

Mindat Discussion of Kambaba Jasper/Kabamba Jasper/ Kambaba Stone/ Kabamba Stone, 8-31-2017

Following blog speculates about the composition of Kambaba/Kabamba Jasper. Infrared spectroscopy of my specimens show albite, microcline, quartz, and dumortierite water. The dumortierite is only seen in water bands, so it is a trace constituent. Based on some Internet descriptions of Nebula stone, the two are both volcanic rocks of different composition.

Donald Kasper



Kambaba/Kabamba stone from the author's collection.

Re: misinformation on Kambaba Jasper and Nebula

Stone(TM)

Posted by Ron Nurnberg

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Ron Nurnberg [January 14, 2008 06:31 PM](#)

Kambaba Jasper is a sedimentary fossilized stromatolite algae (a sedimentary stone).

(Kambamba/Kambaba/Kabamba/Kabamby/Cumbamba)

Caution to Mineral collectors and the Esoteric Community

Some unscrupulous sellers make up new names for well known stones and crystals in order to sell them to an unsuspecting public.

Please be aware that these type of people are out there.

There are companies that are trying to capitalize on the popularity of our stones' Name (Nebula Stone) because they have learned it has become very popular around the World. Some unethical companies have intentionally sold Kambaba/Kambamba/Kabamba Jasper/Crocodile rock from Madagascar and South Africa falsely calling them Nebula Stone. Kambaba Jasper is not Nebula Stone.

They are two totally different stones.

Nebula Stone is an igneous stone (from within the Earth). Kambaba jasper is a sedimentary stone of fossilized algae.

Response: This is false. Both are volcanic rocks.

Kambaba Jasper is sometimes falsely sold as Nebula Stone by those who either have wrong information or are being unscrupulous.

Some companies have bought Kambaba/Crocodile rock (fossilized stromatolite algae) from Madagascar and falsely pretend that Kambaba had the same mineral composition as Nebula Stone, and therefore giving the false impression that supposedly they had the same energy. That is a scientific impossibility.

They are geologically and mineralogically totally different stones.

Kambaba Jasper does not have the same mineral composition as Nebula Stone. Kambaba Jasper does not have the same atomic and molecular energies as Nebula Stone.

The atoms of all substances are in constant motion. The intensity of atomic or molecular movement is a measure of the energy content of a piece of matter. A body that has a high intensity of atomic or molecular movement will transfer energy to an adjacent body with a lower intensity of movement by the energy conversion process of conduction.

The molecular movement of atoms in an igneous stone and a sedimentary stone are NOT the same.

Different vibration and movement of the atoms and molecules within a different substance resonate differently and have different energetic qualities.

The molecular movement of atoms in Nebula Stone and the molecular movements of atoms in Kambaba Jasper have very different energies, and of course, are as vastly different as their different origins.

It would be unrealistic for anyone to believe that Nebula Stone which is a igneous stone, and Kambaba Jasper which is a sedimentary stone, could have the same atomic and molecular energy.

That is a scientific impossibility. It is a matter of simple physics.

It is the minerals and their unique combination and the formation process that dictate the atomic and molecular movement in a stone (in essence the energy).

Kambaba Jasper can be an attractive fossil. The main point is that the different minerals and combinations and how they were created are what created the vastly different energies (atomic and molecular movement and the piezoelectric effect).

Response: There is no such thing as a fossil made of albite feldspar. Albite rocks are volcanic or igneous rocks.

Kambaba Jasper is a stromatolite which is a clump of fossilized algae (greenish or blackish orbs of petrified algae with predominantly black centers), whereas Nebula Stone was created from an entirely different evolutionary geologic process. Nebula Stone is composed of a unique

combination of crystallized minerals from deep within our planet (igneous). Some of these companies selling Kambaba Jasper are even using variations of our name to try to deceive the unsuspecting public. They have ranged from Eldarit–Nebula–Kambaba, Nebulastein, Nebulastone, Nebula, Nebular, Nebula Jade, Nebulastein–Eldarit, Eldarit, Nebula Stone, Nebulastone Eldarit Kambaba, Nebelfleck–stein and other combinations.

Response: The green in kambaba/kabamba is microcline feldspar.

This, of course, leaves us more than slightly miffed. So we felt an explanation of the difference between Nebula Stone and Kambaba was needed.

Kambaba jasper is an algae (a stromatolite – a clump of algae) that fossilized over time turning the algae into stromatolite Jasper. Stromatolite Kambaba Jasper is from the South Africa Rift that runs from South Africa to Madagascar an island nation off the east coast of Africa. Stromatolite Kambaba Jasper is a sedimentary (deposited layers of sediment) fossil of algae from long ago. Whatever names they use Kambaba Jasper is still Kambaba Jasper... a sedimentary fossilized algae. Kambaba is usually colored bluish–gray–green with dark and greenish orbs.

Nebula Stone is NOT a fossilized algae. Nebula Stone is of igneous origin (from within the Earth). Nebula Stone is NOT from South Africa nor Madagascar. Nebula Stone is from only one location on the planet...North America.

Nebula Stone is an igneous stone, whereas Kambaba is a fossilized sedimentary stone.

Kambaba and Nebula Stone are formed by different formation processes, come from different locations on Earth and contain different mineral compositions and color combinations and different atomic and molecular energies.

They are geologically and mineralogically totally different stones.

Nebula Stone is of igneous origin (from within the Earth) and brought to the surface by Volcanic processes. Nebula stone is a "unique combination of discrete crystallized minerals". There is no other Gemstone with the same combination of minerals.

