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Magmatic and post-magmatic evolution of post-collisional rare-metal bearing granite: the Neoproterozoic Homrit Akarem Granitic Intrusion, south Eastern Desert of Egypt, Arabian-Nubian Shield

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Abstract

The Homrit Akarem granitic intrusion (HAGI) outcrops near the western edge of the south Eastern Desert basement exposure in Egypt. It is a composite of two cogenetic intrusive bodies: an early albite granite phase shallowly emplaced at the apex of a magmatic cupola, and a later subjacent pink granite phase with a marginal zone of muscovite granite and better preservation of magmatic features. Mineral chemistry of primary biotite and garnet, together with whole-rock chemistry, identify the HAGI as a highly fractionated A-type peraluminous intrusion. The chemistry of F-dominant, Li-bearing, Fe³⁺-rich primary magmatic mica in the pink granite resembles that typically found in highly evolved Nb-Y-F pegmatites. The HAGI is the evolved product of a primary magma generated by partial melting of juvenile crust of the Arabian-Nubian Shield (ANS), emplaced along a regional strike-slip fault system that promoted its ascent. The main emplacement mechanism and evolutionary sequence of the HAGI was magmatic, although secondary minerals and textures resulting from hydrothermal fluid interactions are observed, especially at its margins. Primary columbite-(Mn) crystallized from melt and was partly replaced by secondary fluorcalciomicrocline. The high fluorine content of magmatic fluids exsolved from the intrusion is indicated by quartz-fluorite veins, greisenization, albitization, and F-bearing secondary oxide minerals. The magmatic derivation of this fluid is demonstrated by the F-dominant primary mica, a siderophyllite-polyolithionite solid solution commonly known as zinnwaldite. The chemistry of zinnwaldite constrains the F/OH activity ratio and oxygen fugacity

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of its parental melt and thereby resolves the ambiguity between pressure and the effects of F in controlling the normative quartz content of rare-metal granites. The HAGI is less mineralized than the post-collisional rare-metal granites found further east in the south Eastern Desert, replicating a trend observed previously in the central Eastern Desert and suggesting that east-west zoning in rare metal enrichment is a persistent feature across latitudes at the western edge of the ANS.

Keywords: Arabian-Nubian Shield, magmatic cupola, post-collisional, Nb–Ta oxides, Magmatic–hydrothermal evolution.

1. Introduction

The Homrit Akarem granitic intrusion (HAGI) outcrops in the southern part of the Eastern Desert of Egypt, the northwestern corner of the Arabian-Nubian Shield (ANS). The ANS is a large tract of juvenile continental crust (Meert 2003; Johnson, 2003; Stoeser and Frost, 2006; Ali et al., 2010) that formed in Neoproterozoic time (850-590Ma) upon collision between East and West Gondwana during the extensive Pan-African orogeny (Stern, 1994; Rino et al., 2008). The ANS formed mostly by accretion of oceanic island-arc terranes that developed within or on the margins of the Mozambique Ocean between ~1000 and 640 Ma (Hargrove et al., 2006; Be’eri-Shlevin et al., 2009,2011; Liégeois and Stern, 2010; Ali et al., 2010; Johnson et al., 2013), followed by extensive and voluminous intrusion and eruption of post-collisional magmatic series.

One of the most striking features of the ANS is the abundance of granitoid intrusions. They have various ages (~820 to 590 Ma), tectonic settings (syn-, late-, and post-orogenic) and magma types (calc-alkaline to alkaline/peralkaline) (e.g., Azer 2007; Moghazi et al., 2011, 2015; Khalil et al. 2018; Abuamarah, 2020; Azer et al., 2019, Azer and Asimow, 2020). The post-collisional granitic intrusions (dominantly 610-590 Ma) are the most abundant. These plutons have attracted the attention of many authors due to their economic value and their potential as sources of strategic metals, including Nb, Ta, REE, U, Zr, and Th (e.g., Hackett, 1986; Helba et al., 1997; Küster, 2009; Moufti et al., 2013; Abdallah et al., 2020; Abuamarah et al., 2021; Seddik et al., 2020). Despite numerous published studies, the origins and geotectonic implications of the post-collisional granites of the ANS are still controversial. Among the notable

unresolved questions are (1) the extent to which the low normative quartz content of these granitoids compared to the low-pressure H₂O-saturated granite minimum is attributable to high-pressure fractionation (e.g. Gualda and Ghiorso, 2014) or to the effects of magmatic fluorine (Manning, 1981); (2) whether there are any tectonic predictors or geographical patterns within and among post-orogenic terranes in the degree of rare-metal enrichment and mineralization; and (3) the relative importance of magmatic and post-magmatic processes in transporting rare metals and concentrating them into ore bodies.

The HAGI is typical in many ways of the rare-metal bearing post-collisional granites in the Eastern Desert of Egypt and published work concerning the HAGI embodies many of the contradictory interpretations that have been assigned to these rocks (e.g., Hassanen et al., 1995; Hassanen and Harraz, 1996; Abd El-Naby et al., 2000; Mohamed et al., 2009; Ali et al., 2012). In this work, we integrate field work, petrography, mineral chemistry, and whole-rock geochemical analyses to discern the petrological characteristics, magmatic evolution and post-magmatic processes that affected the intrusion. This study offers a good opportunity to understand the petrogenetic processes leading to the formation of mineralized post-collisional granites throughout the ANS and elsewhere. During the present study, we examined the following key questions including (1) whether the intrusion represents one or multiple magmatic pulses, (2) what are the relative roles of magmatic and metasomatic processes in the differentiation of the HAGI and enrichment of associated ore deposits, (3) the use of F-rich mica species for quantitative F/OH estimation of the parental magma, (4) quantitative Fe³⁺/Fe^T of the mica species as an oxybarometer, and (5) whether the geographic location and geochemistry of the HAGI contribute to defining an overall pattern in the rare metal mineralization of the ANS. We present a simplified tectono-magmatic model for the evolution of the HAGI. Finally, we discuss the implications of our results for the formation of juvenile continental crust — a key terrestrial process for which the ANS is one of the best natural laboratories.

2. Geologic setting and field observations

The distribution of the most important rare-metal bearing granite intrusions in the Eastern Desert of Egypt is shown in **Fig. 1a**. The HAGI (No. 13 in **Fig. 1a**) is one of only a few such intrusions in the southern part of the Eastern Desert and sits relatively far inland, ~140 km west

of the Red Sea coast. It lies between latitudes 24°10'00" and 24°12'15" N and longitudes 34°01'45" and 34°05'30" E. The intrusion appears in satellite imagery as an elongated NE-SW semi-triangular main mass (~7 km²) and a smaller elliptical (elongated E-W) satellite mass (~1 km²) to the east. The two masses are separated by a wadi, a mapped fault, and a sliver of country rock (**Fig. 1b**). Exposed rock units in the Homrit Akarem area include a metamorphosed volcano-sedimentary succession, two granitoid intrusive units, and Neogene wadi deposits (**Fig. 1c**). The field relationships between the different rock types of the Homrit Akarem intrusion and its country rocks are shown in a schematic cross-section in **Fig. 1d**. The metamorphosed volcano-sedimentary rocks belong to the island-arc stage of crustal evolution in the Eastern Desert of Egypt. They are the oldest units in the mapped area; they are highly deformed, display some lineation and intruded by many dykes of various compositions. The intrusive granitoids in the study area include a granodiorite unit (with minor tonalite) and the Homrit Akarem granite intrusion. Both are intruded into the metamorphosed volcano-sedimentary island-arc sequence; there is no contact between the two intrusions in outcrop.

The granodiorite occupies the north-western part of the mapped area. It is medium- to coarse-grained, greyish-green to whitish-green, and contains xenoliths of the metasedimentary country rock (**Fig. 2a**). Many dykes of different compositions cut the granodiorite. The HAGI represents the youngest igneous activity in the area, with sharp intrusive contacts against the metamorphosed volcano-sedimentary rocks (**Fig. 2b**) marked locally by a thin (0.5-1 m) hornfelsic contact metamorphic aureole around the intrusion. A conspicuous feature of the HAGI is the absence of dykes, in contrast to the abundance of dykes in the granodiorite and metamorphosed volcano-sedimentary rocks of the study area. Based on field observations, we divide the HAGI itself into pink granite, muscovite granite and albite granite. The contacts between the different phases of the pluton may be sharp or gradational; in weathered areas the subunits and their contacts are difficult to discern. In the field, the pink granite is a massive, coarse-grained, homogenous rock forming the core of the pluton. It grades laterally outwards into muscovite granite along the margins and vertically upwards into whitish albite granite. A few granodioritic xenoliths are observed in the marginal muscovite granite phase (**Fig. 2c**). The albite granite occupies the apical portion of the pluton (**Fig. 2d**). It is fine- to medium-grained and whitish in color with bleached appearance and seriate to porphyritic texture. Some parts of both

masses of the intrusion are highly tectonized and broken by numerous fractures trending NW-SE and NE-SW (**Fig. 2f**).

Toward the outer margins of the HAGI, the granites and their country rocks host numerous dykes and veins of pegmatite, greisen, fluorite and quartz. Greisens of both pervasive and vein type are erratically distributed around the margins of the HAGI. Some greisen pockets are mineralized and contain appreciable amounts of cassiterite. Quartz-fluorite veins are common on the northern and the eastern margins of the pluton and occur as discontinuous lenses and veins 10-50 cm wide and up to several hundred meters long. Many of the quartz veins invaded the metasedimentary country rocks, especially in the eastern part of the mapped area. They are mineralized and contain cassiterite, molybdenite, beryl, fluorite and secondary malachite (Abdel Naby et al., 2000).

3. Petrography

Petrographic observations of HAGI samples confirm the field-based division of the intrusion into pink granite, muscovite granite, and albite granite types. Petrographic descriptions are given below for these three types from the HAGI as well as associated greisens, pegmatites, granodiorite xenoliths in the HAGI, and the metasedimentary and granodiorite country rocks.

Pink granite consists essentially of K-feldspars, quartz, and plagioclase with minor biotite and abundant zinnwaldite (strictly, siderophyllite-polyolithionite solid solution; see mineral chemistry section below). Accessory minerals are frequently abundant; they include zircon, apatite, fluorite, topaz, beryl, epidote, cassiterite, allanite, ilmenite, and Nb-Ta oxides. Anhedral to subhedral coarse crystals of K-feldspar (40-50 vol.%) — including orthoclase, perthite, and microcline — contain numerous plagioclase inclusions. Medium, euhedral to subhedral tabular crystals of plagioclase (15-25%) show sericitized cores and fresh albite rims. Quartz (25-35%) occurs as anhedral coarse crystals showing wavy extinction and as undeformed fine interstitial aggregates. There are sparse graphic intergrowths of quartz and K-feldspars. Many quartz crystals have inclusions of plagioclase, K-feldspars and zircon (**Fig. 3a**). Biotite (<1.5 %) occurs as subhedral tabular crystals, pleochroic from pale yellow to reddish-brown, and as tiny inclusions within large K-feldspar crystals. Biotite is slightly altered into chlorite and opaques, especially along crystal margins. Zinnwaldite occurs as large, subhedral, primary magmatic

crystals. Fine aggregates of secondary muscovite are also present. Nb-Ta oxides, principally columbite-(Mn), occur as anhedral, subhedral, or euhedral prismatic crystals; no variations in color are apparent under the microscope. Columbite-(Mn) may be found included in albite (**Fig. 3b**) or biotite (**Fig. 3c**) or disseminated among other minerals (**Fig. 3d**). The mineral names in the backscatter images (Fig. 3c, d, e) are based on microprobe and SEM analyses.

