

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# TAXONOMIC CONSIDERATION OF THE PALEOGENE PLANKTIC FORAMINIFERA OF OMAN, ARABIAN SEA

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## ABSTRACT

The present study deals with the taxonomical consideration of the forty-seven species of planktic foraminiferal Paleogene species belonging to 6 genera from Ja'alan area, south East Sultanate of Oman, Arabian Sea, and represent good example of the Southern Tethyan Paleogene assemblage, which were originally identified by Al-Sayigh, (1998). The Oman assemblage are recognized between the Upper Palaeocene (P4) and upper Middle Eocene (P14). Eight species of the recorded assemblage are believed here to be new: *Globigerinatheka arabica*, *Globigerinatheka omanica*, *Acarinina umbilicata*, *Morozovella elbadrii*, *Morozovella elsayighi*, *Morozovella omanica*, *Morozovella surensis* and *Morozovella wadimusawaensis*. A possible hiatus representing the planktonic zones P5/P8 is recognized. The wide paleogeographic distribution of this assemblage in Oman and different localities around the surrounding area and also other Northern and Southern Tethys indicates that the ancestral Tethys is connected with the ancestral Atlantic to Pacific Oceans (via Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean). The study section was deposited in an open deep marine environment which represent outer shelf (~200m), and was tectonically active, with marked oscillations in sea level.

## KEYWORDS

Planktic Foraminifera, Paleogene, Oman, Arabian Sea, Tethys

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Paleogene rocks in Oman outcrop as a discontinuous belt in mountains around the eastern front of the North Oman Mountains. The present paper of Ja'alan area is one of a series of studying planktic foraminiferal assemblages of the Paleogene succession of Oman. Previous studies on the stratigraphy and planktic foraminiferal content of Ja'alan area, SE Oman are pertinent to the present study (Roger et al., 1991; Racey, 1988; White, 1989; Jones and Racey; 1994; and El-Sayigh, 1998). Another comprehensive studies of other surrounded areas are pertinent to this study: United Arab Emirates (UAE): Glennie et al., 1974; Hunting, 1979; Cherif and El-Deeb, 1984; Anan et al., 1992; Anan and Hamdan, 1993; Anan, 1993a,b, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2014, 2015a-c, 2016, 2018, 2020a,b, 2023; Saudi Arabia (SA): El-Khayal, 1947, Hasson, 1985, El-Naggar and Kamel, 1988. Kuwait: Al-Naqib, 1967, El-Nakhal and El-Naggar, 1988; Qatar: Smout, 1954. Yemen: El-Naggar and El-Nakhal, 1988. Iran: VahdatiRad et al, 2016; Salahi, A. 2021. Pakistan: Haque: 1956, 1960, 1962; Shafique, 2001; Gibson, 2007. India: Samanta, 1969; 1970.

Sultanate of Oman lies on the eastern margin of the Arabian Peninsula and is bordered by the Gulf of Oman to the North and Arabian Sea to the East (Figure 1A). The study area (Wadi Musawa Section) are located in the Ja'alan area to the South East of Muscat (Figure 1B). The present study deals with the taxonomic consideration of 47 planktic foraminiferal Paleogene species of Ja'alan area, south Sur City, East Oman (Figure 1 A, B).

The recorded species of Oman are correlated with the synchronous foraminiferal species from other surrounded Southern Tethyan localities, e.g.: Saudi Arabia: (El-Khayal, 1974; Hasson, 1985; El-Naggar and Kamel,

1988), United Arab Emirate, UAE (Anan, et al., 1992; Anan and Hamdan, 1993; Anan, 1993; 2015a-c; 2016; 2018; 2020a,b; 2023), Iran: (VahdatiRad et al, 2016; Salahi, 2021), Pakistan: (Haque, 1956; Samanta, 1973).

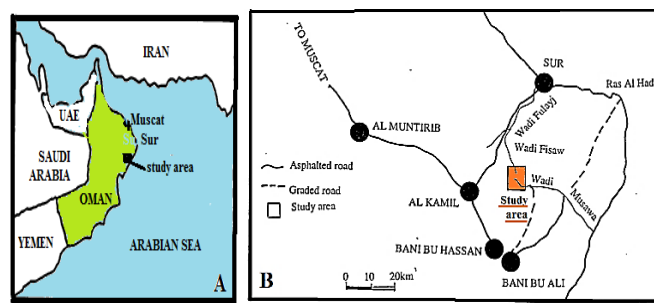


Figure 1A, B: Location map of the study Ja'alan area, south Sur city, south East of Oman (after Al-Sayigh, 1998).

## 2. STRATIGRAPHY OF THE STUDY JA'ALAN AREA

The modern taxonomical consideration of 47 planktic foraminiferal species belonging to 6 genera of the faunal assemblage were recorded from the Paleocene-Eocene of the Wadi Musawa section in Ja'alan area, which was subdivided into three formations namely the Abat Formation (Lat. 22° 19' N - Long. 58° 23' E), Musawa Formation (Lat. 22° 19' 11" N - Long 58° 23' 10" E) and Tahwah Formation (Lat. 22° 19' 11" N - Long. 58° 23' 13" E) (Figures 2-5).

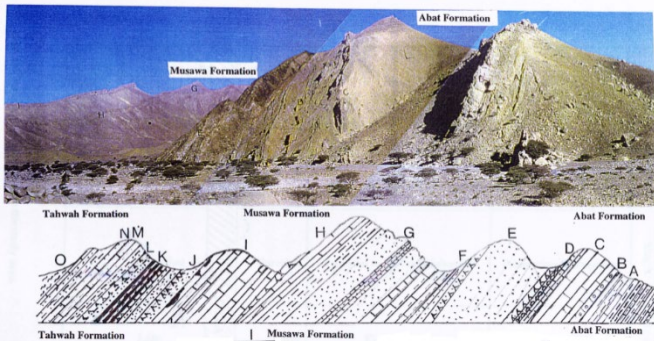
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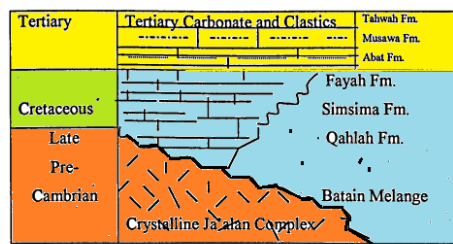
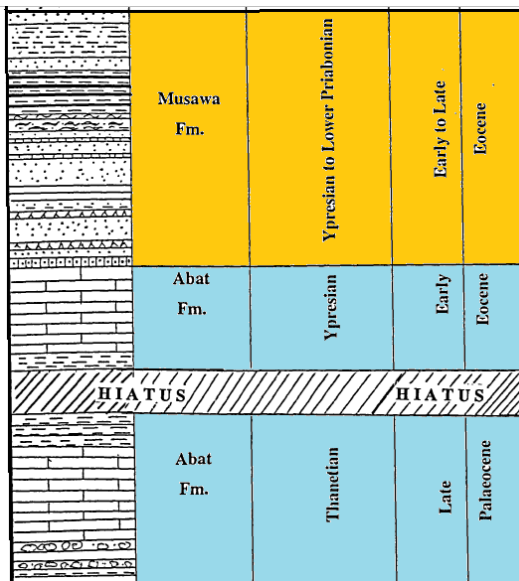
**Figure 2:** The schematic lithostratigraphic succession of Ja'alan area, which consists of the Abat Formation (units A-D), the Musawa Formation (units E-L) and the Tahwah Formation (units M-O).

