.0543	0.0007	363	6	365	5	383	21	99.5%	
22	254.0	298.4	0.85	0.0567	0.0009	0.4244	0.0073	0.0544	0.0008	355	6	359	5	387	33	98.9%	
23	1794.4	1046.2	1.72	0.0590	0.0010	0.4334	0.0067	0.0533	0.0005	369	6	366	5	343	22	99.2%	
24	683.2	584.2	1.17	0.0572	0.0008	0.4321	0.0075	0.0547	0.0006	359	5	365	5	398	22	98.3%	
25	292.0	374.7	0.78	0.0574	0.0008	0.4210	0.0072	0.0532	0.0007	360	5	357	5	345	28	99.2%	
26	410.1	476.3	0.86	0.0572	0.0009	0.4236	0.0074	0.0538	0.0007	358	6	359	5	365	23	99.7%	
27	188.0	248.3	0.76	0.0579	0.0011	0.4308	0.0082	0.0541	0.0007	363	6	364	7	376	30	99.7%	
28	1332.8	971.5	1.37	0.0556	0.0007	0.4076	0.0059	0.0532	0.0006	349	5	347	4	345	19	99.4%	
29	334.7	354.2	0.94	0.0582	0.0011	0.4358	0.0097	0.0543	0.0008	365	7	367	7	387	32	99.5%	
30	551.7	501.4	1.10	0.0601	0.0009	0.4499	0.0080	0.0543	0.0006	376	5	377	6	389	19	99.7%	
31	484.3	436.0	1.11	0.0573	0.0008	0.4235	0.0067	0.0537	0.0007	359	5	359	5	367	28	100.0%	
32	1201.1	1055.1	1.14	0.0589	0.0010	0.4434	0.0073	0.0547	0.0005	369	6	373	5	398	16	98.9%	
33	640.3	554.4	1.15	0.0576	0.0011	0.4249	0.0077	0.0536	0.0007	361	7	360	6	354	30	99.7%	
34	1369.8	927.8	1.48	0.0582	0.0010	0.4373	0.0075	0.0545	0.0006	365	6	368	5	391	24	99.2%	
35	610.1	586.2	1.04	0.0591	0.0009	0.4304	0.0073	0.0529	0.0007	370	5	364	5	324	30	98.4%	

Table 2. LA-ICP-MS zircon U-Pb dating results for the Hadayang schists.

Table 2. Cont.