Muscovite granite is equigranular and the essential mineral constituents are K-feldspar (40-50%), quartz (25-35%), and plagioclase (10-20%) with ~5% biotite and muscovite. Accessory minerals include Fe-Ti oxides, zircon, garnet, fluorite, topaz, apatite, and Nb-Ta oxides. Secondary minerals include sericite and chlorite. Subhedral to anhedral K-feldspar (mostly cross-hatched microcline with minor orthoclase and perthite) is occasionally kaolinitized along fracture planes. Large K-feldspar crystals may contain small anhedral inclusions of albite and quartz. Subhedral tabular plagioclase is corroded by quartz and variably altered to sericite and secondary muscovite. Quartz forms anhedral coarse crystals exhibiting wavy extinction as well as intergrowths with K-feldspars. Muscovite occurs as large subhedral crystals and as fine aggregates replacing biotite and feldspar. Some large crystals of muscovite are slightly altered at the margins to secondary muscovite, chlorite, and opaques (**Fig. 3e**). Minor biotite occurs as subhedral tabular pleochroic crystals (reddish-brown to pale yellow), slightly altered to iron oxides and chlorite. Euhedral to anhedral crystals of garnet show high relief, crackly appearance (**Fig. 3f**), and occasional quartz inclusions. Topaz occurs as medium subhedral crystals with moderate relief and perfect cleavage (**Fig. 3g**). Scarce subhedral to anhedral corroded crystals of Nb-Ta oxides, especially columbite-(Mn), are observed in the muscovite granite.

Albite granite is fine-grained and white, with inequigranular to seriate or sometimes porphyritic texture. It consists essentially of quartz (25-30%), albite (40-55%), and K-feldspars (20-25%). The accessory minerals include Fe-Ti oxides, muscovite, fluorite, titanite, zircon, and Nb-Ta oxides, while secondary minerals include epidote, birnessite, and sericite. Albite is the most abundant constituent of the rock, forming euhedral to subhedral fine to medium prismatic crystals and inclusions in quartz and K-feldspars. K-feldspars are less common, as anhedral to subhedral crystals with perthitic texture. Some secondary albite pseudomorphs after microcline are recognizable by their original crystal habit. Quartz occurs as anhedral to sub-rounded large crystals or as fine interstitial aggregates. Columbite-(Mn) is the most common Ta-Nb oxide,

occurring in various forms associated with biotite (**Fig. 3h**) or interstitial to feldspar crystals (**Fig. 3i**). The anhedral to subhedral tabular columbite crystals exhibit color variation suggestive of compositional zoning, confirmed by backscatter images and microprobe analyses. Columbite is altered along its margins into fluorcalciomicrocline and rhodochrosite.

Greisen is a light-colored alteration product composed mainly of quartz, altered feldspars, zinnwaldite, cassiterite, fluorite and highly altered mafic minerals. Some greisens are mineralized and contain visible cassiterite in considerable amounts, while others are barren. Some fluorite and quartz veins cut the greisen in outcrop. Quartz occurs as ground and fractured crystals, arranged in lines to form veins. Feldspars are completely altered to sericite, arranged in fine segregations that define a rough schistosity. Zinnwaldite forms large subhedral fractured crystals, partly altered to chlorite. Fluorite occurs as disseminated crystals and as small veins. Large pleochroic crystals of cassiterite show obvious oscillatory zoning in the intensity of brown coloration (**Fig. 3j**).

Pegmatite occurs as pockets or veins that cut across the margins of the pluton and extend into the country rocks. The coarse-grained hypidiomorphic texture of pegmatite is composed essentially of feldspars, quartz, and muscovite. Quartz occurs as anhedral fractured crystals and as inclusions in muscovite. Interstitial muscovite is fractured and partly altered to chlorite. Fluorite occurs as small veins that include fine garnet crystals and as subhedral and anhedral interstitial crystals.

Granodiorite xenoliths are observed only in the muscovite granite. They are medium-grained rocks with hypidiomorphic texture, composed of quartz, plagioclase, K-feldspars and mafic minerals. Fe-Ti oxides, titanite, and zircon are found as accessory minerals. Euhedral to subhedral tabular crystals of plagioclase are the main constituent. Some plagioclase crystals are zoned and exhibit Carlsbad twinning. Anhedral to subhedral crystals of K-feldspar show perthitic texture and microcline tartan twinning. Anhedral crystals of quartz show wavy extinction. Mafic minerals include biotite with minor amphibole. The anhedral corroded crystals of biotite are pleochroic from brown to pale green and highly altered to chlorite and iron oxides. Amphibole occurs as fine green flakes, slightly altered to iron oxides.

In outcrop, all the contacts of the HAGI are with metasedimentary rocks, but the presence of xenoliths of granodiorite imply contact between the HAGI and the nearby granodiorite-tonalite

unit in subcrop. The gneissose **metasedimentary country rocks** are composed mainly of plagioclase, quartz, biotite, and hornblende. Coarse anhedral crystals of plagioclase with albite twinning are often slightly altered and may enclose quartz crystals. Fine to medium grained biotite is green to brown in color, segregated into gneissic foliation bands, and stained by opaques.

Granodiorite is medium- to coarse-grained with hypidiomorphic granular to gneissose texture. A few exposures of the granodiorite exhibit porphyritic texture. It is composed of plagioclase, quartz, K-feldspar, and mafic minerals. Apatite, zircon, allanite, titanite, and Fe-Ti oxides are the most common accessory minerals. Plagioclase (35-50%) is the dominant mineral and occurs as subhedral to anhedral fresh twinned crystals. It shows variable degrees of saussuritization and some crystals are zoned. The K-feldspar (25-35%) occur as coarse anhedral crystals of orthoclase perthite, interstitial to plagioclase. Quartz (25-35%) is not uniform in amount or distribution. It occurs mainly as anhedral crystals and as fine interstitial aggregates. The mafic minerals include biotite with minor hornblende. Biotite occurs as subhedral tabular crystals that may include zircon or apatite and as fine aggregates. Some biotite is extensively altered to chlorite, decorated by iron oxides along cleavage planes. Hornblende occurs as anhedral, strongly pleochroic, short prisms.

Tonalite is less common than granodiorite; its mineralogy is similar but tonalite has a higher fraction of mafic minerals and less quartz and K-feldspars than granodiorite. Tonalite is coarse-grained with hypidiomorphic texture and composed essentially of plagioclase (50-60%), quartz (20-25%), K-feldspars (<10%), biotite, and amphibole. Accessory minerals include opaques, zircon, apatite, and titanite. Plagioclase is the main feldspar and occurs as subhedral to anhedral tabular crystals. The large crystals of plagioclase show normal zoning; others are variably altered to sericite in the cores. K-feldspar occurs as anhedral fine interstitial crystals. Quartz usually forms anhedral interstitial crystals that often display undulose extinction. Subhedral tabular crystals and fine interstitial flakes of biotite and anhedral, short prismatic crystals of amphibole are both slightly altered to chlorite and opaques.

4. Analytical techniques

Representative samples of Homrit Akarem granites, granodiorite from the country rock, and granodiorite xenoliths within the HAGI were analyzed for major, trace and rare earth elements. Mineral chemical analyses and mineral identifications, backscattered electron images, and X-ray maps were obtained for selected HAGI samples. Zinnwaldite was additionally analyzed for $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{T}}$ and Li content. Full analytical methods are described in the *Supplementary Material*.

5. Mineral chemistry

Electron microprobe analyses were carried out on several minerals (feldspars, micas, Nb-Ta oxides, garnet, zircon and birnessite) in representative samples of the Homrit Akarem intrusion. Zinnwaldite in pink granite was further characterized by Mössbauer spectroscopy to define its Fe^{3+} content and by laser-ablation inductively-coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) to determine its Li content. All electron microprobe and LA-ICP-MS data are given in the supplementary tables (1S-10S). Additional analyses by scanning electron microscope energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (SEM/EDS) helped to confirm the identification and constrain the composition of accessory phases including birnessite, thorite, zircon, xenotime-(Yb), columbite, fluorcalciomicrocline, cassiterite, fluocerite, bastnaesite-(Ce), parisite-(Nd), florencite-(Ce), and native tin. Mineral compositions by EDS are given in supplementary table 11S and corresponding backscattered electron images of key accessory phases are given in supplementary figures S1 and S2.

5.1. Feldspars

Feldspars were analyzed in all rock phases of the HAGI. The analyses and structural formulae (on the basis of 8 oxygen atoms) of feldspars are given in supplementary tables 1S (K-feldspar), 2S (albite) and 3S (plagioclase). K-feldspars are confirmed to be homogenous, nearly pure KAlSi_3O_8 , with K_2O content ranging from 15.3-16.4 wt % and Or content ranging from 95.9-99.1 mol %. Albite is the principal plagioclase mineral in all units of the HAGI. In all analyzed samples, albite is nearly pure $\text{NaAlSi}_3\text{O}_8$, with very low An content (<0.74 mol %) and high albite content (97.9-99.7 mol %). Ca-bearing plagioclase is found only in pink granite and

muscovite granite; it is mainly oligoclase ($An_{11.8-24.3}$). We have not attempted to reconstruct the original composition of perthite grains, but the presence of distinct K-feldspar and albite crystals in all rock varieties of the HAGI suggests crystallization under hypersolvus conditions followed by minor exsolution.

5.2. *Micas*

The analyzed micas include biotite, zinnwaldite, and muscovite. Biotite was analyzed only in pink granite; compositions and structural formulae (on the basis of 22 oxygen atoms) are given in supplementary table 4S. On the TiO_2 -FeO-MgO ternary diagram of Nachit et al., (2005), the biotite analyses all plot in the primary magmatic field' (**Fig. 4a**). Using the biotite discrimination diagram of Abdel-Rahman (1994), all biotite analyses in the pink granite plot in the peraluminous field (**Fig. 4b**).

Muscovite was analyzed in pink granite and muscovite granite; zinnwaldite was analyzed in albite granite. Supplementary table 5S presents compositions and structural formulae (on the basis of 24 oxygen plus fluorine atoms and assuming 4 F+OH per formula unit) for primary and secondary muscovite in muscovite granite and albite granite and for zinnwaldite in pink granite. The zinnwaldite in pink granite contains more fluorine than OH. It contains appreciable Zn and Mn. Refining the mineral chemistry of this sample requires knowing the oxidation states of the Fe atoms in the formula, so we collected a Mössbauer spectrum on a 100 mg split of zinnwaldite from sample HAK9. The Mössbauer spectrum (**Fig. 4c**) can be fit by two doublets (**Table 1**), consistent with single octahedral site environments for Fe^{2+} and Fe^{3+} , respectively (note, some polyolithionite-siderophyllite micas have split Fe^{2+} sites, Levillain et al., 1981). The peak areas indicate $Fe^{3+}/Fe^T = 0.40\%$, so we have computed mineral formulae for electron microprobe analyses of zinnwaldite assuming this ratio. Electron probe totals also show a significant deficit indicating the presence of some unanalyzed element(s). Micas in similar rocks are rich in lithium, so the zinnwaldite was analyzed for Li by LA-ICP-MS. The laser spot size is much larger than the electron probe analytical volume, so individual Li analyses cannot be directly associated with individual electron probe analyses. Hence, given the absence of any obvious zoning pattern in the electron probe analyses, we used the average of four laser spots on each analyzed crystal to calculate mineral formulae for all electron probe spots in the same crystal. Li_2O contents range

from 3.18 to 3.69 wt %. The zinnwaldite analyses are plotted in the “Foster diagram”, a ternary $\text{Li-R}^{3+}\text{-R}^{2+}$ plot of octahedral site occupancy, and compared to the Pikes Peak Batholith suite of Foord et al. (1995) in **Fig. 4d**. The zinnwaldite in the HAGI pink granite closely resembles those from evolved miarolitic Nb-Y-F pegmatites from Pikes Peak as well as the zinnwaldite from the Fawwarah Fe-Li mica-bearing granitoid of the north-eastern Arabian Shield (not shown; du Bray et al., 1994).