The age of the different formations of the Ja'alan area by different authors is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1:** The general stratigraphy of Oman Mountains compared with Ja'alan area, SE Oman (after El-Sayigh, 1998).

OMAN MOUNTAINS		JA'ALAN AREA	
Age	Glennie, 1974	Nolan, 1986	Roger, 1991 Al-Sayigh, 1998
Late Eocene to Early Oligocene			Tahwah Fm. Tahwah Fm.
Mid Eocene	Dammam Fm.	Seeb Fm.	Musawa Fm. Musawa Fm.
Early to Mid Eocene	Rus Fm.	Rusayl Fm.	
Late Palaeocene to Early Eocene	Um-Er Radhuma Fm.	Jafnayn Fm.	Abat Fm. Abat Fm.

The stratigraphic log of the Late Paleocene-Early Eocene Abat Formation (including the hiatus at Paleocene/Eocene boundary within this formation) and Early to Middle Eocene Musawa Formations of Ja'alan area is shown in Figure 3.

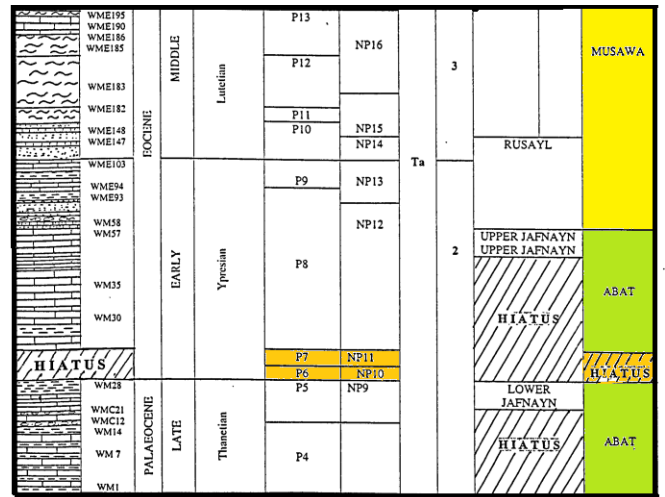


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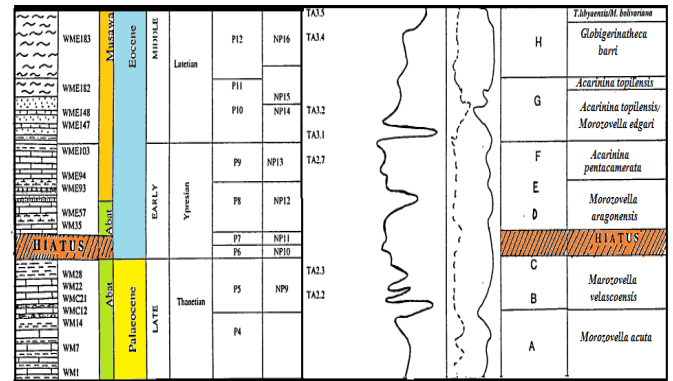
(1) Ja'alan Complex. (2) Simsima Fm. (3) Abat Fm. (4) Musawa Fm. (5) Tahwah Fm.

**Figure 3:** The stratigraphy of the Late Paleocene-Middle Eocene succession of Abat and Musawa Formations (after Al-Sayigh, 1998).



**Figure 4:** Summary stratigraphy Eastern Oman Mountains compared with Western Oman Mountains: 1) Planktonic Foraminifera, 2) Calcareous nannoplankton, 3) Larger Foraminifera (modified after Jones and Racey, 1994; El-Sayigh, 1998).

Lithology	Sample No.	Formations	Epochs	Age	Stages	Blow (1964, 1979) Berggren et al., (1988) Paces	Martin (1971) NP-ZONE	Hay of al Curve (1987)	% Benthonic Foraminifera	% Planktonic Foraminifera	Lithostratigraphic units	Planktonic Foraminiferal zones Present study (Ja'al, Ja'alan area) Wadi Musawa and Wadi Saq sections, SE Oman
									10	20		



**Figure 5.** Sequence stratigraphic framework of the study area: The calibration of local lithostratigraphic units against bio- and sequence stratigraphic standers. Note the hiatus between Paleocene (*Morozovella velascoensis* Zone) and the Ypresian (*Morozovella aragonensis* Zone) (after El-Sayigh, 1998).