		U 6) (10-6)		Isotopic Ratio							Age (Ma)						
Analytical No.	Th (10 ⁻⁶)		Th/U	²⁰⁶ Pb ^{/238} U		²⁰⁷ Pb	^{/235} U	²⁰⁷ Pb ^{/2}	²⁰⁶ Pb	²⁰⁶ Pb	^{/238} U	²⁰⁷ Pb	^{/235} U	U ²⁰⁷ Pb ^{/206} Pb		Concordance	
	(10)	(10)		Ratio	1σ	Ratio	1σ	Ratio	1σ	Age	1σ	Age	1σ	Age	1σ	-	
G1631-4 Chlorite ep	oidote biotite	albite schist															
1	414.8	339.8	1.22	0.0568	0.0010	0.4355	0.0077	0.0557	0.0008	356	6	367	5	443	32	97.0%	
2	268.7	273.3	0.98	0.0571	0.0007	0.4433	0.0102	0.0561	0.0010	358	5	373	7	458	41	95.9%	
3	211.8	198.9	1.06	0.0571	0.0008	0.4344	0.0087	0.0552	0.0009	358	5	366	6	420	35	97.8%	
4	285.3	300.2	0.95	0.0570	0.0007	0.4223	0.0078	0.0537	0.0008	357	4	358	6	367	33	99.7%	
5	161.0	296.5	0.54	0.0581	0.0009	0.4377	0.0092	0.0546	0.0008	364	6	369	7	395	33	98.6%	
6	52.5	100.1	0.52	0.0577	0.0009	0.4436	0.0124	0.0558	0.0014	362	6	373	9	456	54	97.0%	
7	91.9	110.7	0.83	0.0562	0.0009	0.4195	0.0109	0.0541	0.0012	353	5	356	8	376	53	99.2%	
8	321.8	326.1	0.99	0.0570	0.0011	0.4262	0.0100	0.0542	0.0008	358	7	361	7	389	33	99.2%	
9	133.0	179.9	0.74	0.0555	0.0008	0.4124	0.0084	0.0540	0.0010	348	5	351	6	372	39	99.1%	
10	138.7	284.9	0.49	0.0561	0.0010	0.4062	0.0084	0.0526	0.0009	352	6	346	6	322	37	98.3%	
11	209.1	210.6	0.99	0.0551	0.0008	0.4075	0.0072	0.0537	0.0008	346	5	347	5	367	35	99.7%	
12	459.3	411.0	1.12	0.0580	0.0016	0.4238	0.0116	0.0531	0.0008	363	10	359	8	345	32	98.9%	
13	189.4	209.4	0.90	0.0582	0.0010	0.4482	0.0129	0.0557	0.0013	365	6	376	9	439	50	97.0%	
14	348.6	343.1	1.02	0.0587	0.0011	0.4316	0.0087	0.0534	0.0008	368	7	364	6	346	27	98.9%	
15	159.3	192.3	0.83	0.0573	0.0010	0.4323	0.0103	0.0547	0.0010	359	6	365	7	398	36	98.3%	
16	102.2	129.5	0.79	0.0581	0.0014	0.4235	0.0146	0.0532	0.0016	364	8	359	10	345	67	98.6%	
17	151.1	170.2	0.89	0.0570	0.0009	0.4050	0.0103	0.0515	0.0011	357	5	345	8	261	50	96.6%	
18	128.2	179.6	0.71	0.0572	0.0009	0.4192	0.0087	0.0532	0.0010	359	5	356	6	339	47	99.2%	
19	212.1	226.9	0.93	0.0543	0.0009	0.4159	0.0104	0.0553	0.0010	341	6	353	7.5	433	39	96.5%	
20	163.6	203.1	0.81	0.0555	0.0009	0.4156	0.0084	0.0544	0.0009	348	6	353	6	391	39	98.6%	
21	380.3	405.1	0.94	0.0553	0.0009	0.4168	0.0085	0.0546	0.0007	347	6	354	6	395	34	98.0%	
22	145.1	179.4	0.81	0.0538	0.0007	0.4009	0.0087	0.0539	0.0010	338	4	342	6	367	43	98.8%	
23	420.8	585.3	0.72	0.0546	0.0008	0.3950	0.0067	0.0523	0.0006	343	5	338	5	302	24	98.5%	
24	110.9	133.7	0.83	0.0570	0.0008	0.4283	0.0118	0.0546	0.0015	357	5	362	8	395	61	98.6%	
25	70.2	127.1	0.55	0.0575	0.0007	0.4186	0.0105	0.0526	0.0011	360	5	355	8	322	51	98.6%	
26	141.9	153.0	0.93	0.0579	0.0009	0.4224	0.0100	0.0529	0.0011	363	5	358	7	324	48	98.6%	
27	122.8	179.0	0.69	0.0572	0.0008	0.4239	0.0085	0.0537	0.0010	359	5	359	6	361	39	100.0%	
28	245.0	234.4	1.05	0.0584	0.0012	0.4403	0.0145	0.0547	0.0015	366	7	371	10	467	58	98.6%	
29	249.3	250.8	0.99	0.0569	0.0010	0.4200	0.0093	0.0536	0.0010	357	6	356	7	354	47	99.7%	
30	369.7	389.9	0.95	0.0563	0.0009	0.4113	0.0065	0.0530	0.0006	353	6	350	5	328	32	99.1%	
31	337.6	274.2	1.23	0.0552	0.0008	0.3943	0.0079	0.0516	0.0007	346	5	338	6	265	32	97.7%	
32	414.8	339.8	1.22	0.0568	0.0010	0.4355	0.0077	0.0557	0.0008	356	6	367	5	443	32	97.0%	
33	268.7	273.3	0.98	0.0571	0.0007	0.4433	0.0102	0.0561	0.0010	358	5	373	7	458	41	95.9%	
34	211.8	198.9	1.06	0.0571	0.0008	0.4344	0.0087	0.0552	0.0009	358	5	366	6	420	35	97.8%	
35	285.3	300.2	0.95	0.0570	0.0007	0.4223	0.0078	0.0537	0.0008	357	4	358	7	367	33	99.7%	