Petrographically, we observe primary muscovite only in muscovite granite and secondary muscovite in all three rock types (pink granite, muscovite granite and albite granite). Typically, primary muscovite has higher TiO_2 and lower MgO than secondary muscovite. Using the Ti-Mg-Na ternary discrimination diagram after Miller et al. (1981) (**Fig. 4e**), the petrographically primary muscovite in muscovite granite indeed plots in the primary field, whereas the secondary muscovite in muscovite granite and albite granite plots in the secondary field. Zinnwaldite in pink granite is not plotted because it is unknown whether this discrimination diagram can be applied to this material; however, the texture of zinnwaldite suggests a primary origin.

5.3. Nb-Ta oxides

Nb-Ta oxides analyzed by electron microprobe are limited to columbite and fluorcalciomicrocline. Columbite is the main primary Nb-Ta bearing phase in all lithologic subtypes of the HAGI, while fluorcalciomicrocline is the main secondary phase. High-magnification SEM imaging reveals Ta-rich outer rims on some columbite grains, too small to be analyzed by electron probe. The chemical analyses and structural formulae of columbite and fluorcalciomicrocline are given in supplementary tables 6S and 7S (in addition, SEM/EDS analysis of narrow Ta-rich rims on columbite are given in supplementary table 11S). All the analyzed columbite crystals are dominated by Nb_2O_5 , Ta_2O_5 , MnO , and FeO ; the only other oxide detected is TiO_2 . Columbite has $\text{Ta}/(\text{Nb}+\text{Ta})$ ratios from 0.06-0.42 and $\text{Mn}/(\text{Mn}+\text{Fe})$ ratios from 0.49-1; hence essentially all analyzed points are classified as columbite-(Mn) (**Fig. 4f**). Columbite in the albite granite is notably richer in Mn and Ta than that in pink granite.

Fluorcalciomicrocline is observed only in the albite granite unit. It forms well-defined overgrowth or replacement mantles around primary columbite, separated by sharp boundaries. The major oxides are Ta_2O_5 , CaO , and Nb_2O_5 , with smaller but significant amounts of Na_2O .

SiO₂ is not reported because the interference of Ta M α_1 X-rays on Si K α is too severe for confident detection of Si in this mineral. TiO₂ concentrations are low and other oxides (FeO, MnO, MgO) are detected only sporadically. Fluorine was not quantitatively analyzed on the electron microprobe, but it is evident in energy dispersive X-ray spectra taken by SEM on this mineral, with EDS-based concentration estimates sufficient to assign the name fluorcalciomicrocline to this material (supplementary table S11).

5.4. Garnet

Garnet was observed and analyzed only in the muscovite granite; compositions, structural formulae on a 12 oxygen basis, and end-member fractions are given in supplementary table 8S. Fe³⁺ was estimated by charge balance and stoichiometry. All the garnet analysis points are manganese rich, with 28.8-29.4 wt % MnO. The end member proportions (Sps_{66.1-67.2}Alm_{27.9-29.9}Prp_{2.3-3.0}Grs_{0.5-0.7}) indicate spessartine-almandine solid solutions; spessartine and almandine together exceed 95 mol % of every analysis. The homogeneous chemistry and subhedral to euhedral form suggest a magmatic origin for the analyzed garnets. On the FeO-10*MgO-MnO ternary garnet discrimination diagram (not shown) of Zhang et al. (2012), the analyzed garnets plot in the magmatic I-type granite field. The spessartine-rich garnet compositions in the HAGI are similar to those commonly crystallized from silicic highly-fractionated magmas at low pressure (Patiño Douce 1999; Abu-marah et al., 2021; Azer et al., 2019; Seddik et al., 2020).

5.5. Zircon

Zircon compositions were determined in pink granite and muscovite granite; compositions and calculated structural formulae are given in supplementary table 9S. Two varieties of zircon are recognized in the pink granite. Primary zircons are smaller, have few inclusions and low HfO₂ contents (1.8 to 2.1 wt %). Secondary zircons are large (up to 300 μ m), riddled with inclusions, and have extreme HfO₂ contents (8.4 to 12.8 wt %). Secondary zircons also contain appreciable Mn, P, F, Yb, U (up to 1.9 wt %), and often Th (up to 0.54 wt %); the presence and concentrations of these elements is confirmed by energy-dispersive X-ray analysis on a high-resolution field-emission SEM (supplementary table S11). Most of the analyzed zircons, especially the secondary zircons, yield somewhat low electron probe analytical totals (as

low as 90.9 wt %), which likely reflect the metamict character of these Neoproterozoic, highly radioactive, zircons. These mineralogical observations are consistent with the high common Pb, reverse discordance, and complex cathodoluminescence observed in zircons from the HAGI dated by Ali et al. (2012).

5.6. Birnessite

Birnessite is a hydrous Mn oxide mineral. The compositions and calculated structural formulae of birnessite crystals are given in supplementary table 10S. The analyses are dominated by MnO, with other measured oxides (FeO, CaO, and Na₂O) ≤ 3 wt %. Analytical totals of ~70 wt % reflect the hydrous nature of this mineral. The identification of this material as birnessite was confirmed by Raman spectroscopy. Birnessite contains blebs of an unidentified Fe-rich hydroxide material.

5.7. Additional analyses by SEM/EDS

A number of accessory minerals in the HAGI samples are too small for quantitative electron probe analysis or contain appreciable concentrations of long lists of elements that are challenging to standardize for or analyze with a limited number of microprobe spectrometers. These minerals were identified and analyzed with energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy on a high-resolution field-emission SEM. They include thorite (in solid solution with xenotime-(Yb)), cassiterite, Ta-rich rims on some columbite-(Mn) grains, exotic high-Hf zircons, fluocerite, bastnaesite-(Ce), parisite-(Nd), ilorencite-(Ce), and native tin. Backscatter images and EDS spectra of these minerals are reported in supplementary **Figures S1** and **S2**; quantified analyses are reported in supplementary table 11S.

6. Whole rock geochemistry

6.1. Geochemical characteristics

The whole-rock major element, trace element, and rare earth element data of the analyzed samples are listed respectively in **Tables 2, 3, and 4**. Note that the whole-rock analytical methods used do not allow quantification of Li or F contents; these were only measured *in situ* in zinnwaldite. All the samples are felsic, with high SiO₂, Al₂O₃, Na₂O and K₂O contents and low

TiO₂, Fe₂O₃, CaO, MgO, and MnO contents. On the multicationic R₁-R₂ classification diagram of (De la Roche et al., 1980), where $R_1 = 4Si - 11(Na+K) - 2(Fe+Ti)$ and $R_2 = 6Ca + 2Mg + Al$, all but one of the HAGI samples plot in the alkali granite field (**Fig. 5**), whereas the country rock granodiorite and HAGI xenoliths plot in the granodiorite field. The normative mineralogy (Table 2) of all samples is dominated by quartz, orthoclase and albite, with minor amounts of anorthite, hypersthene, and corundum. Normative quartz contents are 29-35 wt % and hence notably lower than the low-pressure H₂O-saturated minimum melt composition (~40 wt % normative quartz).

The major oxides of the HAGI samples show mostly smooth variations across their narrow range in silica on Harker variation diagrams: K₂O generally increases with increasing SiO₂, while Al₂O₃, MgO, CaO and Na₂O decrease with increasing SiO₂ (**Fig. 6**). Fe₂O_{3(t)} is essentially uncorrelated with SiO₂ (a critical *p*-value of 0.01 is used to assess the statistical significance of correlation on each variation diagram) while TiO₂, MnO and P₂O₅ (not shown) are at essentially negligible concentrations.

The trace element character of the HAGI samples is marked by progressive enrichment of Rb, Y, Ta, Nb, and Ga alongside depletion of Sr, Ba, Sc, V, Ni, Co, and Cr. These enrichments and depletions generally become more pronounced with increasing SiO₂ (**Fig 7**), although some trace elements are well-correlated with SiO₂ and others are not. Elements such as Zr, Zn, Pb, U, Th, Hf, Sn and W that do not correlate with SiO₂ are not plotted in Fig. 7. The trace element trends are broadly similar to other rare-metal bearing granites in the ANS, although some intrusions extend to substantially greater enrichments of the rare metals (Azer et al., 2019; Heikal et al., 2019; Abuamarah, 2020; Seddik et al., 2020; Abuamarah et al., 2021).

Primitive mantle normalized multi-element patterns of HAGI granites, country rock granodiorite and HAGI xenolith samples are shown in **Fig. 8a** (using normalization values of Sun and McDonough, 1989). The HAGI samples display uniform patterns marked by large enrichment in some large-ion lithophile elements (LILE: Rb, K, Th) and high field strength elements (HFSE: Ta, Nb, Zr, Hf) alongside clear depletion in Ba, Sr, P and Ti. This pattern is common in A-type granites (Jahn et al., 2001; Wu et al., 2002). The granodiorite country rocks and xenoliths within the HAGI show obviously different patterns from the granites of the HAGI, indicating different sources. The granodiorite samples are moderately enriched in LILE with

negative anomalies in HFSE (Nb-Ta trough), Sr, P, and Ti. These are all signatures of moderately fractionated subduction-related magmas.

Chondrite-normalized REE patterns are shown in **Fig. 8b**. The HAGI granite samples have nearly parallel REE patterns with about a factor of two range in enrichment of all REEs except Eu from pink granite to albite granite. They are characterized by obvious enrichment of HREE relative to LREE $[(La/Lu)_n = 0.22-0.48]$. All the samples exhibit strong to extreme negative Eu anomalies, $[(Eu/Eu^*) = 0.02-0.26]$. Alongside depletions of two orders of magnitude or more in Sr and Ba, this likely reflects a protracted history of feldspar fractionation. The HAGI samples display a minor but readily apparent “M-type” REE tetrad effect, as noted by Ali et al. (2012), with the $TE_{1,3}$ parameter of Irber (1999) averaging 1.11 in pink granite, 1.08 in muscovite granite, and 1.10 in albite granite. The granodiorite country rocks and xenoliths within the HAGI show REE patterns that are obviously distinct from the HAGI granites but parallel to one another, with about a factor of three range in ΣREE . They have LREE enrichment $[(La/Lu)_n = 5.10-12.82]$, nearly flat HREE $[(Gd/Lu)_n = 1.27-1.77]$, slightly negative to negligible Eu anomalies $[Eu/Eu^* = 0.75-1.01]$, and negligible or very slight “W-type” tetrad effects.

6.2. Magma type

The whole-rock chemistry of the HAGI and granodiorite country rock samples can be plotted on a variety of discrimination diagrams to characterize their magmatic type and tectonic affinity. All the HAGI granite samples and xenoliths and all but one of the granodiorite country rock samples have peraluminous character, with alumina saturation index $[ASI = Al_2O_3/(CaO+Na_2O+K_2O) \text{ on a molar basis}]$ greater than unity and corundum (0.11-2.86 wt %) in their norm (Table 2). This peraluminous character is consistent with the presence of primary muscovite and zinnwaldite, development of garnet and topaz in the muscovite granite, and the mineral composition of biotite (**Fig. 4b**). Most HAGI samples have agpaitic index values $[AI = (Na+K)/Al \text{ on a molar basis}]$ greater than 0.87 (Table 2), indicating some degree of alkaline character (Liégeois and Black, 1987; Liégeois et al., 1998), whereas the granodiorite country rock and xenolith samples have $AI \leq 0.65$, indicating subalkaline affinity. The discrimination diagram of Sylvester (1989) (**Fig. 9a**) places the granites of HAGI in the highly fractionated calc-alkaline field and the granodiorite and xenolith data in the calc-alkaline field.