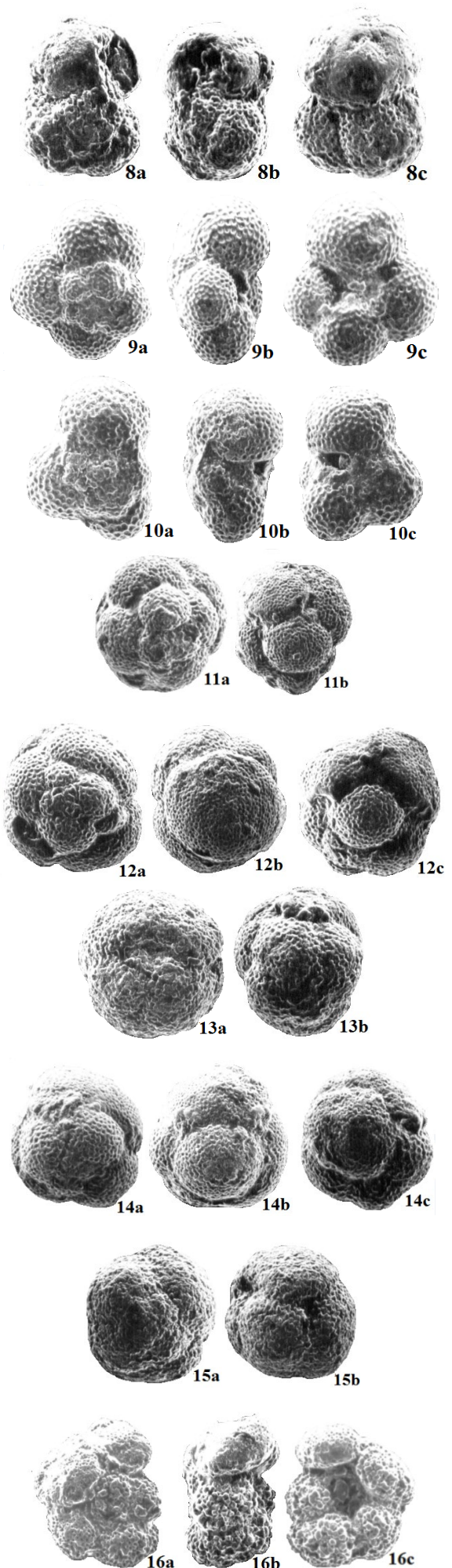
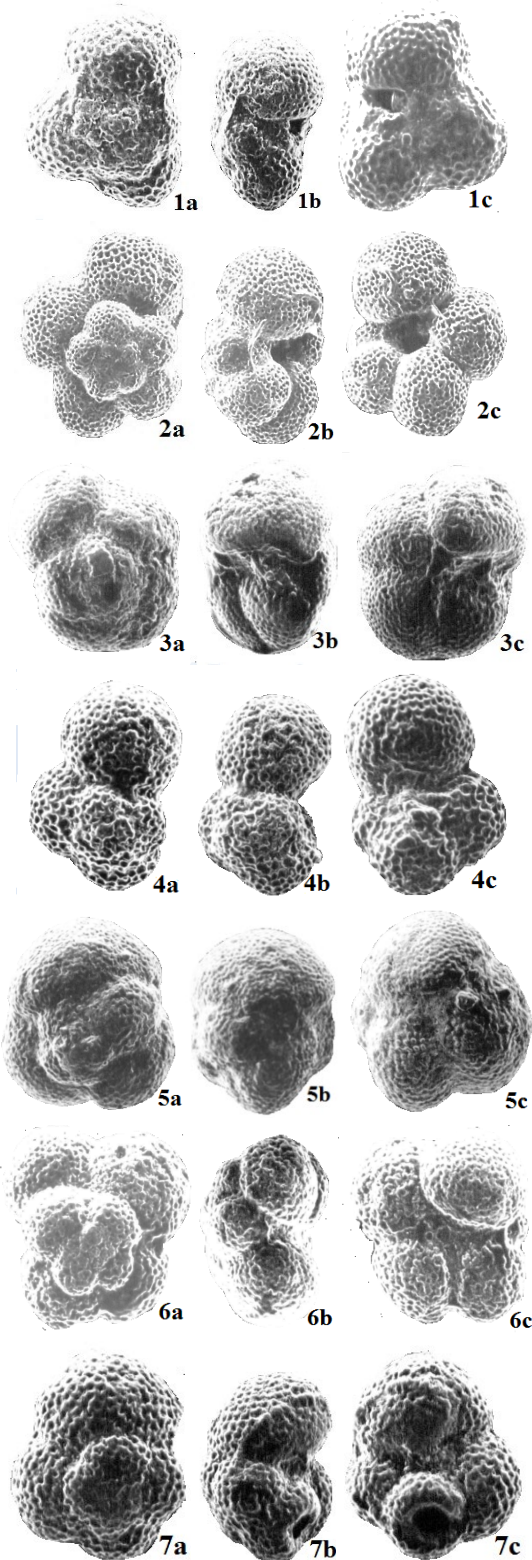
### 3. SYSTEMATIC PALEONTOLOGY

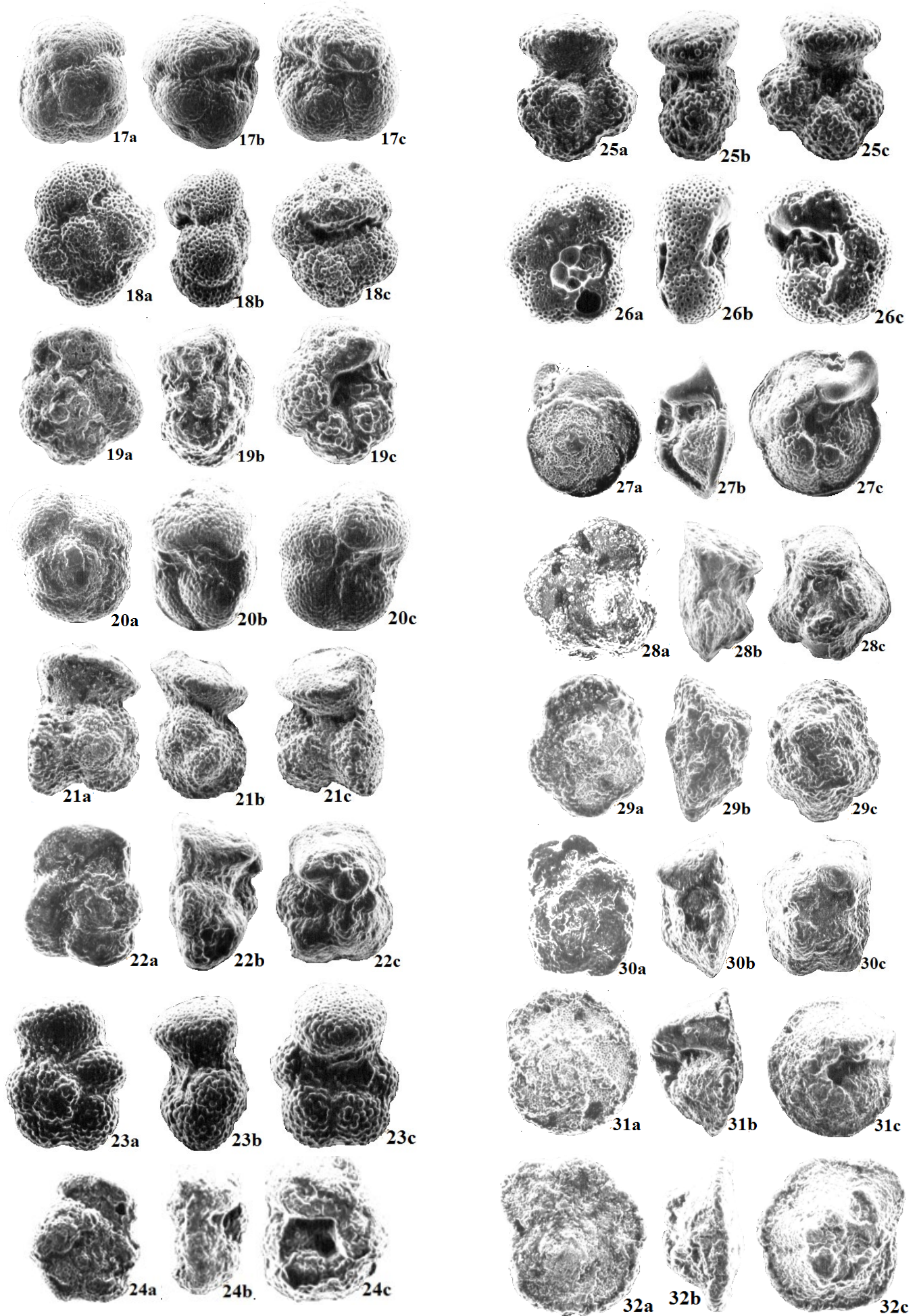
The systematic taxonomy of the foraminifera is still undergoing active revision. The modern taxonomical consideration of the Paleocene-Eocene planktonic foraminiferal species of Abat and Musawa Formations of Ja'alan area, Southeast of Oman: Olsson et al., 1999 and Pearson et al., 2006 are treated in this study included forty-seven species belonging to 6 genera (*Parasubbotina*, *Globigerina*, *Subbotina*, *Globigerinatheka*, *Acarinina* and *Morozovella*) are illustrated in Plates 1.