Figure 7. U-Pb concordia and weighted mean ages for the epidote-biotite-albite schist (**a**) and biotite-albite schist (**b**).

4.3. Zircon Hf Isotopies

The zircons from the epidote-biotite-albite schist (sample G1631-1) had homogeneous ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf ratios of 0.282749 to 0.282872, with ε Hf(*t*) values of +6.5 to +11.0 (Figure 8), one-stage Hf model ($T_{\rm DM1}$) ages from 552 to 746 Ma and two-stage Hf model ($T_{\rm DM2}$) ages from 661 to 902 Ma. Similarly, the zircons from the biotite-albite schist sample (sample G1631-4) also possessed relatively homogeneous Hf isotopic compositions of 0.282783 to 0.282870, ε Hf(*t*) values of +7.9 to +10.9 (Figure 8), $T_{\rm DM1}$ ages from 547 to 649 Ma and $T_{\rm DM2}$ ages from 660 to 859 Ma (Table 3). All of these characteristics indicate that the parent magmas of the Hadayang schists were produced from a relatively depleted mantle source.



Figure 8. Diagrams of zircon Hf isotopic of the Hadayang schists.

Analytical Spot	t (Ma)	¹⁷⁶ Yb/ ¹⁷⁷ Hf	¹⁷⁶ Lu/ ¹⁷⁷ Hf	¹⁷⁶ Hf/ ¹⁷⁷ Hf	I _{Hf}	$\varepsilon_{\rm Hf}$ (0)	$\varepsilon_{\rm Hf}(t)$	T _{DM1} (Hf) (Ma)	T _{DM2} (Hf) (Ma)	f _{Lu/Hf}
				G1631-1 Epi	dote-biotite-	albite schi	ist			
1	365	0.065324	0.001772	0.282827	0.282815	2.0	9.6	615	756	-0.95
2	359	0.069656	0.001920	0.282866	0.282853	3.3	10.8	560	672	-0.94
3	361	0.082890	0.002175	0.282798	0.282783	0.9	8.3	665	832	-0.93
4	362	0.053714	0.001471	0.282834	0.282824	2.2	9.8	600	737	-0.96
5	360	0.112169	0.002980	0.282772	0.282752	0.0	7.2	718	902	-0.91
6	357	0.056043	0.001614	0.282853	0.282842	2.9	10.3	576	701	-0.95
7	360	0.059902	0.001785	0.282776	0.282764	0.1	7.6	690	876	-0.95
8	357	0.092929	0.002522	0.282821	0.282804	1.7	9.0	637	787	-0.92
9	358	0.056231	0.001558	0.282795	0.282785	0.8	8.3	657	829	-0.95
10	360	0.088918	0.002387	0.282836	0.28282	2.3	9.6	612	748	-0.93
11	363	0.093148	0.002687	0.282749	0.282731	-0.8	6.5	746	948	-0.92
12	359	0.069427	0.001865	0.282872	0.282859	3.5	11.0	552	661	-0.94
13	360	0.023950	0.000701	0.282780	0.282775	0.3	8.0	664	850	-0.98
14	358	0.064122	0.002020	0.282823	0.282809	1.8	9.2	625	773	-0.94
15	363	0.047436	0.001443	0.282801	0.282791	1.0	8.7	647	812	-0.96
				G1631-4	Biotite-albi	te schist				
1	356	0.050095	0.001393	0.282794	0.282785	0.8	8.3	655	829	-0.96
2	358	0.034306	0.000991	0.282851	0.282844	2.8	10.4	569	695	-0.97
3	358	0.033785	0.000965	0.282789	0.282782	0.6	8.2	656	835	-0.97
4	357	0.071549	0.002065	0.282846	0.282832	2.6	10.0	593	723	-0.94
5	364	0.031583	0.000947	0.282801	0.282794	1.0	8.8	639	804	-0.97
6	353	0.050729	0.001448	0.282840	0.28283	2.4	9.8	592	731	-0.96
7	358	0.105460	0.003007	0.282851	0.282831	2.8	10.0	600	724	-0.91
8	352	0.050404	0.001402	0.282870	0.282861	3.5	10.9	547	660	-0.96
9	359	0.030825	0.000972	0.282847	0.28284	2.7	10.3	574	703	-0.97
10	357	0.059140	0.001785	0.282820	0.282808	1.7	9.1	625	776	-0.95
11	359	0.059194	0.001850	0.282783	0.282771	0.4	7.9	679	859	-0.94
12	357	0.074471	0.002239	0.282795	0.28278	0.8	8.2	669	839	-0.93
13	359	0.062644	0.001924	0.282823	0.28281	1.8	9.2	624	772	-0.94
14	357	0.056902	0.001824	0.282832	0.28282	2.1	9.6	609	751	-0.95
15	353	0.081466	0.002392	0.282814	0.282798	1.5	8.7	645	802	-0.93

