GEODIVERSITY: A VERIFIED GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE OF THE SUSTAINABLE TERRITORY OF THE JBEL BANI GEOPARK MANAGED BY THE AMDGJB - SOUTHERN TATA, MOROCCO

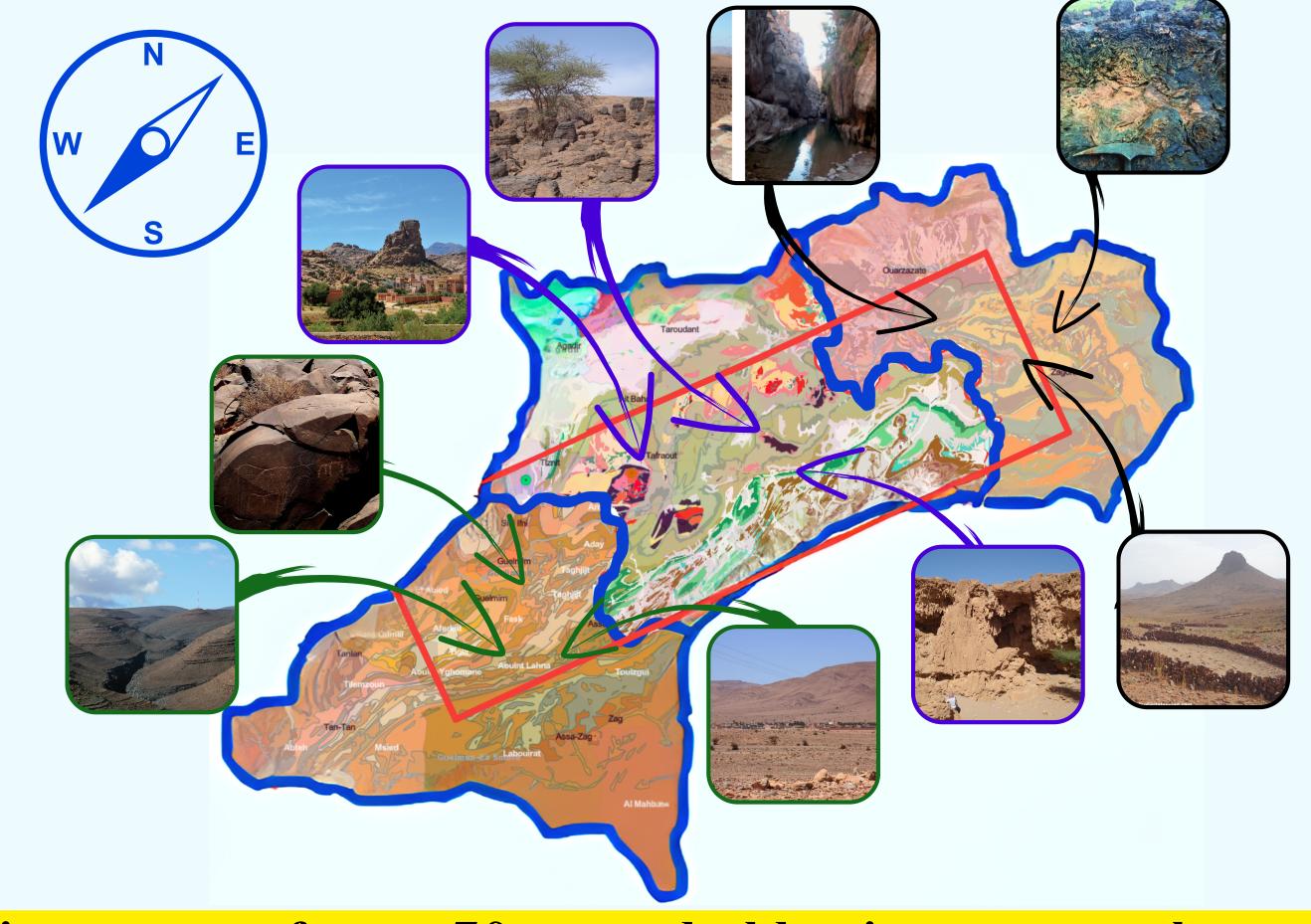




GEODIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MOROCCO: The Sustainable Territory of the Jbel Bani Geopark - Southern Morocco invites you to discover the geodiversity of the "Royal Oasis Route," a true Paradise for Geologists, as SHARPLES stated in 1995. Within landscapes, geomorphosites, remarkable geosites, and a rich tapestry of geology, geography, material and immaterial cultural heritage, in the company of populations deeply connected to their vernacular territorial visions, this Sustainable Territory will provide you with unforgettable human and tourist experiences!