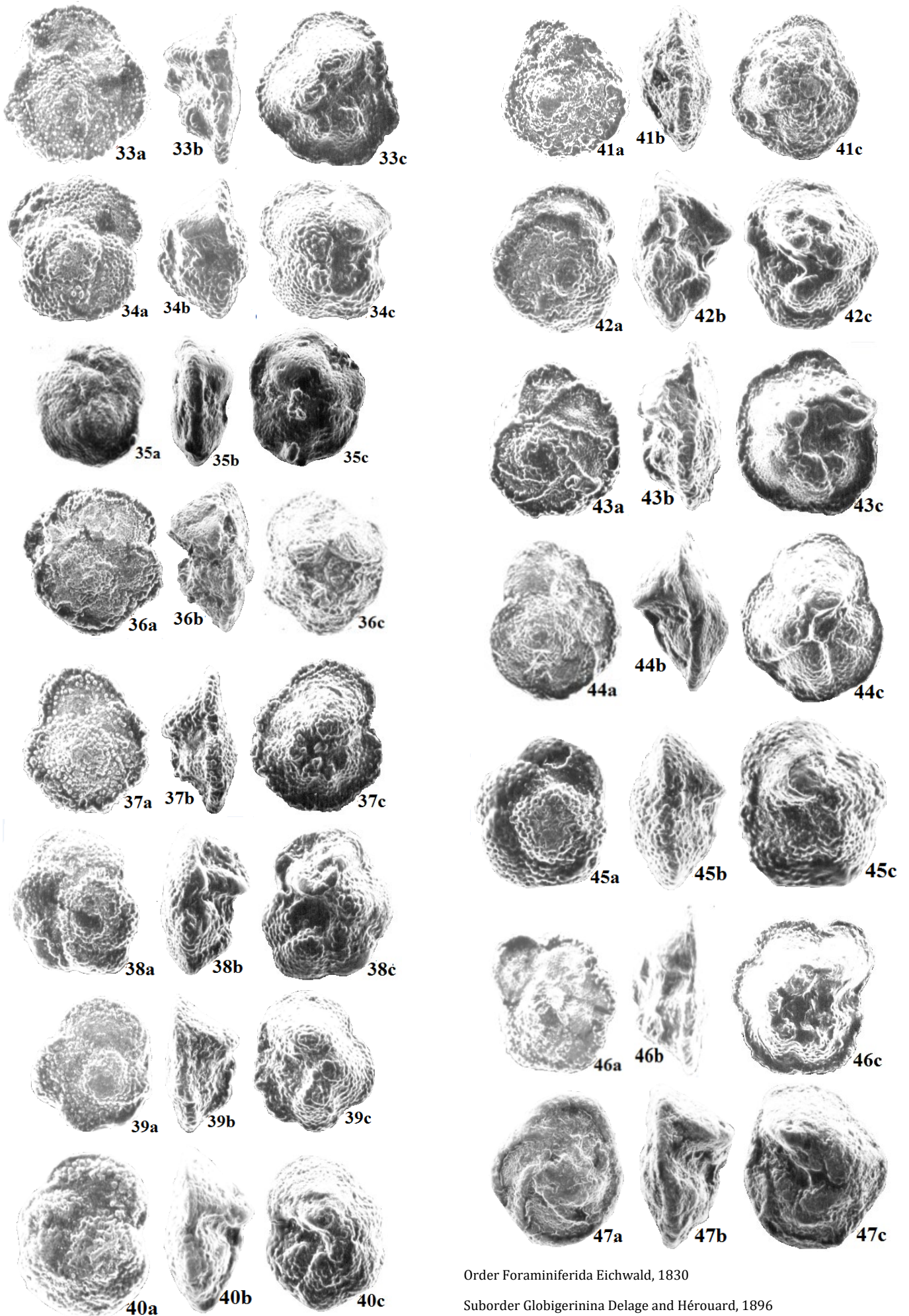
**Plate 1** (all figures x 100, a=dorsal view, b= side view, c=ventral view)

**Figure 1:** *Parasubbotina eoelava* Coxall, (Huber and Pearson, 2003) **2.** *Parasubbotina inaequispira* (Subbotina, 1953), **3.** *Parasubbotina pseudowilsoni* (Olsson and Pearson, 2006), **4.** *Globigerina officinalis* (Subbotina, 1953), **5.** *Subbotina hornibrooki* (Brönnimann, 1952), **6.** *Subbotina quadrata* (El-Naggar, 1966), **7.** *Subbotina triangularis* (White, 1928), **8.** *Subbotina trilocolinoides* (Plummer, 1926), **9.** *Subbotina trivialis* (Cushman, 1953), **10.** *Subbotina yeguensis* (Weinzierl and Applin, 1929), **11.** *Globigerinatheka arabica* (Anan, n. sp.) **12.** *Globigerinatheka barri* (Brönnimann, 1952), **13.** *Globigerinatheka index* (Finlay, 1939), **14.** *Globigerinatheka omanica* Anan, n. sp., **15.** *Globigerinatheka s. subconglobata* Shutskaya, 1958), **16.** *Acarinina aspensis* (Colom, 1954), **17.** *Acarinina centralis* (Cushman and Bermudez, 1937), **18.** *Acarinina collectea* (Finlay, 1939), **19.** *Acarinina esnaensis* (LeRoy, 1953), **20.** *Acarinina pentacamerata* (Subbotina, 1947), **21.** *Acarinina praetopilensis* (Blow, 1979), **22.** *Acarinina quetra* (Bolli, 1957), **23.** *Acarinina rohri*