Table 3. In situ zircon Lu-Hf isotopic results for the Hadayang schists.

5. Discussion

5.1. Protolith Restoration

The trace elements of the Hadayang schists were generally enriched in LILEs and depleted of HFSEs, Sr/Ba > 1, Cr/Ni > 1. Furthermore, the samples retained the crystalloblasts, which indicates that Hadayang schists should be a metaigneous rock. On a plot of A-C-FM diagram (Figure 9a), the epidote-biotite-albite schist samples plot in the calc-silicate rock and quartzite and basic volcanic rocks and ferrous-dolomitic tuff fields, while the biotite-albite schist samples plot in the intermediate-acid volcanic rock field. As can be seen from the plot of K vs. A (Figure 9b), all of the samples were igneous rock. On the other hand, on the (al + fm) – (c + alk) vs. Si diagram (Figure 9c), all the samples were volcanic rocks.





Figure 9. Classification diagrams of the Hadayang schists. (a) A-C-FM diagram (after [74]) (I—claystone and acidic volcanic rock; II—claystone and subgrauwacke; II+III—intermediate-felsic volcanic rock and subgrauwacke; III—intermediate volcanic rock; IV—arkose; V—tuffaceous silt-stone; IX—basic volcanic rock and ferric dolomitic marlite; XI—calcium silicate rock and quartzite; X—calcium silicate rock; VIII—ultrabasic rock; VI+VII—silico-ferric sedimentary rock and ultrabasic rock); (b) A-K diagram (after [75]); (c) (al + fm) – (c + alk)-Si diagram (after [75]).

According to the comprehensive analysis of geochemical and petrographic characteristics, the protolith of Hadayang schist was a set of intermediate-basic volcanic rocks, among which the protolith of the epidotite-biotite-albite schist was a basalt, and the protolith of the biotite-albite schist was andesite.