The granite samples of the HAGI share all the characteristics of A-type granites, such as high Ga/Al, Nb, Zr, Y, Ta, and Th alongside significant depletion in MgO, CaO and P₂O₅ (Bonin, 2007; Eby, 1990, 1992; Whalen et al., 1987). On the Ga/Al vs. FeO_(t)/MgO and Ga/Al vs. Nb discrimination diagrams of Whalen et al. (1987), the HAGI samples display clear A-type character whereas the granodiorite country rock and xenolith samples plot in the I-, S-, and M-type field (**Fig. 9b, c**). The major-element discrimination diagram of Frost et al. (2001) also indicates a typical A-type signature for the HAGI and I-type character for the granodiorite and xenolith samples (**Fig. 9d**). Although extensive fractional crystallization of I-type calc-alkaline granites can produce A-type residual liquids (e.g., Clemens et al., 1986; Whalen et al., 1987; King et al., 1997), in the present case it is evident that the HAGI is not evolved from the granodiorite or any common parent. On the Y/Nb vs. Rb/Nb diagram of Eby (1992), the granite samples of the HAGI plot in the A₂-type granite field (**Fig. 9e**).

7. Discussion

The evolution of the ANS took place over 350 million years, from 870 Ma until about 520 Ma, when the great peneplain was cut and thick Cambro-Ordovician sandstones were deposited (Azer and Asimow, 2021). The ANS evolved through a series of stages that can be characterized as (1) supercontinent rift and drift (1000-900 Ma), (2) subduction and consumption of intervening ocean basins (870-750 Ma), (3) continental collision and orogeny (750-630 Ma), and (4) post-orogenic extension and collapse (620-580 Ma plus minor later activity extending to 520 Ma). The post-orogenic and anorogenic rock associations comprise calc-alkaline (ca. 620-600 Ma) and alkaline (ca. 610-580 Ma) plutonic suites with overlapping age ranges (Be'eri-Shlevin et al., 2009; Eyal et al., 2010; Azer et al., 2010). Ali et al. (2012) published U–Pb SHRIMP zircon ages from the HAGI and the nearby Homrat Mukbid intrusion and offered two possible interpretations of their results: either magmatic emplacement at 630-620 Ma followed by disturbance due to fluid interaction at ~600 Ma (which is inconsistent with the assignment of the fluid interaction as late-stage magmatic), or intrusion at ~600 Ma with incorporation of many zircons from the ~630 Ma granodiorite country rock. Although Ali et al. (2012) preferred the former interpretation, we note that 630-620 Ma is older than the main post-collisional activity in the northern ANS. We suggest that the zircons analyzed by Ali et al. (2012) that crystallized from the HAGI itself, like

most of the zircons we characterized petrographically and geochemically, are highly radioactive, at least partially metamict, and not suitable for high-precision U-Pb geochronology. Hence we find the alternative interpretation offered by Ali et al. (2012), with intrusion at ~600 Ma and F-rich fluid interaction nearly synchronous with intrusion (rather than >20 Myr later) to be most consistent with the full range of available data.

The northernmost segment of the ANS is characterized by an abundance of post-collisional felsic plutons including rare-metal bearing granites (e.g., Helba et al., 1997; Küster, 2009; El Hadek et al., 2016; Abuamarah, 2020; Abdallah et al., 2020; Seddik et al., 2020; Abuamarah et al., 2021). Despite the economic significance of these granites, their origin and evolution are not yet well-understood and no overall regional pattern has emerged in their degree of mineralization and economic potential. Since the HAGI has all the common characteristics of the post-collisional rare-metal bearing granites of the ANS and a distinctive location at the western limit of the south Eastern Desert basement outcrop, constraints on its origin bear on the general geodynamic and geochemical model for tectonic setting, magmatic sources, petrogenetic processes, alteration, and ore-formation mechanisms responsible for this class of intrusions.

7.1. Tectonic setting and evolution model

The intrusive field relations, geochronology, and chemical characteristics of the HAGI all require that it represent a single co-genetic intrusion in a post-collisional within-plate setting. The field relations supporting this conclusion include: (1) The HAGI intrudes metamorphosed volcano-sedimentary sequences of the island-arc stage of ANS development and carries xenoliths of older calc-alkaline subduction-related magmas; (2) the island-arc period rocks in the area are extensively intruded by dykes, whereas there are no dykes cutting the HAGI; and (3) the HAGI is not modified by regional metamorphism, only by limited brittle faulting and cataclasis. The geochronological results, although subject to some ambiguity of detailed interpretation as described above clearly require an age younger than 630 Ma, perhaps as young as 600 Ma (Ali et al., 2012). Such ages are coeval with the post-collisional activity throughout the region and postdate the end of the collisional phase. In the following paragraphs, we supplement this conclusion with interpretation of the whole-rock chemistry.

On the $\text{SiO}_2\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ diagram of Maniar and Piccoli (1989) (**Fig. 10a**), the HAGI samples cluster within the post-orogenic granite field (POG). Using the Nb vs. Y tectonic discrimination diagram of Pearce et al. (1984), all the HAGI samples plot well into the within-plate granite field (**Fig. 10b**) (although they plot within the upper range of anomalous ocean-ridge granites on this diagram, this is not a plausible interpretation of these rocks), whereas the granodiorite country rock and xenolith samples plot in the volcanic arc granite field. On the $R_1\text{-}R_2$ diagram of De La Roche et al. (1980), with tectonic setting fields based on Batchelor and Bowden (1985), the HAGI samples plot with one exception in the post-orogenic field (**Fig. 10c**) and the granodiorite samples plot in the pre-collision field (note the size of symbols on this figure is much larger than the error, based on analytical uncertainty of 1% for each major oxide). Finally, although mobility of Rb may be a concern for the use of the $\text{Rb}/30 - \text{Hf} - 3\text{Ta}$ ternary diagram of Harris et al. (1986), all the HAGI samples plot as expected in the within-plate field (**Fig. 10d**) and all the granodiorite and xenolith samples in the volcanic-arc field. Recalling that the HAGI samples plot in the A2 field on the Y/Nb-Rb/Nb diagram (**Fig. 9e**), this field is considered characteristic of post-collisional rocks derived from crustal sources (Eby, 1992).

An episode of lithospheric delamination is commonly invoked to explain the voluminous post-collisional magmatism (610-590 Ma) in the ANS (e.g., Avigad and Gvirtzman, 2009; Farahat and Azer, 2011; Be'eri-Shlevin et al., 2011; Obeid and Azer, 2015; Khalil et al., 2015, 2018; Gahlan et al., 2018). The occurrence of dike swarms, shear zones, core complexes and strike-slip faults cutting the Eastern Desert basement suggests some lithospheric extension during the post-collisional stage in the north ANS (Blasband et al., 2000; Avigad and Gvirtzman, 2009). These extensional structures may support transmission of anomalous heat flow to the middle crust and unroofing-driven decompression, enhancing partial melting of supracrustal sequences and formation of peraluminous A-type granites.

The proposed model for the tectono-magmatic evolution of the HAGI by partial melting of the juvenile crust of the ANS during the post-collisional phase is shown in **Fig. 11**. In this model, crustal and lithospheric thickening during the collision was followed by slab break-off and lithospheric delamination. Delamination forces upwelling of hot asthenosphere, which results in broad crustal doming and uplift of the overlying crust. Uplift is followed by rapid erosion, which exhumes and decompresses the lower and middle crust. At the same time, the underplated

basic magma releases latent and sensible heat that is transported upwards. The potent combination of decompression and temperature increase is capable of supporting substantial partial melting of the lower crust, leading to a flare-up of post-collisional calc-alkaline magmatism. Storage and fractionation of these crustal melts in the middle crust allow the evolution of highly fractionated A-type granites. The abundance of strike-slip faults, dike swarms, and shear zones during the post-collisional stage promotes the ascent of these magmas to the shallow crust, explaining their common alignment along structural trends.

The whole unit defined here as the HAGI is clearly cogenetic. Within the discrete masses of the HAGI there are both gradational and sharp boundaries among the petrologic types. The trace element and REE patterns of the different rock types are all similar and smoothly varying, and there are no compositional gaps in major or trace element concentrations (**Figs. 6 and 7**). Additional evidence for derivation of all the HAGI rocks from a common source evolving by fractional crystallization comes from continuous and coherent evolutionary trends of compatible and incompatible elements and their ratios, including Pb/Sr vs. Sr, Rb/Ba vs. Rb/Sr, Rb vs. K/Rb and Nb vs. Ta plots (**Fig. 12a-d**). The parallel primitive mantle-normalized spider diagrams (**Fig. 8a**) and REE patterns (**Fig. 8b**) also reflect common parentage and progressive magmatic evolution through the suite. Negative anomalies in Eu, Sr, and Ba are attributed to feldspar fractionation, whereas negative P and Ti anomalies more likely reflect fractionation of apatite and Fe-Ti oxides. The granites of HAGI show wide variations in Zr/Hf ratios (20-62), indicating extreme magmatic fractionation and fluid interaction (Ballouard et al., 2016). Enrichment in Nb sufficient to form columbite is also an indicator of extensive concentration by fractionation crystallization (Wang et al., 2017), whereas secondary minerals rich in Ta likely reflect redistribution of rare metals by fluids.

The HAGI represents a magmatic cupola above highly fractionated A-type magma. Although quartz-feldspar barometry results (e.g., Gualda and Ghiorso, 2014) normally invoke elevated pressure to move the granite minimum composition towards relatively low normative quartz contents, as observed in the HAGI and other related A-type rare-metal granites, we have clearly shown here that it is the effect of F on the phase relations, and not elevated pressure, that are responsible for this feature. The present study shows that the albite granite, emplaced at a shallow level, likely represents the early-crystallized portion of the intrusion at the apex of the

magmatic system, while the main portion of the intrusion was emplaced beneath the apex and crystallized more slowly. As the main mass of HAGI pink granite crystallized, the residual melt was enriched in alkalis, silica, water, fluorine, and rare metals. These fluids initially interacted with the muscovite granite and albite granite phases before their complete crystallization, yielding gradational contacts and primary magmatic textures in both marginal phases. However, continuing escape of late melts and fluids from depth after final crystallization formed fractures that extended into the country rocks and resulted in greisen, pegmatites and quartz-fluorite veins (e.g., McCarthy and Fripp, 1980; Schimtz and Burt, 1990).

7.2. Source rocks and magmatic processes

A confusing variety of names have been assigned to rare-metal granites in the Eastern Desert, including apogranite, albitized granite, albite granite and leucogranite. Likewise, a variety of hypotheses for the origin of these rocks have been published (e.g., Helba et al. 1997; Küster 2009; El Hadek et al. 2016; Emam et al. 2018; Amer et al., 2019, 2020; Seddik et al., 2020). The large differences in major and trace element concentrations and isotope ratios among all the post-collisional A-type granitoids of the ADS suggest that a variety of sources and processes were involved in their genesis (Abdel-Rahman, 2006; Farahat et al., 2007; Ali et al., 2016; Emam et al., 2018; Heikal et al., 2019; Seddik et al., 2020), but the rare-metal granites are a distinctive subgroup of these granitoids with considerable similarity from location to location.