(Brönnimann and Bermúdez, 1953), **24.** *Acarinina soldadoensis* (Brönnimann, 1952), **25.** *Acarinina topilensis* (Cushman, 1925), **26.** *Acarinina umbilicata* (Anan, n. sp.) **27.** *Morozovella abundocamerata* (Bolli, 1957), **28.** *Morozovella acuta* (Toulmin, 1941), **29.** *Morozovella aequa* (Cushman and Renz, 1942), **30.** *Morozovella angulata* (White, 1928), **31.** *Morozovella aragonensis* (Nuttall, 1930), **32.** *Morozovella caucasica* (Glaessner, 1937), **33.** *Morozovella crater* (Finlay, 1939), **34.** *Morozovella edgari* (Premoli Silva and Bolli, 1973), **35.** *Morozovella elbadrii* (Anan, sp.), **36.** *Morozovella elsayighi* (Anan, n. sp.) **37.** *Morozovella f. formosa* (Bolli, 1957), **38.** *Morozovella gracilis* (Bolli, 1957), **39.** *Morozovella marginodentata* (Subbotina, 1953), **40.** *Morozovella nicoli* (Martin, 1943), **41.** *Morozovella oclusa* (Loeblich and Tappan, 1957), **42.** *Morozovella omanica* (Anan, n. sp.) **43.** *Morozovella pasionensis* (Bermúdez, 1961), **44.** *Morozovella subbotinae* (Morozova, 1939), **45.** *Morozovella surensis* (Anan, n. sp.) **46.** *Morozovella velascoensis* (Cushman, 1925), **47.** *Morozovella wadimusawaensis* (Anan, n. sp.)







Order Foraminiferida Eichwald, 1830

Suborder Globigerinina Delage and Hérouard, 1896

### 3.1 Genus *Parasubbotina* (Olsson et al., 1992)

- *Parasubbotina eoelava* Coxall, Huber and Pearson, 2003, p. 99, plate 5.9, figures. 1-16 (= *Globigerina linaperta* group – El-Sayigh, 1998, p. plate 16, figures. 1-3). Eocene. North Atlantic, Tanzania, Oman, Pacific Ocean
- *Parasubbotina inaequispira* (Subbotina, 1953) (= *Globigerina inaequispira* Subbotina, 1953, p. 84, plate 6, figures 1-4) (= *Globigerina linaperta* group, plate 16, figures 10-12). Eocene. Caucasus, Tanzania, Egypt, UAE, Oman
- *Parasubbotina pseudowilsoni* Olsson and Pearson, 2006, p. 103, plate 5.12, figures 1-6 (= *Morozovella bolivariana* (Petters, 1954), plate 3, figures 1-3). Eocene. Mexico, Oman

### 3.2 Genus *Globigerina* (d'Orbigny, 1826)

- *Globigerina officinalis* Subbotina, 1953, p. 105, plate. 11 figures. 1-7 (=). Eocene. USA, Caucasus, Tanzania, Egypt, Oman.

### 3.3 Genus *Subbotina* (Brotzen and Pozaryska, 1961)

- *Subbotina hornibrooki* (Brönnimann, 1952) (= *Globigerina hornibrooki* Brönnimann, 1952, p. 15, plate. 2, figures. 4-6; El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 15, figures. 9-11). Paleocene-Eocene. Trinidad, Caucasus, Maly, Azerbaydzhan, Oman, Pacific Ocean
- *Subbotina quadrata* (El-Naggar, 1966) (= *Globorotalia quadrata* El-Naggar, 1966, p. 233, plate 18, figs. 4; El-Sayigh, 1998, p. plate 7, figures. 10-12). Eocene. Egypt, Oman, India
- *Subbotina triangularis* (White, 1928) (= *Globigerina triangularis* White, 1928: p. 195, pl. 28, figure 1; El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 11, figures 7-9). Paleocene. Mexico, Trinidad, Caucasus, Maly, Turkmenia, Egypt, UAE, Oman
- *Subbotina trilocolinoides* (Plummer, 1926) (= *Globigerina trilocolinoides* Plummer, 1927, p. 134, plate 8, figure 10; El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 11, figures 10-12). Paleocene. USA, Mexico, Trinidad, Atlantic Ocean, Denmark, Sweden, Italy, Turkmenia, Tanzania, Egypt, UAE, Oman, Australia,
- *Subbotina trivialis* (Subbotina, 1953) (= *Globigerina trivialis* Subbotina, 1953, p. 64, plate 4, figure 4; *Globigerina linaperta* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 17, figures 4-6). Paleocene. Caucasus, Brazil, Atlantic Ocean, Turkmenia, Indian and Pacific Ocean, Egypt, UAE, Oman
- *Subbotina yeguaensis* (Weinzierl and Applin, 1929) (= *Globigerina yeguaensis* Weinzierl and Applin, 1929, p. 409, plate 43, figure 1; *Globigerina linaperta* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 16, figures 1-3). Eocene. USA, Trinidad, Atlantic Ocean, Caucasus, Tanzania, Egypt, UAE, Oman, Pakistan, India, Indian and Pacific Oceans,

### 3.4 Genus *Globigerinatheka* (Brönnimann, 1952)

- *Globigerinatheka arabica* Anan, n. sp. (= *Globigerinatheka* sp. A. - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 153, plate 14, figures 11-12).

Holotype: : illustrated specimen in Plate 1, figures 11a-b.

Etymology: after Wadi Musawa section, Sultanet of Oman, Arabian Sea.

Stratigraphic level: Middle Eocene.

Diagnosis: Globular coarsely perforate test with four chambers in the last whorl, which increasing in size towards the last whorl, sutures deep and curved, only two to three openings visible between chambers, without obvious bulla.

Remarks: The Omani species is similar to *Globigerinatheka barri* but lacks the bullae. This new species in association with *Globigerinatheka barri* and *Truncorotaloides topilensis*.

- *Globigerinatheka barri* Brönnimann, 1952, p. 27 (partim), text-figure 3a (=El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 148, plate 14, figures 1-3). Eocene. USA, Trinidad, Atlantic Ocean, Italy, Hungary, Tanzania, Tunisia, Egypt, UAE, Oman, Pakistan, India, Pacific Ocean, New Zealand
- *Globigerinatheka index* (Finlay, 1939) (= *Globigerinoides index* Finlay, 1939, p. 125 (partim), plate 14: figures 85-88; *Globigerinatheka euganea* - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 151, plate 14, figures. 7, 8). Eocene. USA, Mexico, Caucasus, Atlantic Ocean, Slovakia, Hungary, Italy, Tanganyika, Tanzania, Toumarkine, Egypt, UAE, Oman, India, Indian and Pacific

Oceans, New Zealand

- *Globigerinatheka omanica* Anan, n. sp. (= *Globigerinatheka* cf. *curryi* - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 150, plate 14, figures 4-6).