5.2. Geochronological Framework

The Hadayang schists were previously considered to be Precambrian in age [76], but our chronological data indicate that they formed in the Late Devonian to Early Carboniferous period. Although the magmatic activity in this period was relatively weak in the region [77], in recent years, Late Devonian–Early Carboniferous magmatic rocks have been successively identified in the XB, such as in the Yakeshi-Huolongmen, Handagai, Nenjiang and Zhalantun-Zhalaite areas. The Late Devonian-Early Carboniferous magmatic rocks in the Yakeshi-Huolongmen area include rhyolite (ca. 364-379 Ma) [78], basalt (373 \pm 5 Ma) [79], diorite (381 \pm 2 Ma) [77] and gabbro (ca. 341–344 Ma) [78]. Biotite granite (364 ± 4 Ma) [80] and monzonitic granite (379 ± 4 Ma) [81] are found in the Handagai area. Silicic volcanic rocks (ca. 352–354 Ma) [16,58,59], monzonitic granite $(352 \pm 1 \text{ Ma})$ [16], syenite granite $(381 \pm 2 \text{ Ma})$ [60], hornblende gabbro $(363 \pm 1 \text{ Ma})$ [61] and hornblende rock (362 ± 1 Ma) [61] have been identified in the Nenjiang area. A large number of Late Devonian-Early Carboniferous granites, including alkali feldspar granite, syenite granite, monzonitic granite and granodiorite, with ages ranging from ca. 343 to 379 Ma [13,16,77,78,80–85], were exposed in the Zhalantun-Zhalaite Banner area. In addition, there are some basic-intermediate magmatic rocks scattered in this area, including andesite (ca. 346-362 Ma) [14,86,87], basaltic andesite (373 \pm 3 Ma) [88], quartz diorite (ca. 357–359 Ma) [16,78], gabbro diorite (350 ± 1 Ma) [78] and gabbro (353 ± 2 Ma) [59]. In summary, a magmatic activity occurred in the XB during the Late Devonian–Early Carboniferous period, but the tectonic significance of this magmatic event is still controversial.

5.3. Petrogenesis

5.3.1. Crustal Contamination

Before using the elemental and isotopic compositions of the samples to discuss the petrogenesis of the schists, we first assess the effects of post-magmatic alteration. The protolith of the Hadayang schists was an intermediate-basic volcanic rock, which had undergone greenschist facies metamorphism under the influence of regional metamorphism in a later period, which is supported by their LOI content of 2.23–4.05 wt% and the fact that some of the minerals had been partially replaced by chlorite and epidote. After rock metamorphism, high-field-strength elements (HFSEs), such as REEs, Y, Th, U, Zr,

Hf, Ti, Nb, Ta, etc., tend to exhibit inert migration characteristics without significant migration [89], so the characteristics of HFSEs can better reflect the protolith characteristics of metamorphic rocks.

Mantle-derived magma will inevitably be subjected to crustal contamination during the ascent process [90]. The crustal material is characterized by low Nb/La, Sm/Nd, Nb/Ta and Mg#, and high Th/La, La/Sm and SiO₂. Therefore, Mg# is positively correlated with the ratios of Nb/La, Nb/Ta and Sm/Nd, and negatively correlated with Th/La, La/Sm and SiO₂, which can indicate crustal contamination [91]. As can be seen from Figure 10, Mg# was positively correlated with Nb/La, Nb/Ta, Th/La, La/Sm and SiO₂, and negatively correlated with Sm/Nd, which is significantly different from the characteristics of crustal contamination. In addition, the Hadayang schists had significantly depleted Zr and Hf elements (Figure 5b), excluding inherited zircons, and had positive ε Hf(*t*) values of +5.8 to +9.3, suggesting that crustal contamination was not a significant factor during the magmatic evolution of the Hadayang schists.



Figure 10. Plots of Nb/La vs. Mg# (**a**), Th/La vs. Mg# (**b**), Nb/Ta vs. Mg# (**c**), La/Sm vs. Mg# (**d**), Sm/Nd vs. Mg# (**e**) and SiO₂ vs. Mg# (**f**) for the Hadayang schists.