The origins of A-type granitoids in general have been explained by petrogenetic models including (1) dehydration melting of tonalitic to granodioritic source rocks (Creaser et al., 1991; King et al., 1997); (2) fractional crystallization of mantle-derived basaltic magma (Haapala et al., 2007; Li et al., 2007; Wu et al., 2002); (3) partial melting of residual source rocks after the extraction of I-type magmas (Collins et al., 1982; Whalen et al., 1987); (4) low-pressure melting of calc-alkaline rocks at upper crustal levels (Patiño Douce, 1997; Skjerlie and Johnston, 1993) and (5) hybridization of mantle-derived magmas with crustal melts (Yang et al., 2006).

The literature on the late Neoproterozoic rocks of the Homrit Akarem area (e.g., Hassanen et al., 1995; Hassanen and Harraz, 1996; Abd El-Naby et al., 2000; Mohamed et al., 2009; Ali et al., 2012), includes conclusions spanning nearly the entire range of models for A-type magmatism. According to Hassanen and Harraz (1996), the HAGI is a post-collisional granite

derived from mixing of mantle-derived magma with variable amounts of crustal components, followed by albitization of the upper part of the pluton due to post-magmatic hydrothermal metasomatism. Abd El Naby et al. (2000), by contrast, concluded that the HAGI formed during the collisional stage by anatexis of the island-arc stage metasedimentary series. Mohamed et al. (2009) assumed that the HAGI is a typical post-collisional A-type granite and focused on the role of post-magmatic F-rich fluid in causing albitization and greisenization around the pluton. Ali et al. (2012) proposed that the HAGI evolved from highly fractionated magma and differed from Mohamed et al. (2009) in arguing that the greisenization, albitization, and enrichment in HFSE and HREE reflect the action of late-stage magmatic (as opposed to post-magmatic) F-rich fluids.

We find no support in our data for the collisional-stage hypothesis of Abd El Naby et al. (2000). All indicators point to a post-collisional setting for intrusion of the HAGI in the final stage of ANS evolution. The HAGI is marked by sharp, distinct intrusive contacts against the metasedimentary country rocks with a thin contact metamorphic aureole indicating high-temperature, low-pressure interaction; no anatexis of the country rock is apparent at current outcrop level.

The absence of mafic and intermediate igneous rocks, enclaves, or mafic xenocrysts in the HAGI argues against derivation from a mantle-derived mafic magma. Instead, the available geochemical data for the HAGI indicate their generation through partial melting of a juvenile crustal source, followed by extensive fractional crystallization and probable upper-crustal contamination (recorded by granodiorite xenoliths and perhaps by inherited zircons from the granodiorite). In general, crustal sources have elevated Nb/Ta ratios compared to those of mantle sources (Smirnov et al., 1982). The studied granites have higher contents of Nb (39-59 $\mu\text{g/g}$) than Ta (11-29 $\mu\text{g/g}$), expressed by a mineralogical predominance of columbite and absence of tantalite. Although Nb/Ta is elevated in crustal sources, Rb and Y are even more enriched than Nb, leading Eby (1992) to define the A₂-type granite field on the Y/Nb vs. Rb/Nb diagram (**Fig. 9e**) and associate it with magmas derived mainly from continental crust. As noted above, the HAGI is an A₂-type intrusion.

Wide variations in ratios such as K/Rb, Ba/Nb, and Zr/Rb are considered to reflect the role of crustal contamination during fractional crystallization, whereas constant values of these ratios point instead to simple fractional crystallization (Davidson et al., 1987). In the current case,

the HAGI displays wide ranges of all these ratios (Table 3), pointing to significant contamination by crustal materials. Substantial variations in Th/Nb ratio and Zr concentration also support crustal contamination (Azer et al., 2020). Every granite sample of the HAGI is peraluminous, with $ASI > 1.0$ and corundum in the norm. Experimental results indicate that melting of metasedimentary schists and gneisses, whose protoliths were pelitic sediments or quartz-rich aluminous greywackes, would yield peraluminous melts (Montel and Vielzeuf, 1997). This is not a unique interpretation, however. The results of Patiño Douce (1997) indicate that dehydration melting of calc-alkaline tonalite at 950°C and 0.4 GPa can also produce peraluminous melts with the major and trace element characteristics of A-type magmas. In either case, though, suitable source rocks whose partial melting might yield the parental magma of the HAGI are available among the Neoproterozoic crustal rocks of the ANS. The presence of granodiorite xenoliths in the HAGI suggests some role for assimilation of wall rock into the intrusion. This is supported by the presence of older zircons (740-703 Ma and arguably ~630 Ma as well) (Ali et al., 2012), likely inherited from older granitoids in the region. The granodiorite in the study area represents an older generation of subduction-related magmatism and is not cogenetic with the post-collisional HAGI.

7.3 Comparing the Homrit Akarem granite with related intrusions in the ANS

The HAGI is located near the western limit of the south Eastern Desert basement exposure, ~50 km west of the nearest related intrusion, at Nikeiba. Together, the El-Gharabiya, Nikeiba, and Homrit Akarem intrusions constitute a transect across the south Eastern Desert and therefore the HAGI data for the first time allow a geochemical assessment of whether trends in rare-metal granite chemistry across the south Eastern Desert basement exposure are similar to or different from the better known trend defined by the 10 rare metal granites exposed across the central Eastern Desert (the very isolated Um Ara intrusion farther to the South is difficult to place in regional context).

The mode of emplacement of the HAGI is very similar to the other ANS post-tectonic rare-metal bearing granites (e.g., Azer et al., 2019, 2020; Seddik et al., 2020; Abuamarah et al., 2021a, b), but the chemical compositions of these intrusions are quite distinct. The HAGI represents a magmatic cupola at the very top of a post-collisional intrusion, much like the Abu Dabbab and Mueilha intrusions of the Eastern Desert (Seddik et al., 2020; Abuamarah et al.,

2021a). However, the Abu Dabbab intrusion is highly mineralized and contains much higher concentration of niobium and tantalum than the HAGI and Mueilha intrusions. The HAGI is also similar to the Ad-Dayheen granite intrusion of the Arabian Shield, but the latter and its associated pegmatites are again highly mineralized and contain higher concentrations of U, Th, Zr, Nb, Ta, Y, Hf and Σ REE than the HAGI (Moghazi et al., 2011; Abuamarah et al., 2021b).

Hence, our HAGI results can be interpreted as evidence of a pattern useful for prospecting and resource evaluation: the largest enrichments in rare metals and highest ore potential occur in granites exposed in the eastern half of the Nubian Shield or across the Red Sea in the Central Arabian Shield. The decline in resource potential towards the western limit of the Nubian Shield applies to the south Eastern Desert transect as well as the central Eastern Desert transect. Indeed, preliminary studies of the Nikeiba intrusion show Nb concentrations 100–456 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Eliwa et al., 2018; Khaleel et al., 2007), or up to 8 times the highest Nb enrichment found at Homrit Akarem. This pattern suggests that resource evaluation of the essentially unstudied El-Gharabiya intrusion, at the eastern end of the south Eastern Desert transect, is a high priority.

There are also rare-metal granites ringing the eastern limit of exposure of the Arabian Shield (du Bray et al., 1994), which feature in some cases zinnwaldite similar to that reported here in the HAGI. It may prove fruitful to extend the principle of regional patterns of mineralization potential from the western limb of the Nubian Shield to the eastern limb of the Arabian Shield.

7.4. Potential of Fe^{3+} -rich, F-rich zinnwaldite for assessment of magmatic intensive parameters

Zinnwaldite in pink granite contains notable concentrations of F, Fe^{3+} , Li, Mn, and Zn. The concentrations of these elements have been tracked through the stages of magmatic evolution in well-exposed anorogenic batholiths such as at Pikes Peak, Colorado, USA (Foord et al., 1995; Kile and Foord, 1998). The Zinnwaldite at Homrit Akarem most closely matches that found in miarolitic cavities within Nb-Y-F granitic pegmatite phase of the Pikes Peak suite, which were assigned by Kile and Foord (1998) to the last stages of magmatic crystallization. It is notable that Fe-Li micas found distributed within the mass of rare-metal plutons in the ANS (this work, du Bray et al., 1994) are most similar to those found in highly evolved pegmatite veins elsewhere (Foord et al., 1995). This observation and the primary texture of zinnwaldite in the pink granite of the HAGI support the assignment of this phase to a magmatic origin but also confirms that the

current exposure of the HAGI represents a magmatic cupola. The cupola atop a pluton is an accumulation zone for late-magmatic, highly-evolved fluids that are poised, under suitable rheologic conditions, to be injected as miarolitic pegmatites. In the ANS plutonic cupolas, this material crystallized in place as well as forming pegmatites and greisen.

Some experimental calibration is available to aid interpretation of zinnwaldite composition as a geochemical indicator. It has the potential to define the oxidation state and F/OH activity ratio of its parental melt, and hence to resolve the rare-metal transporting complexes and the ambiguity between pressure and F content as factors driving the bulk compositions of rare metal granites towards low normative quartz contents.

The classic experimental work of Manning (1981) on the effect of magmatic F on phase equilibria in the quartz-albite-orthoclase system at 0.1 GPa revealed that increasing F activity causes a shift in the location of the minimum on the quartz-alkali feldspar cotectic towards lower normative quartz and slightly higher Ab/Or ratio (**Figure 13**). The trend due to F enrichment is similar to the effect of increasing pressure in the F-free H₂O-saturated system, which also lowers normative quartz alongside a stronger increase in the Ab/Or ratio. The addition of 4 wt % F induces an effect on the normative quartz content of the minimum melt comparable to an increase to ~0.9 GPa pressure. Although the pressure-driven and F-driven traces of the minimum melt composition are different in terms of Ab/Or ratio, this is a very challenging diagnostic to use in the assessment of emplacement conditions for A-type granites because their alkali contents are inevitably modified by late-magmatic or post-magmatic fluid-driven metasomatism. Hence there is an ambiguity of interpretation, unless independent means are available to fix the pressure of fractional crystallization that ultimately controls the major element composition of a given pluton.

In this context, the discovery of F-rich zinnwaldite in rare-metal granites in Egypt is highly significant. A study of the miscibility gap between dioctahedral and trioctahedral micas by Monier and Robert (2018) suggests that crystallization of a single zinnwaldite composition instead of a biotite-like and a muscovite-like immiscible pair requires F/Li > 1. Experimental work by Munoz and Ludington (1977) established an equilibrium constant for OH-F exchange between muscovite and fluid. This work showed that muscovite typically incorporates much less F than trioctahedral micas such as phlogopite, annite, or siderophyllite when equilibrated with the

same F/OH fluid activity buffer (anorthite-fluorite-sillimanite-quartz, AFSQ). Indeed, at 0.2 GPa and the AFSQ buffer, the highest F/(F+OH) ratio observed experimentally in muscovite is 0.31 at 690 °C. Yet the zinnwaldite in the HAGI yields F/(F+OH) averaging 0.76 and extending as high as 0.89. Naively, if the equilibrium constant for muscovite-fluid F/OH exchange of Munoz and Ludington (1977) applies to zinnwaldite, an increase in F/(F+OH) from 0.31 to 0.76 indicates an increase in the ratio of $f_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}/f_{\text{HF}}$ by ~ 0.9 log units above the AFSQ buffer. The provisional conclusion of this exercise is that, pending experimental calibration of the F/OH exchange equilibrium for micas more similar to zinnwaldite, the measurement of F/(F+OH) in primary magmatic mica constrains the F/OH ratio of the fluid and therefore yields an independent constraint on the pressure needed to match the normative quartz content of the F-bearing, fluid-saturated granite minimum to the normative quartz content of a given intrusion.