Holotype: illustrated specimen in Plate 1, figures 14a-c.

Etymology: after Wadi Musawa section, Sultanet of Oman (see Figure 1A, B).

Stratigraphic level: Middle Eocene.

Diagnosis: Globular to subglobular coarsely perforations with reticulate ornament test, chambers globular increased moderately in size towards the end of the last whorl, which three chambers are present in the last whorls, sutures slightly curved deep sutures, large bulla is obvious.

Remarks: The Oman specimen is smaller in size and has less chambers in the last stage than *Globigerinatheka curryi*. *Globigerinatheka omanica* differs from *G. euganea* in having more strongly incised sutures, more strongly inflated chambers and consequently a less spherical test shape.

- *Globigerinatheka s. subconglobata* Shutskeya, 1958, p. 86, plate 1, figures. 1-14 (= *Globigerinatheka euganea* - El-Sayigh, 1998, pl. 14, figs. 7,8). Early Eocene. USA, Trinidad, Atlantic Ocean, Italy, Caucasus, Hungary, Arabian Sea, Pacific Ocean

### 3.5 Genus *Acarinina* (Subbotina, 1953)

- *Acarinina aspensis* (Colom, 1954) (= *Globigerina aspensis* Colom, 1954, p. 151, plate 3, figures. 1-35). Eocene. Trinidad, Cuba, Atlantic Ocean, Spain, Slovakia, Egypt, Oman, India, Pacific Ocean
- *Acarinina centralis* (Cushman and Bermudez, 1937) (= *Globorotalia centralis* Cushman and Bermudez 1937, p. 26, plate 2, figures. 62-65; *Morozovella centralis* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 13, figures. 1-3). Middle-Late Eocene. Cuba, Egypt, Oman, India
- *Acarinina collactea* (Finlay, 1939) (= *Acarinina esnaensis* (Le Roy) - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 10, figures. 4-6). Early Eocene. USA, Trinidad, Denmark, Caucasus, Nigeria, Tanzania, Oman, India, Indian and Pacific Oceans, New Zealand
- *Acarinina esnaensis* (LeRoy, 1953) (= *Acarinina soldadoensis* (Brönnimann, 1952b) - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 10, figures. 10-12). Paleocene-Early Eocene. Trinidad, Egypt, Oman, Arabian Sea
- *Acarinina pentacamerata* (Subbotina, 1947) (= *Globorotalia pentacamerata* Subbotina, 1947, p. 128, (partim), plate 7, figures 15-17; *Morozovella bolivariana* - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 95, plate 3, figures 1-3). Eocene. Trinidad, Atlantic Ocean, Spain, Sweden, Germany, Austria, Ukraine, Italy, Caucasus, Azerbaijan, Egypt, UAE, Oman, Arabian Sea, India, Indian and Pacific Oceans
- *Acarinina praetopilensis* (Blow, 1979) (= *Globorotalia (Truncorotaloides) topilensis praetopilensis* Blow, 1979, p.1043, plate 155, figure 9; plate 203, figs. 1-2). Eocene. Atlantic Ocean, Tanzania, Oman
- *Acarinina quetra* (Bolli, 1957) (= *Globorotalia quetra* Bolli 1957, p. 79, plate 19, figures 1-3; *Morozovella* sp. A - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 115, plate 9, figures 1-3). Early Eocene. Trinidad, Atlantic Ocean, Germany, Egypt, UAE, Oman, Pakistan, Pacific Ocean
- *Acarinina rohri* (Brönnimann and Bermúdez, 1953) (= *Truncorotaloides rohri* Brönnimann and Bermúdez, 1953, p. 818, plate 87, figures 7-9; *Truncorotaloides libyaensis* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 12, figures 1-6). Eocene. USA, Mexico, Trinidad, Hungary, Tanzania, Egypt, UAE, Oman, India
- *Acarinina soldadoensis* (Brönnimann, 1952) (= *Globigerina soldadoensis* Brönnimann, 1952, p. 7, plate 1, figures 1-9; El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 11, figure. 1-3). Paleocene-Early Eocene. Trinidad, Atlantic Ocean, Tanzania, Tunisia, Egypt, UAE, Oman, Azerbaijan, Indian and Pacific Oceans, New Zealand
- *Acarinina topilensis* (Cushman, 1925) (= *Globigerina topilensis* Cushman, 1925, p. 7, plate 1, figure 9; *Truncorotaloides topilensis* (Cushman, 1925) - El-Sayigh, p. 1998, plate 12, figures 7-9). Eocene. USA, Mexico, Trinidad, Cuba, Atlantic Ocean, Hungary, Morocco, Egypt, UAE, Oman, India, Pacific Ocean, New Zealand

- *Acarinina umbilicata* Anan, n. sp. (= *Acarinina* sp. El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 127, plate 11, figures 4-6)

Holotype: illustrated specimen in Plate 1, figures. 26a-c.

Etymology: after the diagnostic wide umbilicus

Stratigraphic level: Early Eocene in Wadi Musawa section of the SE Oman Mountains.

Diagnosis: Test compact, 4-4.5 subglobular chambers in the last whorl with coarsely perforated surface, chambers increase in size compared with the much smaller chambers of the earlier whorls, flat dorsal side with slightly concave at the centre but slightly convex ventral side, rounded to subacute periphery, slightly depressed spiral sutures, while umbilical sutures are deep and curved, deep wide open umbilicus with a low arched aperture open to the umbilicus.