5.3.2. Fractional Crystallization

The Hadayang schists had low Mg# (35.2–53.0), Cr (23.7–86.5 ppm), Ni (21.1–40.0 ppm) and Co (12.1–30.6 ppm) contents relative to primitive-mantle-derived magmas, suggesting that our samples were evolved magmas rather than primitive magmas. The negative

correlation between Mg# and CaO and FeO^T, and the fact that Mg# was positively correlated with Cr, Ni, SiO₂ and Na₂O, indicated olivine and clinopyroxene fractionation (Figure 11). Based on the negative Eu anomalies, plagioclase fractionation also must have played an important role in the evolution of these magmas.



Figure 11. Plots of CaO vs. Mg# (**a**), FeO^T vs. Mg# (**b**), SiO₂ vs. Mg# (**c**), Na₂O vs. Mg# (**d**), Cr vs. Mg# (**e**) and Ni vs. Mg# (**f**) for the Hadayang schists.

5.3.3. Magma Source

The source region of basic volcanic rocks is generally asthenosphere or lithospheric mantle [92]. The low silica and alkali contents of the Hadayang schists, and their high MgO, Ti, Co and Cr contents, all favor a mantle magmatic source. This conclusion is also supported by the positive $\varepsilon_{Hf}(t)$ values (the average values were +8.93 and +9.29, respectively) (Figure 8). The T_{DM1} ages (552 to 781 Ma and 547 to 679 Ma, respectively) indicated that their parental magma fractionated from mantle in the Neoproterozoic period. As mentioned above, the Hadayang schists have LILE enrichment and significant HFSE depletion with moderately fractionated REE patterns and relatively low HREE abundances, suggesting that the components of the magma source may have included aqueous fluids released by dehydration of the subducted oceanic plate and/or partial melts derived from the subducted oceanic crust/sediments. The Ba/Th ratio of the Hadayang schist

samples varied significantly, while the (La/Sm)_N ratio was relatively constant (Figure 12b), indicating that fluids played a key role in the enrichment process, and the influence of sediment was small or absent. The wide range of the Sr/Nd (10.1–30.7) ratio values further indicated that fluid action played a major role in the process of mantle-derived magma enrichment. The above characteristics are supported by the Nb/Zr vs. Th/Zr plot (Figure 12a). The abundances and ratios of REEs are widely used to distinguish the source regions of magma and the degree of partial melting [93]. As can be seen in Sm/Yb vs. Sm and Sm/Yb vs. La/Yb plots (Figure 12c, d), the Hadayang schist samples plot mainly near or slightly deviating from the garnet + spinel lherzolite melting curves, and they fall between these two melting curves with starting compositions of primitive mantle, implying a mantle source consisting of spinel and garnet lherzolite, and that it took 1%–5% partial melting of this mantle source to produce the parent magma of the Hadayang schists (Figure 12c,d).

5.4. Tectonic Evolution and Geological Significance

Although a lot of progress has been made in the study of Late Devonian–Early Carboniferous magmatic rocks in the XB, there are still major disputes about their tectonic setting, including the active continental margin or island arc [16,58,59,79,82,83,86,87], backarc basin [61,88], post-collision extensional [60] and subduction-related extension environment [78,81]. Some authors also believe that there was a transition from passive continental margin to island arc environment during this period [84,94]. In the following discussion, we suggest that the Late Devonian–Early Carboniferous magmatic rocks were formed in an intracontinental extension setting.