The zinnwaldite in the HAGI is also notable for its elevated Fe^{3+} content, with Mössbauer spectroscopy showing $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{T}} = 0.407$. Quantitative oxygen fugacity measurements for granitoid magmas are challenging to obtain. Granites typically lack the mineral assemblages needed to apply oxybarometers such as ilmenite-magnetite, olivine-orthopyroxene-spinel, biotite-garnet-muscovite-magnetite-quartz. Their whole-rock $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{2+}$ is rarely pristine. Ce anomalies in zircon offer one avenue to estimating magmatic redox, but in Proterozoic rare-metal granites the zircons may all be too radiation-damaged for this approach. Quantitative Mössbauer analysis of zinnwaldite may be the best solution, preliminary calibration by Černý and Burt (1984), for example, used this approach to confirm that anorogenic Nb-Y-F type pegmatites are typically more oxidized than S-type Li-Cs-Ta type pegmatites. Experimental data to support a quantitative estimate of oxygen fugacity from $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{2+}$ of zinnwaldite is not presently available, but qualitatively we note that the observed value is much higher, for example, than the highest value observed ($\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{T}} = 0.16$) in late greisen associated with the W-bearing Xihuashan rare-metal granite in South China (Li et al., 2021).

7.6. Evidence of magmatic vs. metasomatic effects

The rare-metal bearing granites in the Eastern Desert of Egypt have been attributed by many authors to post-magmatic high-temperature metasomatic origins (e.g., Sabet et al., 1976;

El-Tabal, 1979; Riad, 1979; Kamel and El Tabbal, 1980; El-Galy et al., 2016), while others have preferred magmatic origins (e.g., Asran, 1985; Morsey and Mohamed, 1992; Jahn, 1996; Helba et al., 1997; Arslan et al., 1997; Renno, 1997; Abou El Maaty and Ali Bik, 2000) or hybrid models that note significant roles for both magmatic and post-magmatic processes (Azer et al., 2019; Heikal et al., 2019; Seddik et al., 2020; Zoheir et al., 2020; Abuamarah et al., 2021).

Numerous lines of evidence support and confirm the magmatic origin of the HAGI and document the preservation of important magmatic signatures despite the action of later metasomatic processes. These magmatic observations include (1) sharp intrusive contacts with the country rocks; (2) coherent and continuous compositional trends in major, trace, and rare earth element concentrations; (3) coexistence of euhedral to subhedral crystals of primary feldspars, biotite and muscovite; (4) overall enrichment in fluid-immobile rare elements, as Nb and Ta; (5) well-developed columbite crystals with normal zoning; and (6) fluorite crystallizing as anhedral to subhedral grains between the constituent minerals.

Although the dominance of magmatic features in the HAGI leads us to conclude that the majority of its evolution was magmatic, the effects of later hydrothermal fluids are evident as well. There is extensive replacement by secondary minerals, especially in the apical part of the intrusion (albite granite) and the marginal zone (muscovite granite). We consider the parts of the intrusion recording most clearly the effects of hydrothermal fluids to have crystallized earlier than the central pink granite and therefore to have been more extensively modified by fluids escaping from the later crystallizing magmatic core of the intrusion. Metasomatic features include: (1) development of pegmatites, greisens and quartz-fluorite veins in fracture systems extending from the marginal zones of the intrusion into the country rocks; (2) partial replacement of microcline by secondary albite with preservation of the original crystal habit; (3) overgrowth of secondary albite around primary feldspars and quartz; (4) partial alteration of albite crystals to sericite and muscovite; (5) presence of biotite relics within secondary muscovite; and (6) overgrowth or replacement of primary columbite by secondary fluorcalcium microcline and rhodochrosite.

The presence of pegmatite veins cutting the HAGI and its host rocks indicates that the granitic melt was fluid-saturated, at least in its final evolutionary stages (London, 2015; Wu et al., 2020). Indeed, volatile concentrations are the key to constraining the fractionation behavior of

the granitic rocks of the HAGI. Pegmatite pockets display gradational contacts with the host granite, suggesting that they represent products of *in situ* fractionation of granitic magma. The occurrence of F-bearing minerals such as magmatic fluorite, F-rich zinnwaldite, and the alteration of Nb-Ta oxide to fluorcalciomicrolite all indicate the enrichment of the magma with appreciable fluorine. In general, F-rich fluids in granitoid systems have been assigned various to primary magmatic (e.g., Cuney et al., 1992; Dostal and Chatterjee, 1995; Agangi et al., 2010) and secondary metasomatic sources (e.g., Higgins et al., 1985; Nurmi and Haapala, 1986). In the HAGI, however, it is evident that F was present in the magma already in the magmatic stage. As emphasized above, experimental calibration of the equilibrium constant (or verification that the calibration of Munoz and Lundington, 1977 is applicable) for zinnwaldite/fluid F-OH partitioning offers a pathway to quantifying this conclusion.

Hydrothermal alteration continued into the sub-solidus in the marginal zones of the HAGI, as indicated by re-equilibration textures and formation of secondary minerals after K-feldspar, mica, and columbite. Nevertheless, a magmatic origin for the hydrothermal solutions that affected these granites is favored by the following observations: (1) fluorite forms anhedral to subhedral grains among the rock-forming minerals; (2) Nb, U, and Th concentrations are elevated and increase with extensive fractionation from the early phase (albite granite) to the late phase (pink granite); (3) the transition from the pink granites to the white albite is gradational and associated with pegmatites with gradational boundaries, pointing to crystallization of the pink granite as the source of fluids that ascended and altered the albite granite.

The presence of garnet as an accessory mineral in the muscovite granite phase of the HAGI is important in tracking the evolution of these rocks (Gaspar et al., 2008). The texture and chemical composition of garnet can be used to indicate pressure-temperature-fluid activity conditions during its growth (du Bray, 1988; Whitworth, 1992; Villaros et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2012; Bekele and Sen, 2020). Spessartine-almandine garnets in general have many possible origins: (1) they may crystallize directly from Mn-rich peraluminous magma under suitable temperature and pressure conditions (du Bray, 1988; Dahlquist et al., 2007; Yang et al., 2013; Sami et al., 2020); (2) they may crystallize as phenocrysts in primary magma at deeper levels and be transported to higher crustal levels and emplaced (Harangi et al., 2001); (3) they may be a residual phase during partial melting (René and Stelling, 2007); (4) they may form as a secondary

metasomatic phase upon interaction between post-magmatic hydrothermal fluids and host rocks (Clarke and Rottura, 1994; Kontak and Corey, 1988); and (5) they may be xenocrysts derived from partially assimilated disaggregated wall rock (Erdmann et al., 2009, Taylor and Stevens, 2010; Dorais and Tubrett, 2012). In the HAGI, accessory garnet is found only in the marginal zone that also contains abundant primary muscovite. Although this phase of the intrusion was modified by fluids escaping from the later crystallizing core, nevertheless the textural and compositional evidence supports growth of this garnet at magmatic conditions, above the solidus. The euhedral to subhedral form of the garnet crystals, together with the presence of quartz inclusions and absence of any metamorphic mineral inclusions, suggests a magmatic origin. All the garnet analyses are spessartine-rich, typical of garnets grown from highly-evolved, silica-rich, peraluminous magma (Whitworth, 1992). The composition of garnet in the HAGI is similar to that reported from several other post-collisional granites in the Eastern Desert of Egypt (Azer et al., 2019; Abuamarah et al., 2021).

8. Conclusions

- The Homrit Akarem granitic intrusion (HAGI) is typical of the post-collisional, mineralized A-type granites of late Neoproterozoic age in the ANS. Field relationships indicate that the HAGI has sharp intrusive contact with metamorphic country rocks, marked by a thin contact aureole of hornfels. The HAGI consists of early marginal phases of albite granite (apical part of the pluton) and muscovite granite (lateral margins) and a later central phase of pink granite.
- The rare-metal bearing A-type granites of the Eastern Desert reveal a variety of different levels of enrichment in Nb, Ta, Zr, Y, Th, U, and REEs. The HAGI anchors the western limit of a transect of rare-metal granites across the south Eastern Desert and is notably less mineralized than intrusions farther east. The HAGI helps to define a geographic pattern of greater rare-metal enrichment towards the east, or towards the axis of the ANS.
- Texture and morphology of the ore minerals indicate that they formed in two stages: a magmatic stage coinciding with emplacement of the intrusion, followed by a hydrothermal stage. Separation of fluids from the oversaturated melt promoted segregation and

emplacement of pegmatite and veins of fluorite and quartz as the magmatic stage transitioned into an early hydrothermal stage.

- The pink granite at the center of the HAGI contains (F, Fe³⁺)-rich zinnwaldite. Although its application to defining intensive parameters such as $f_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}/f_{\text{HF}}$ and f_{O_2} of its parental magma requires experimental calibration, comparison to other localities is sufficient to confirm the F-rich and oxidized character of the HAGI magmatic system and to confirm the effect of fluorine on the phase equilibria of anorogenic granites.
- Each phase of the HAGI defines coherent and cogenetic geochemical signatures, they can all be related to one another by simple fractional crystallization. Late- and post-magmatic fluid-rock reactions modified the texture and composition of the early-crystallized phases of the intrusion but their magmatic features are preserved.
- The HAGI case is consistent with the general geodynamic model for post-collisional magmatism in the ANS via partial melting of juvenile crustal followed by extensive fractional crystallization and a late-magmatic fluid overprint. Formation of the parent magma was likely triggered by lithospheric delamination and subsequent delivery of hot asthenospheric material to the base of an uplifted crust. Transfer of mantle-derived fluids and heat led to partial melting of the juvenile lower crustal material and ascent of melts along strike-slip faults, shear zones, and oblique extensional structures.

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Figure captions

Figure 1. (a) General geologic map of the central and southern sectors (dividing line after Stern and Hedge, 1985) of the Eastern Desert of Egypt showing the locations of the most important rare-metal bearing granite intrusions: (1) Umm Naggat, (2) Umm Samra, (3) Abu Dabbab, (4) Nuweibi, (5) Ineiga, (6) Homrit Waggat, (7) Igla, (8) Zabara, (9) Mueilha, (10) Nugrus, (11) El-Gharabiya, (12) Nikeiba, (13) Homrit Akarem (the study area is marked by a blue box), and (14) Umm Ara. (b) Aerial photo of the Homrit Akarem area showing the topographic expression of the Homrit Akarem intrusion into darker metasedimentary rocks; note the image has not been orthorectified and there is some geometric distortion especially towards the northern edge. (c) Geologic map of the Homrit Akarem area (after Hassanien and Harraz, 1996); the petrological sub-types of the Homrit Akarem Granitic Intrusion are not divided on this map. Precise sample locations for this study are indicated and GPS coordinates are given in Table 2. (d) Schematic cross-section (2x vertical exaggeration) showing the field relationships between the different rock types of the Homrit Akarem intrusion and their country rocks. Note line of section marked on Fig. 1c.

Figure 2. Field photographs: (a) metasedimentary xenolith in granodiorite, (b) Homrit Akarem granite intruded into metasedimentary country rock with a narrow hornfels contact aureole, (c) granodiorite xenolith within muscovite granite, (d) albite granite above the muscovite granite, forming the apical portion of the Homrit Akarem pluton, and (f) highly tectonized granite with development of many fractures.