Remarks: This new species is characterized by its compact strongly perforated test, and deep wide open umbilicus

### 3.6 Genus *Morozovella* McGowran in Luterbacher, 1964

- *Morozovella abundocamerata* (Bolli, 1957) (= *Globorotalia angulata abundocamerata* Bolli, 1957, p. 74, plate 17, figures 4-6; *Morozovella abundocamerata* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 1, figs. 1-3). Paleocene. Trinidad, Italy, Oman
- *Morozovella acuta* (Toulmin, 1941) (= *Globorotalia wilcoxensis* Cushman and Ponton var. *acuta* Toulmin 1941, p. 608, plate 82, figures. 6-8; *Morozovella acuta* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 1, figures. 4-6). Paleocene-Early Eocene. USA, Trinidad, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Tunisia, Egypt, UAE, Oman, Pakistan, India
- *Morozovella aequa* (Cushman and Renz, 1942) (= *Globorotalia crassata* Cushman var. *aequa* Cushman & Renz 1942, p. 12, plate 3, figure 3), *Morozovella acuta* - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 85, plate 1, figures 10-12). Paleocene-Early Eocene. USA, Trinidad, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Oman, India
- *Morozovella angulata* (White, 1928) (= *Globigerina angulata* White 1928, p. 191-192, pl. 27, fig. 13; *Morozovella angulata* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 2, figures. 4-6). Paleocene. Mexico, USA, Trinidad, Egypt, UAE, Oman, India
- *Morozovella aragonensis* (Nuttall, 1930) (= *Globorotalia aragonensis* Nuttall 1930, p. 288, plate 24, figures 6-11; *Morozovella aragonensis* - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 85, plate 2, figures. 7-9). Early Eocene. Mexico, Trinidad, Egypt, UAE, Oman, India
- *Morozovella caucasica* (Glaessner, 1937) (= *Globorotalia aragonensis* Nuttall *caucasica* Glaessner 1937, p. 31, plate 1, figure 6; *Morozovella caucasica* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 3, figs. 7-9). Early Eocene. Caucasus, Egypt, UAE, Oman, New Zealand
- *Morozovella crater* (Finlay, 1939) (= *Globorotalia crater* Finlay, 1939, p. 69, plate 1, figure 25; *Morozovella marginodentata* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 5, figures. 10-12). Early Eocene. New Zealand, Oman
- *Morozovella edgari* (Premoli Silva and Bolli, 1973) (= *Globorotalia edgari* Premoli Silva & Bolli 1973, p. 526, plate 7, figures. 10-12, plate 8, figures. 1-2; *Morozovella edgari* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 4, figures 10-12). Early Eocene. Caribbean, Spain, Egypt, UAE, Oman
- *Morozovella elbadrii* Anan, sp. (= *Morozovella* sp. D - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 119, pl. 10, figures 1-3).

Holotype: illustrated specimen in Plate 1, figure. 35a-c.

Etymology: after Dr. Ahmad Saleh Elbadrii, Chairman of Consulting and Training

Stratigraphic level: Middle Eocene.

Diagnosis: Test low trochospiral planoconvex test, 5 chambers increase slowly in size as added in the last whorl, surface strongly perforated, periphery rounded to subacute, sutures curved limbate raised on spiral side but incised on umbilical side, shallow wide open umbilicus, aperture low arch and is umbilical to extraumbilical.

Remarks: This new species differs from all other known *Morozovella* species in having raised curved spiral sutures, depressed shallow wide open umbilicus, and low arch and is umbilical to extraumbilical aperture.

- *Morozovella elsayighi* Anan, n. sp. (= *Morozovella acuta* El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 88, plate 1, figures. 7-9).

Holotype: illustrated specimen in Plate 1, figure 36a-c.

Etymology: after the micropaleontologist Abdul Razak Siddiq El-Sayigh, University of Wales, United Kingdom.

Stratigraphic level:

Diagnosis: Test rhomboidal planoconvex, umbilical side strongly convex while spiral side almost flat, five chambers in the last whorls which increase slowly as added, well developed umbilical shoulders, periphery acute with keel, wide deep open umbilicus, umbilical sutures depressed, low arched aperture.

Remarks: This new species *M. elsayighi* differs from *M. acuta* by its rhomboidal low trochospiral test than semi-rounded test of the latter.

- *Morozovella f. formosa* (Bolli, 1957) (= *Globorotalia f. formosa* Bolli 1957, p. 76, pl. 18, figs. 1-3; *Morozovella gracilis* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 5, figures. 4-6). Early Eocene. Trinidad, Egypt, UAE, Oman, India
- *Morozovella gracilis* (Bolli, 1957) (= *Globorotalia formosa gracilis* Bolli 1957, p. 75, plate 18, figures. 4-6; *Morozovella f. formosa* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 5, figures. 1-3). Early Eocene. Trinidad, Italy, Tunisia, Egypt, UAE, Oman, Pakistan, India
- *Morozovella marginodentata* (Subbotina, 1953) (= *Globorotalia marginodentata* Subbotina 1953, p. 212, plate 17, figures. 14-16; p. 18, figures. 1-3; *Morozovella marginodentata* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 6, figures. 1-3). Early Eocene. Caucasus, Trinidad, Mexico, Spain, Tunisia, Egypt, UAE, Oman, Pakistan, India
- *Morozovella nicoli* (Martin, 1943) (= *Globorotalia nicoli* Martin 1943, p. 27, plate 7, figure 3; *Morozovella nicoli* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 6, figures 4-6). Paleocene-Early Eocene. USA, France, Egypt, Oman, India
- *Morozovella oclusa* (Loeblich and Tappan, 1957) (= *Globorotalia oclusa* Loeblich and Tappan, 1957, p. 191, plate 55, figure 3; plate 64, figure 3; *Morozovella oclusa* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 6, figures 7-9). Mexico, USA, Italy, Austria, Egypt, USA, Oman, Pakistan, India
- *Morozovella omanica* Anan, n. sp. (= *Morozovella* cf. *parva* El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 110, plate 6, figures 10-12, plate 7, figures 1-3).

Holotype: illustrated specimen in Plate 1, figure 19.

Etymology: after Wadi Musawa section, Sultanet of Oman (see Figure 1A,B)

Stratigraphic level: Late Paleocene.

Diagnosis: Test plano-convex with rugose surface, periphery circular to slightly lobate with distinct keel, 4-5 subangular chambers which increase rapidly in size as the last whorl as added, umbilical side strongly convex with well-developed umbilical shoulders, spiral side almost flat to slightly convex, sutures on umbilical side depressed and radial, but curved on spiral side, raised and beaded, aperture a narrow, low arch, umbilicus narrow, very deep.

Remarks: This species differs from the holotype of *Morozovella parva* Rey (1955) in being higher or more conical in shape, in having more chambers in the last whorl and a more circular outline.

- *Morozovella pasionensis* (Bermudez, 1961) (= *Pseudogloborotalia pasionensis* Bermudez, 1961, p. 1346, plate 16, figures 8a,b; *Morozovella caucasica* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 3, figures. 7-9). Paleocene-Early Eocene. Mexico, Guatemala, Italy, Egypt, UAE, Oman, India
- *Morozovella subbotinae* (Morozova, 1939) (= *Globorotalia subbotinae* Morozova 1939, p. 80, plate 2, figures 16-17; *Morozovella subbotinae* - El-Sayigh, 1998, pl. 8, figs. 1-3). Late Paleocene-Early Eocene. USSR (Russia), Caucasus, Italy, Tunisia, Egypt, OAE, Oman, India
- *Morozovella surensis* Anan, n. sp. (= *Morozovella* sp. C - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 118, plate 9, figures 7-12)

Holotype: illustrated specimen in Plate 1, figure 21.