As mentioned in an earlier section, the Hadayang schists were characterized by LILE enrichment and significant HFSE depletion, and also exhibited moderately fractionated REE patterns and relatively low HREE abundances, which is also seen in the Late Devonian to Early Carboniferous basic magmatic rocks of the XB [61,78,86,88]. These geochemical characteristics are similar to those arc-type magmatic rocks [98], but there is some uncertainty in judging whether basic igneous rocks are arc magmatic rocks [99–101]. Previous studies have shown that the participation of fluids can change the geochemical characteristics of trace elements, and the precipitation of water-bearing fluid from subducting plates, or the release of water-bearing fluid from deep fluid circulation under the background of subducting plates, may lead to water-rich fluid metasomatism in the mantle source region, forming arc-like trace element characteristics [101-103]. Due to the differences in the contents of Zr, Ti and Sr elements between arc-like basalts and arc basalts, it is very effective to distinguish the two types of basalts by using a discriminant diagram of the above three elements [101]. On the plots of Ti/1000 vs. V, Zr vs. Zr/Y and Zr vs. Ti (Figure 13a,b,d), all of the Late Devonian to Early Carboniferous intermediate-basic magmatic rocks in the XB plot in the intraplate basalt field or deviating from the arc basalt area, similar to the geochemical characteristics of the North American Basin and Range basalt. As can be seen from the plot of Zr/Sm-Sr/Nd-Ti/V (Figure 13c), most of the samples plot in or near the intraplate magma and Basin and Range regions, which is significantly different from the nearly vertical characteristics of arc basalt. Based on the above analysis, we propose that the Late Devonian-Early Carboniferous intermediate-basic magmatic rocks in the eastern XB may have been formed in an intracontinental extension tectonic setting similar to the North American Basin and Range basalt. Coincidentally, the same tectonic background also appears in the western part of the XB. Previous studies have shown that the Erenhot–Hegenshan ophiolite in the XB was formed during the Late Devonian–Early Carboniferous [104–110] and was the product of the upwelling process of the asthenosphere caused by the extension of the lithosphere [111,112]. Based on the identification of basement rocks and other evidence around the ophiolite [113], it was indicated that the ophiolite would have been formed in the continental crust extension zone [6,114]. In summary, we believe that the XB would have been in the stage of intracontinental extension during the Late Devonian–Early Carboniferous.



Figure 12. Plots of Nb/Zr vs. Th/Zr ((**a**), after [95]), La/Sm vs. Sm/Yb ((**b**), after [96]), Sm vs. Sm/Yb ((**c**), after [97]) and La/Yb vs. Sm/Yb ((**d**), after [97]) for the Hadayang schists.



Figure 13. Structural discrimination diagrams of V vs. Ti/1000 ((**a**), after [115]), Zr/Y vs. Zr ((**b**), after [89]), Zr/Sm-Sr/Nd-Ti/V (**c**) and Ti vs. Zr ((**d**), after [116]) for Late Devonian to Early Carboniferous intermediate-basic rocks in the eastern XB. CFB = continental flood basalts; OIBs = ocean-island basalts; MORB = mid-ocean ridge basalt; WPB = within-plate basalts; IAB = island arc basalts; VAB = volcanic arc basalt; WTB = within-plate tholeiitic basalt.

6. Conclusions

- 1. The protolith of the Hadayang schists was intermediate-basic volcanic rock. LA-ICP-MS U-Pb dating of zircons from the epidote-biotite-albite schist and biotite-albite schist yielded crystallization ages of 360 ± 2 Ma (MSWD = 1.4) and 355 ± 3 Ma (MSWD = 2.1). This, combined with the presence of contemporaneous magmatic rocks in the region, indicates an important magmatic event in the eastern XB during the Late Devonian–Early Carboniferous.
- 2. The magma source of the Hadayang schists was a mantle that consisted of both spinel and garnet lherzolite, with a partial melting degree of 1%–5%, and which underwent fractional crystallization of olivine, orthopyroxene and plagioclase.
- 3. The Late Devonian–Early Carboniferous intermediate-basic magmatic rocks in the eastern XB were formed in an intracontinental extension setting, which is consistent with the tectonic setting of contemporaneous ophiolites in the western section. The Xing'an block would have been in the stage of intracontinental extension during the Late Devonian–Early Carboniferous.

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