Figure 3. Petrographic features (a, e, and g in cross-polarized transmitted light; f and j in plane-polarized transmitted light; b, c, d, h and i are backscattered electron images): (a) zircon inclusion in quartz, (b) columbite inclusion in albite, (c) columbite inclusion in biotite (note tiny spot of brighter Ta-rich columbite at rim), (d) disseminated columbite crystal among other minerals, (e) coarse muscovite crystal altered on its boundaries to secondary muscovite, (f) subhedral garnet with crackly appearance and quartz inclusions, (g) topaz crystals with perfect cleavage corroded by microcline with small muscovite flake, (h) columbite associated with biotite and altered along margins into fluorcalciomicrocline and rhodochrosite, (i) columbite interstitial to feldspars broken and altered along margins into fluorcalciomicrocline and rhodochrosite, and (j) oscillatory color-banding in cassiterite with muscovite flakes and fluorite in greisen. The mineral abbreviations are: Qz = quartz, Zr = zircon, Mu = muscovite, Grt = garnet, Mc = microcline, To = topaz, Cs = cassiterite, Fl = fluorite, and Pl = plagioclase, Col = columbite, Fcm = fluorcalciomicrocline, Rc = rhodochrosite.

Figure 4. Mineral chemistry of HAGI samples. (a) TiO_2 -($\text{FeO}_{(t)} + \text{MnO}$)- MgO ternary diagram for classification of biotite (after Nahit et al. 2005). (b) $\text{FeO}_{(t)}$ vs. Al_2O_3 discrimination diagram for biotite (Abdel Rahman, 1994). (c) Mössbauer spectrum and peak-fitting for zinnwaldite from pink granite sample HAK9. The data are fitted with two doublets, assigned respectively to single Fe^{2+} and Fe^{3+} sites (Table 1). There is no evidence of ferromagnetic contribution. (d) “Foster diagram” for zinnwaldite after Foord et al. (1995). The vertices represent fractions of the octahedral site occupancy by Li, by trivalent cations and Ti ($R^{3+} = \text{Al} + \text{Ti} + \text{Fe}^{3+}$), and by divalent cations ($R^{2+} = \text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{Mn} + \text{Mg} + \text{Zn}$). Data shown in black symbols are from the Pikes Peak Batholith, Colorado USA (Foord et al., 1995 unless otherwise indicated): filled triangles – annite from Barker et al. (1975), plus signs – annite from Hawley and Wobus (1977), open square – phlogopite, open triangles – lithian biotite, filled circles – zinnwaldite (solid arrows represent core-rim zoning), hexagon – ferroan lepidolite. HAGI data in blue circles. The curved dashed arrow is the evolution trend line of progressive fractionation

for the Pikes Peak pegmatites proposed by Foord et al. (1995). Mineral species abbreviations: SID = siderophyllite $\text{KFe}^{2+}_2\text{Al}(\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_2)\text{O}_{10}(\text{F},\text{OH})_2$, PL = polyolithionite $\text{KLi}_2\text{Al}(\text{Si}_4)\text{O}_{10}(\text{F},\text{OH})_2$, TL = trilithionite $\text{KLi}_{1.5}\text{Al}_{1.5}(\text{AlSi}_3)\text{O}_{10}(\text{F},\text{OH})_2$. (e) Mg-Ti-Na ternary diagram for the compositional fields of muscovite after (Miller et al., 1981). (f) Chemical composition and nomenclature of the columbite-tantalite group minerals based on $\text{Ta}/(\text{Ta}+\text{Nb})$ vs. $\text{Mn}/(\text{Mn}+\text{Fe})$ ratios.

Figure 5. Nomenclature of the plutonic rocks using the R_1 - R_2 diagram (De la Roche et al., 1980).

Figure 6. Variation diagrams of some major oxides against SiO_2 . Symbols as shown in the legend of Fig. 5. On each panel, the r^2 and p statistics of a linear regression through the data are given. Values of $p < 0.01$ are considered statistically significant and are colored green. Cases where $0.01 \leq p < 0.02$ are marginally significant and are colored orange. Values of $p > 0.02$ indicate insignificant correlations and are colored red.

Figure 7. Variation diagrams of some trace elements against SiO_2 . Symbols as shown in the legend of Fig. 5. Statistics of the regressions are shown as in Figure 6.

Figure 8. Normalized multi-trace element diagrams for whole-rock chemistry. (a) Primitive mantle normalized extended trace element diagram; normalization values from Sun and McDonough (1989). (b) Chondrite-normalized REE patterns; chondrite values from Evensen et al. (1972). Symbols as shown in the legend of Fig. 5.

Figure 9. Discrimination diagrams for magma type based on whole-rock chemistry. (a) $100 * (\text{MgO} + \text{FeO}_{(t)} + \text{TiO}_2) / \text{SiO}_2$ vs. $(\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{CaO}) / (\text{FeO}_{(t)} + \text{Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O})$ for distinguishing between calc-alkaline, highly fractionated calc-alkaline, and alkaline granites (Sylvester, 1989). (b) Ga/Al vs. $\text{FeO}_{(t)}/\text{MgO}$ for distinguishing between I-, S-, or M-type and A-type granites (Whalen et al., 1987). (c) Ga/Al vs. Nb for distinguishing between I, S, M and A-type granites (Whalen et al., 1987). (d) SiO_2 vs. $\text{Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O} - \text{CaO}$ (Frost et al., 2001). (e) Rb/Nb versus Y/Nb (Eby, 1992) with fields of A_1 and A_2 granitoids; A_1 are anorogenic A-

type granites with mantle signatures whereas A₂ are post-collisional A-type granites with crustal sources. Symbols as shown in the legend of Fig. 5.

Figure 10. Tectonic discrimination diagrams based on whole-rock chemistry. (a) SiO₂ vs. Al₂O₃ after Maniar and Piccoli (1989). (b) Y+Nb vs. Rb (Pearce et al., 1984); note that the dashed line marks the extreme upper limit of “anomalous” ocean ridge granites, which is not relevant in the current case. (c) R₁-R₂ multicationic diagram (Batchelor and Bowden, 1985). (d) Hf-Rb/30-3*Ta ternary diagram (after Harris et al., 1986). Abbreviations: R₁=4Si-11(Na+K)-2(Fe+Ti); R₂=6Ca+2Mg+Al; VAG: volcanic-arc granites; syn-COLG: syn-collisional granites; WPG: within plate granites; ORG: ocean-ridge granites. Symbols as shown in the legend of Fig. 5.

Figure 11. Simplified model for the geodynamic evolution of the post-collisional HAGI (modified after Seddik et al., 2020): Lithospheric delamination triggers upwelling of asthenospheric mantle, generation of underplated basic magma, doming upwards and erosional unroofing of crust, partial melting of lower and middle crust, generation of A-type granitic magma, ascent and emplacement of highly-fractionated magma extending to subvolcanic levels, and finally erosional removal of cover to expose the top of the pluton.

Figure 12. (a) Rb/Sr vs. Sr. (b) Rb/Ba vs. Rb/Sr. (c) Rb vs. K/Rb. (d) Nb vs. Ta.

Figure 13. Normative composition of the HAGI samples plotted in Qz-Ab-Or projection. Dashed lines show the quartz-alkali feldspar cotectics and the trace of the water-saturated minimum melt compositions in the haplogranite system at total pressure ranging from 0.5 to 10 kbar (Holtz et al., 1992; Winkler et al., 1975). Solid cyan line shows the trace of the minimum melt composition at 1 kbar with excess H₂O and increasing fluorine (F) content up to 4 wt% F (Manning, 1981). The low normative quartz of the HAGI and other anorogenic granites is presumably a robust feature, whereas Ab/Or ratios are readily modified by hydrothermal activity. Independent measurement of the activity of F is

necessary to distinguish the effects of pressure and F on controlling the major element chemistry of the magma.

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Table 1. Mössbauer spectral fitting results for F-rich zinnwaldite in sample HAK9

Valence	Isomer shift (mm s^{-1})	Quadrupole Splitting (mm s^{-1})	Peak Area Fraction
Fe^{2+}	1.1315	2.9758	0.593
Fe^{3+}	0.3217	0.8209	0.407

Constant baseline subtracted; all peaks fitted as Lorentzian doublets; isomer shift relative to α -Fe

Table 2. Major oxide contents and calculated normative compositions of the Homrit Akarem granites, Eastern Desert, Egypt.

Rock type	Pink granite								Muscovite granite								Rock Type	Albite granite					Sheared granite			Xenoliths		Granodiorite					
Sample No.	M A-2	M A-3	M A-6	H A K-9	H A K-27	H A K-30	H A K-35	M A-4	M A-5	M A-7	M A-8	H A K-23	H A K-26	H A K-33	Sample No.	M A-10	M A-11	M A-17	H A K-9a	H A K-29	M A-1	M A-15	M A-16	M A-13	M A-14	T G D-10	T G D-12	T G D-15	T G D-18	T G D-4	T G D-7		
Latitude (N)	24° 10' 40"	24° 10' 34"	24° 10' 55"	24° 10' 37"	24° 10' 53"	24° 11' 15"	24° 11' 31"	24° 10' 43"	24° 10' 33"	24° 10' 26"	24° 11' 18"	24° 10' 46"	24° 10' 32"	24° 10' 55"	Latitude (N)	24° 10' 45"	24° 12' 14"	24° 11' 14"	24° 10' 14"	24° 11' 42"	24° 10' 30"	24° 10' 59"	24° 11' 16"	24° 11' 17"	24° 11' 20"	24° 12' 44"	24° 12' 53"	24° 13' 12"	24° 13' 30"	24° 12' 13"	24° 12' 23"		
Longitude (E)	34° 03' 20"	34° 03' 11"	34° 03' 12"	34° 02' 36"	34° 03' 44"	34° 03' 45"	34° 03' 53"	34° 03' 55"	34° 03' 43"	34° 03' 29"	34° 02' 50"	34° 04' 10"	34° 04' 21"	34° 04' 57"	Longitude (E)	34° 02' 21"	34° 03' 42"	34° 04' 09"	34° 02' 54"	34° 04' 17"	34° 03' 34"	34° 03' 24"	34° 03' 17"	34° 03' 11"	34° 02' 56"	34° 02' 55"	34° 03' 01"	34° 03' 53"	34° 03' 29"	34° 01' 49"	34° 02' 15"		
Major oxides																																	
SiO ₂	75.57	75.52	74.65	75.14	75.58	75.51	75.56	75.40	75.07	74.66	75.56	75.51	75.56	75.54	SiO ₂	75.38	75.05	74.53	75.23	75.35	76.45	74.62	74.68	71.49	70.03	68.72	69.03	70.16	70.53	68.55	68.71		
TiO ₂	0.04	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.04	0.04	TiO ₂	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.85	0.79	0.55	0.42	0.34	0.32	0.52	0.57		
Al ₂ O ₃	13.15	13.47	13.11	13.04	13.64	13.31	13.22	14.61	13.26	13.69	13.43	13.35	13.31	13.59	Al ₂ O ₃	13.65	13.81	13.31	13.56	13.82	13.13	13.64	14.03	14.47	14.92	14.83	14.78	14.79	14.98	14.90	15.02		
Fe ₂ O	0.05	0.08	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Fe ₂ O	0.067	0.049	0.077	0.088	0.088	0.035	0.088	0.057	0.53	0.22	0.59	0.22	0.65	0.45	0.74	0.34		