Etymology: after the Sur area, north of Wadi Musawa section, SE Oman.

Stratigraphic level: Early Eocene, from the middle of the Wadi Musawa

Section, SE Oman Mountains.

Diagnosis: Test low trochospiral biconvex, 4-5 angular to subangular chambers which increase slowly in size as added in the final whorl, periphery acute to moderately lobate, sutures depressed in umbilical but curved in spiral sutures and spinose surface.

Remarks: This new species is characterized by its 4-5 angular chambers, acute periphery and spinose surface.

- *Morozovella velascoensis* (Cushman, 1925) (= *Pulvinulina velascoensis* Cushman 1925, p. 19, plate 3, figure 5; 2 *Morozovella caucasica* - El-Sayigh, 1998, plate 3, figures 10-12). Late Paleocene. Mexico, Trinidad, Caucasus, Italy, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, UAE, Oman, Pakistan, India
- *Morozovella wadimusawaensis* Anan, n. sp. (= *Morozovella* sp. B - El-Sayigh, 1998, p. 116, plate 9, figures 1-3)

Holotype: illustrated specimen in Plate 1, figure 23.

Etymology: after Wadi Musawa section, SE Oman.

Stratigraphic level: Early Eocene, Wadi Musawa section of the SE of Oman Mountains.

Diagnosis: Planoconvex trochospiral oval shape test, almost flat spiral side and convex umbilical side, 4-5 chambers in the last whorl which increase slowly in size as added, periphery very thick with well developed keel, thick and strongly curved spiral sutures, but incised and slightly curved umbilical sutures, aperture curved slit in deep narrow umbilicus with lip.

Remarks: This new species is characterized by its 4-5 chambers in the last whorl, thick peripheral margin with thick keel, and raised curved limbate dorsal sutures.

#### 4. PALEO GEOGRAPHY

The Paleogene paleogeographic maps of many authors (Zachos et al., 1993; Salahi, 2021) show that the Tethyan realm had been connected with the Indo-Pacific Ocean from east to Atlantic Ocean to the west (Figure 6).



Figure 6: Paleogene paleogeography of the Tethys Ocean (Salahi, 2021).

The recorded six planktic foraminiferal genera and its forty seven species were originally recorded from forty two different localities in the Northern Tethys (USA, Mexico, Trinidad, Cuba, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, Atlantic Ocean, Spain, Slovakia, Spain, France, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Austria, Italy, Slovakia, Hungary, Caucasus, Russia, Turkmenia, Azerbaijan), and Southern Tethyan (Brazil Tunisia, Maly, Nigeria, Tanganyika, Tanzania, Egypt, Jordan, UAE, Oman, Arabian Sea, Pakistan, India, Indian Ocean), and Pacific Ocean (Australia, New Zealand). Some other remarks are presented:

- More than one species have wide geographic distribution around the world. Some of them have more than five localities: *Subbotina hornibrooki*, *S. triangularis*, *S. trilocolinoides*, *S. yeguensis*, *Globigerinatheka barri*, *G. index*, *G. euganea*, *G. s. subconglobata*, *Acarinina aspensis*, *A. collactea*, *A. esnaensis*, *A. pentacamerata*, *A. rohri*, *A. soldadoensis*, *A. topilensis*, *Morozovella acuta*, *M. aequa*, *M. angulata*, *M. aragonensis*, *M. caucasica*, *M. f. formosa*, *M. gracilis*, *M. marginodentata*, *M. oclusa*, *M. pasionensis*, *M. subbotinae*, *M. velascoensis*.
- Some species are recorded from five localities or less: *Parasubbotina*

*eoclava*, *P. inaequispira*, *P. pseudowilsoni*, *Acarinina centralis*, *A. praetopilensis*, *A. quetra*, *Morozovella abundocamerata*, *M. edgari*, *M. nicoli*.

- Eight new species are recorded, so far, from Oman: *Globigerinatheka arabica*, *G. omanica*, *Acarinina umbilicata*, *Morozovella elbadrii*, *M. elsayighi*, *M. omanica*, *M. surensis* and *M. wadimusawaensis*.

#### 5. PALEOENVIRONMENT

The sediments which included the planktic foraminiferal assemblage of the study section was deposited in an open deep marine environment which represent outer shelf (~200-400m), and was tectonically active, with marked oscillations in sea level (Table 2).

**Table 2:** The carbonate ramp illustrates the different calcareous group of Large and planktic foraminifera according to the shelf divisions (after El-Sayigh, 1998).

2-5m		Approximately 120m			>300m	
Inner shelf		mid	Outer shelf		Sea Level	
Miliolids	<i>Alveolina</i>	<i>Assilina</i>	<i>Discocyclina</i>	<i>Discocyclina</i>	Planktonic Foraminifera	
<i>Orbitolites</i>	<i>Orbitolites</i>	<i>Nummulites</i>	<i>Nummulites</i>	<i>Nummulites</i>	Planktonic Foraminifera	
Textulariids	<i>Somalina</i>	Small rotaliids	<i>Alveolina</i>	<i>Nummulites</i>	Planktonic Foraminifera	
	Miliolids		Small rotaliids	<i>Assilina</i>	Planktonic Foraminifera	

**Carbonate ramp**

The planktic foraminifera are floating organism lived in the photic zone (~200m) and moving by surface currents which reflect the wide geographic distribution in all open sea water and oceans (Figure 7).

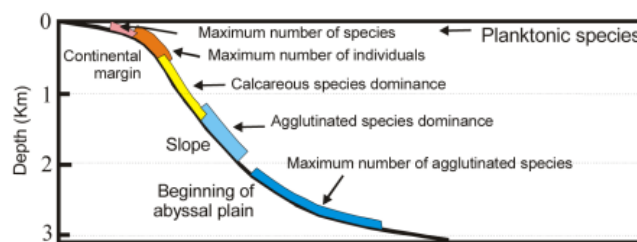


Figure 7: Depth distribution of planktic and benthic foraminifera (after Bolstovsky & Wright, 1976).

#### 6. CONCLUSIONS

The present study deals with the recording six Paleogene planktic foraminiferal genera and its forty-seven species which identified from SE Oman, Arabian Sea. Eight of the identified species are confined to Oman, but the other species were recorded from many localities in the North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia, New Zealand. This study confirms again that the extended realms of the Tethys have extended from the Atlantic Oceans to Indo-Pacific Oceans, via Mediterranean Sea during the Paleogene time. Environmental conditions of the identified species represent open deep marine outer shelf environment (~200m).

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