<u>"WHY THE SUSTAINABLE TERRITORY OF JBEL BANI GEOPARK?</u> <u>RATHER THAN GEOPARK!"</u>

"Territory, because without history, there is no future, and because climate change and the lack of consideration for interregional watershed territories have led to water stress. Territory, because in perfect symbiosis with their geology, and The geography of these places,



An inventory of over 70 remarkable sites across the territory

their subsoils, and their populations have lived in perfect inclusion and integration for millennia, integrating habitats made from their local territorial materials, thus preserving both material and immaterial heritage. Geodiversity through their inter-regional subsoils, in the pursuit of modern economic development, is called upon to transform not only the administrative definitions of these territories but also their long-overlooked potential to become true future

pillars of national development.

These territories possess mineral, gas, oil, and rare earth wealth in their subsoils, as well as renewable energy resources like solar, wind, and green energies with hydrogen (H2), shared between the desert and the ocean. These territories must contribute to restoring the necessary balance between urban and rural areas by managing rural exodus and adapting economic equilibriums to modern times and the forms of development advocated by His Majesty King Mohammed VI for the entire Morocco."

<image>

Patrick SIMON :

He is the initiator and creator of the idea of the Jbel Bani Geopark in 2012, serving as the 1st Vice-President of the Regional Tourism Council of the Guelmim Es Smara Region at that time, which has since become Guelmim Oued Noun.

This came about through a meeting with the Applied Geology Laboratory of Mohammed V University in Rabat, led by Professor Mohamed WARTITI, accompanied by Professors ZARHAOUI, ABOUDI, and FADLI. Patrick SIMON, designated as the president, was declared the Project Manager of the Jbel Bani Geopark by these stakeholders and by the Department of Culture and Scientific Research of the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with UNESCO and ISESCO. Patrick SIMON funded the initial fieldwork and implementation of the first publications from this laboratory related to the Jbel Bani Geopark, under an agreement reached with the President and Dean of UM5 in Rabat, determining the inclusion of these publications in the Tourist Guide of the CRT Guelmim, which was accomplished.



AMANE NTOURHART



Professor **Driss FADLI** was appointed as the coordinator of this project. **Patrick SIMON** financed all the fieldwork, the trip to Paris with members of the **UM5 Laboratory** to present this project and the jointly created posters before the **French National Geography Committee at Sorbonne I in Paris.**

GORGES D'ASSIF FENFEL









The WIGET4 was organized in partnership with the UM5 Laboratory in Tata in 2014, with the collaboration of 150 geologists and researchers from about ten countries. This allowed for the official declaration of the existence of the Jbel Bani Geopark. In April 2015, these efforts were further solidified by the establishment of the Moroccan Association of the Jbel Bani Geopark (AMDGJB-Aut 1954-35). Boujemâa TADOUMANNT, Provincial Director of Tata, in his capacity as Administrator of AMDGJB, presented the brochure, studies, and financial action plans for the Jbel Bani Geopark to the Governor and Provincial Council of Tata. They officially approved this inter-regional project spanning from Tan Tan to Zagora through a formal protocol in December 2015.

Sanae BERRED was brought under the wing of AMDGJB and the Applied Geology Laboratory, along with two (2) other applicants from UM5. AMDGJB provided them with an excellence scholarship to work on topics related to the Jbel Bani Geopark, which they did for their initial publications. The rupture with Driss FADLI, Sanae BERRED, was formalized by a personal claim by Professor FADLI to President SIMON for an amount of 400,000 Moroccan Dirhams, a claim that was halted by a lawyer demonstrating this claim as entirely arbitrary. This was due to the fact that these works were carried out under an agreement signed with UM5, defining the provision of its elements for publications on one hand, and because the posters in question were jointly developed and even co-authored for some, on the other hand. The province of Tata: Boujemâa TADOUMANNT and the 1st Vice-President NOUHI of the Provincial Council of Tata (2016-2021) positioned themselves to exert pressure on this province to create a Provincial Foundation and, in 2022, an Association, through an abuse of power and confirmed conflicts of interest due to their positions. They presented this same project to UNESCO on the same basis as AMDGJB, purportedly with the support of the Governor of Tata, the President of the African Geoparks Network, and the President of the Moroccan National Commission.



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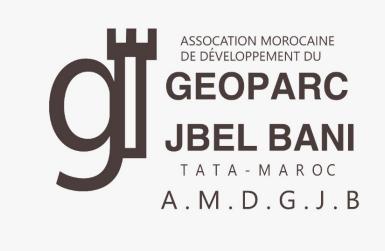
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Patrick SIMON: To assert what is rightfully due on this 6th of October 2023, Geodiversity Day.





JBEL BANI



A.M.D.G.J.B

Moroccan Association for the Development of the Jbel Bani Geopark

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Dar Infiane Tata and its Annexes of Tissint, Sustainable Territory Pilot Projects of the Jbel Bani Geopark

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