[illegible]

se Al bit e	3	4	8	1	7	8	9	1	6	7	8	7	8	se Al bit e	42	39	41	42	39	42	36	43	32	30	35	31	33	35	36	36		
	9.	0.	8.	9.	9.	9.	8.	7.	3	0.	9.	0.	2.		8.	0.	.3	.6	.7	.5	.9	.3	.5	.7	.5	.1	.9	.1	.1	.1	.1	
	7	3	9	6	8	9	6	7	8.	3	7	9	6		8	4																
	1	9	1	2	6	1	8	8	5	5	4	3	7		3	9																
	2.	1.	1.	1.	2.	1.	1.	1.	2.	2.	2.	1.	2.		2.	1.	An ort hit e	2.	2.	2.	2.	2.	2.	2.	11	14	12	11	12	14	13	
4	6	9	9	0	9	8	7	2	0	0	6	1	0	9	58	75		34	39	2	58	87	2	.6	.8	.7	.5	12	.1	.4	.5	
5	6			9	9	4	1	9	5	3	6	2	7	6																		
0.	1.	1.		0.	0.	0.	0.	1.	1.	1.	0.	1.	1.	0.	Hy per sth en e	1.		0.	1.	1.	1.	1.	3.	5.	6.	6.	4.	4.	7.	5.		
9	5	2	1	8	8	7	6	9	0	1	8	1	0	9		17		93	37	27	31	17	96	14	74	2	8	09	97	48	14	6
	6	3		8	4	6	5	2	9	7		7	6	1																		
0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.		M ag net ite ll me nit e	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	
1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1			16	12	9	9	19	16	27	14	76	9	93	84	68	63	96	89
4	1	7	6	5	4	3	1	6	4	6	1	8	6	5																		
0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.		0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	1.	1.	0.	0.	0.	0.	1	1.	
8	8	2	6	8	6	6	4	1	4	2	6	8	6	8	5																	
Ap atit e	0.	0.		0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.		0.	0.	0.	0.	Ap atit e	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.			
	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	0	0	0	0		02	02	04	09	07	02	07	02	2	24	33	25	2	2	35	27	
Geochemical parameters																																
Co lou r In de x Di ff. In de x R1	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	0.	0.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	Co lou r In de x Di ff. In de x R1	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	2.	1.	6.	7.	8.	7.	6.	5.	9.	7.		
	1	8	4	2	1	0	9	8	2	2	3	9	4		2	1	39	09	62	56	55	39	33	32	15	63	69	75	32	74	12	59
	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9		9	9	95	95	95	95	95	95	93	95	80	75	77	77	79	79	76	78
	6.	5.	9	6.	6.	6.	6.	7.	9	2.	6.	5.	6.		9	6.	.8	.0	.8	.6	.0	.8	.5	.5	.0	.8	.3	.5	.2	.9	.0	.2
	2	3	6	3	3	7	7	0	5	9	9	2	2	2	4	8	7	1	4	2	8	2	5	5	1	4	3	2	8	2	6	
	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	22	24	22	23	24	25	24	22	28	28	24	27	27	27	23	23	
	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	5	6	4	3	3	3	4	3	83	42	87	14	31	23	77	96	77	39	82	80	92	65	56	59	
	0	3	0	9	2	3	9	5	3	2	9	7	1	4	7																	

[illegible]

Table 3. Trace element contents ($\mu\text{g/g}$) of the Homrit Akar granite, Eastern Desert, Egypt.

Rock Type	Pink granite								Muscovite granite								Detection Limits	Rock Type	Albite granite					Sheared granite			Xenoliths		Granodiorite					
Sample No.	MA-2	MA-3	MA-6	HA-K-9	HA-K-27	HA-K-30	HA-K-32	HA-K-35	MA-4	MA-5	MA-7	MA-8	HA-K-23	HA-K-26	HA-K-33	2	Sample No.	MA-10	MA-11	MA-12	HA-K-9a	HA-K-29	MA-1	MA-5	MA-6	MA-3	MA-4	TGD-10	TGD-2	TGD-5	TGD-8	TGD-4	TGD-7	
Rb	33	25	39	32	36	40	41	42	18	32	41	28	38	39	34		2	Rb	32	31	26	33	37	34	22	27	49	66	47	40	44	47	38	47
Ba	12	44	24	16	23	18	17	20	53	22	24	26	21	35	25			2	Ba	45	38	44	36	25	34	57	41	00	56	46	41	39	59	70

[illegible]

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Ba/ Rb	. 3 4 0	. 9 4 0	. 0 0 0	5 4 0	4 4 0	8 8 0	9 9 0
	1 0 1	2 2 1	0 7 1	0 4 1	0 06 05	0 04 05	0 05
	1 1 1	6 6 6	2 2 2	0 0 0	10 10 11	10 11 10	10 10 10
	8 7 2	4 3 3	4 5 2	5 5 2	1 6 2	10 5 2	1 7 1
Zr/ Hf	1 1 1	6 6 6	2 2 2	0 0 0	10 10 11	10 11 10	10 10 10
	8 7 2	4 3 3	4 5 2	5 5 2	1 6 2	10 5 2	1 7 1
	1 1 1	6 6 6	2 2 2	0 0 0	10 10 11	10 11 10	10 10 10
	8 7 2	4 3 3	4 5 2	5 5 2	1 6 2	10 5 2	1 7 1
Nb /Ta	8 4 5	0 5 2	3 6 1	3 7 1	48 95 09	74 74	1 1
	4 1 5	4 1 5	0 1 5	6 5 1	70 48 25	25 25	2 2
	4 1 5	4 1 5	0 1 5	6 5 1	70 48 25	25 25	2 2
	4 1 5	4 1 5	0 1 5	6 5 1	70 48 25	25 25	2 2

Table 4. REE contents ($\mu\text{g/g}$) of the Homrit Akarem granites, Eastern Desert, Egypt.

Rock Type	Pink granite								Detection Limits	Rock Type	Albite granite					Sheared granite			Xenoliths		Granodiorite					
Sample No.	M A	M A	M A	H A	H A	H A	H A	H A		Sample No.	M A	M A	M A	H A	H A	M A	M A	M A	M A	M A	T G	T G	T G	T G	T G	T G
La	1 1 4 3 2 4 6 7	7 5 1 2 2 8 3 3	1 3 5 6 3 1 1 7	9 5 9 2 6 2 5	8 02 8 22 4 7	8 31 8 24 0 5	8 47 25 3	11 2 28 2	0.05	La	8 0 2	1 0 5 2	6 1 1	7 26	6 46	7 1 6 5	1 1 0 6	1 6 2 9	1 7 5 8	1 1 3 4	1 9 0 1	1 6 4 2	1 4 1 1	1 8 2 8	2 2 0 8	3 1 0 8
Ce	1 1 4 3 2 4 6 7	7 5 1 2 2 8 3 3	1 3 5 6 3 1 1 7	9 5 9 2 6 2 5	8 02 8 22 4 7	8 31 8 24 0 5	8 47 25 3	11 2 28 2		Ce	1 9 7 8	2 0 3	1 6 3	16 6 3	18 0 6	1 6 4 2	2 9 4 9	2 9 4 9	1 7 8 9	3 5 4 8	3 5 0 8	2 5 8 3	2 4 6 4	4 8 0 5	6 6 0 5	1 2 6 1

Pr	5	3	6	4.	3.	4.	4.	5.	3	5	4	5	0.01	Pr	3.	4.	2.	3.	3.	3	5.	6.	2.	4.	3.	4.	3.	2.	5.	7.		
	2	7	8	8	97	12	57	48	6	4	0	5			97	56	86	5	2	21	8	6	8	7	3	6	4	5	9	1	3	
	3	6	5	2					5	8	2	9						1	1	1	14	13	5	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	
	2	1	2	2					2	2	1	2						4.	9.	1.	.8	.7	6	3.	6.	0.	6.	5.	8.	3.	1.	9.
Nd	0	5	8	0.	16	17	18	21	1	2	6	1	16	18	16	5	5	3	9	6	6	0	1	7	8	3	1	7	3	6	0	
	5	9	1	8	3	.1	.1	.2	5	5	2	7	9	2	2	4	4	4	1	6	6	6	8	2	4	6	2	8	5	7	5	
	8	4	8	1					6	9	6	8				1	0	1	3	65	6.	49	6.	24								
	7	6	1	9.	6.	7.	7.	8.	1	0	1	3	6	6	6.	2	3	4	6													
Sm	7	6	1	9.	6.	7.	7.	8.	6	9	6	8				5.	7.	4.	5.	5	6	9.	8.	2.	3.	2.	4.	2.	3.	5.		
	7	8	2	9	81	21	9	35	1	0	1	3	65	49	24	4	1	3	95	18	9	5	7	3	5	7	0	9	4	2	6	
									2	3	4	6																				
	0	0	0	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0	0	0	0	0.	0.	0.	0	0	0	0.	0	0	0	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	1.		
Eu	1	0	1	0	0.	0.	0.	0.	0	1	1	1	0.	0.	0.	2	0	0	0.	1	0	0	7	8	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	3	
	7	7	8	7	09	09	17	13	8	5	2	8	14	18	08	4	1	5	22	2	4	9	1	7	9	7	9	3	5	8	3	
	8	8	1	1.	8.	8.	8.	8.	7	9	8	7				5	7.	5.	6.	5.	6	1	8.	2.	3.	2.	3.	2.	3.	4.		
	8	6	3	2	22	87	77	93	2	1	2	4	55	13	79	6	7	7	65	51	3	3	7	3	6	4	9	3	0	8		
Gd	2	2	7	8					9	1	5	5																				
	2	2	2	2.	1.	2.	2.	2.	1	2	1	1	1.	1.	1.	1	2	1	1	1	2	2.	2.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.		
	1	4	9	1	97	12	3	3	2	4	9	9	7	6	56	4	2	3	56	29	2	4	6	8	6	9	2	9	8	3		
	1	1	2	1					1	1	1	1				2	6	4	1	12	11	11										
Tb	5	5	0	6.	14	15	16	16	2	6	4	1	12	11	11	3	3	6	11	9.	0	1	3	7	2.	3.	2.	3.	3.	2.	4.	
	5	2	1	4	7	1	7	5	5	0	1	7	4	1	5	4	2	7	9	49	7	8	2	9	7	6	4	8	8	1	5	
	8	2	1	2					2	3	3	3				2	3	3	7		2	4	3	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.		
	3	3	4	4.	3.	3.	3.	3.	9	7	3	2	09	82	61	4	2	3	67	13	5	4	3	4	7	4	6	6	4	8		
Ho	4	6	3	3	42	68	97	93	9	8	7	5				4	9	3	2													
	1	1	1	1					1	1	1	1				1	1	1	1		9	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2.		
	2	3	6	1	12	13	14	14	0	3	1	1	11	10	9.	8	0.	7.	9.	8.	1	5.	2.	1.	2.	1.	1.	1.	1.	2.		
	7	5	4	1	2	.9	.0	.0	9	1	8	3	2	8	83	9	4	9	73	21	7	3	4	1	1	1	8	2	4	6		
Er	1	1	1	1					2	2	2	2	2.	2.	2.	6	0.	7.	9.	8.												
	2	2	3	2.	2.	2.	2.	2.	2	2	2	2	2.	2.	2.	1	2.	1.	1.	1.	1	2.	2.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.		
Tm	.	.	.	9	43	62	73	76	.	.	.	.	2	06	07	5	6	0	5	91	75	.	8	6	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	4

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Credit Author Statement

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Declaration of interests

☒ The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

☐ The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

Research highlights

- The A-type Homrit Akarem Granite Intrusion preserves a high-level magmatic cupola
- It contains cogenetic peraluminous albite granite, pink granite & muscovite granite
- Primary (Li-, F-, Fe^{3+})-rich zinnwaldite constrains high magmatic F activity & $f\text{O}_2$
- Fractionation and magmatically-derived fluids concentrated rare metals
- Less mineralization than in similar plutons closer to the core of the Nubian Shield

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Figure 1b

Figure 1cd

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 7r1

Figure 7r2

Figure 8

Figure 9

Figure 10

Figure 11

Figure 12

Figure 13