One can easily see the difference

Nebula Stone

When we discovered Nebula Stone in 1994 we sent samples to Dr. Leslie Hale with the Smithsonian Institution, Dr. George with The American Museum of Natural History, Dr. Sid Williams of Globo De Plomo, Dr. Dave Douglas researcher UCLA, Dr. Vergil Leuth with New Mexico School of Mines, Dr. Bruce Geller of Geo Concepts Unlimited Bolder Colorado (Melody's mineralogist) and others. Nebula Stone was analyzed using X-ray Dispersion Analysis (EDX) in a Scanning Electron Microscope (Microprobe/SEM), Polished Section Analysis, XES Elemental Analysis, XES Search (@1 / 4), Digital Imaging, Photomicrographs, Back-Scattered Electron Detector (BSE), Petrographic Analysis and X-ray Diffraction and the Electron Microprobe.

The Nebula Stone description below is from the World renowned mineralogical Petrologist Dr. Sid Williams.

"The technical description of the Nebula Stone may not be much fun to read but at least it would be familiar to a professional geologist if it were in your interest to use it in that manner. In plain English stripped of jargon it means that this stone is a fresh and unusual alkalic volcanic rock composed of the minerals Quartz, Anorthoclase, Riebeckite, Aegirine, Arfvedsonite and Zircon. Quartz and Anorthoclase form the groundmass of the gem, while Riebeckite and Aegirine are an integral part of the spherulites. The darker matrix is richer in Riebeckite and also contains more Quartz and Anorthoclase. The light green spherules you see in the stone composed of radiating fibers are riebeckite needles mantled with fine grained Aegirine."

"This stone evolved from inside the Earth with it's discrete rare combination of minerals cooling and crystallizing forming as a glassy unit that devitrified slowly under quiescent conditions. Spherulitic structures began to develop in the glass by virtue of devitrification while other portions of the glass residium remained slightly mobile, showing streaky structure around those domains in an advanced state of crystallization. Ultimately the glass base also devitrified under static conditions. This has produced a matrix of Quartz and Anorthoclase which occur in complex intergrowth. typically the Anorthoclase is present as slender lath-like crystals or feathery club-shaped prisms (points) floating in an interstitial filigree of Quartz. Within spherulites Anorthoclase is predominant and there is less Quartz for it appears to have segregated from these domains during crystallization."

"Lying side by side with the anorthoclase laths are slender prisms (points) of Riebeckite which

may attain considerable length and yet never exceed 10 or 12u in width. The matrix of the stone contains considerably more clear Quartz-rich vein-forms and in places it has grown nearly at the exclusion of Anorthoclase. However, needles of Riebeckite still lie within these minerals and their common orientation is suggestive of flow banding around spherulites. Granular Aegirine occurs in the matrix where it appears to have replaced or supplanted Riebeckite almost entirely and the largest grains occur in late magmatic vein-forms carrying clear granular Quartz. Aegirine occurs within spherulites and it lies side by side with Riebeckite needles and appears to replace their margins."

"What this means is that the minerals were once molten and glass-like but cooled very slowly, allowing the discrete minerals to begin to separate out and crystallize so the final product had lost its glass-like condition. This allowed the green Nebula eyes (orbicules or spherulites) to form as the different component minerals cooled and crystallized at various rates. It is these spherulites of discrete minerals which give the cosmic night sky-like appearance to Nebula Stone. With numerous microscopic terminated quartz prisms (points) in the Quartz-rich vein-forms". Nebula Stone is deep deep green, almost black looking, with crystallized green eyes or Spherulites. The Spherulites (green eyes) are crystals composed of Anorthoclase, Riebeckite and Aegirine crystals."

The photo below is of a Genuine Nebula Stone Frog Carving

The photo above is an example of a Genuine Nebula Stone Frog Carving.

We have learned that there is some confusion about what really is authentic genuine Nebula Stone. The pictures below will make it clear.

We are the origin of all Nebula Stone, anyone that is selling Genuine Nebula Stone first received it from us or someone that we have sold Nebula Stone to.

If you want Kambaba then please ask the store for Kambaba and if you desire Nebula Stone then please ask the store for genuine Nebula Stone... but don't let the stores sell you a misrepresented stone. The store owner may not know the difference so please help them by emailing them this link: [Kambaba Jasper is fossilized stromatolite algae](#) You may post this link on your web site.

From Karen and Ron the discoverers, the origin and only Direct Source of Genuine Nebula Stone

Spheres, Nebula Stone Skulls, Jewelry, Carvings and Nebula Stone Tumble Stones, all things Nebula Stone.

? What is Kambaba Jasper ?

Kambamba/Kambaba/Kabamba/Kabamby/Cumbamba

It has been sold under many different misleading names.

KAMBABA JASPER is a sedimentary stone that is FOSSILIZED BLUE GREEN ALGAE (prokaryotic bacteria).

Kambaba Jasper is simply a newly invented name for "Green Stromatolite Jasper" a sedimentary stone that has been around for a long time. Most mineralogists know it as "Green Stromatolite Jasper" a fossilized algae.

Some wholesalers have recently renamed "Green Stromatolite Jasper" to "Stromatolite Kambaba Jasper"

And now "Stromatolite Kambaba Jasper" or "Kambaba Jasper stromatolite" has again been recently renamed by wholesalers in South Africa and Madagascar as "Kambaba Jasper" to deceive the public into believing it is a new find. It is not a new find. It is a newly found formation of green stromatolite jasper. It is not a new stone. It is the same "Green Stromatolite Jasper" (a fossilized algae) that comes in many variations. The Kambaba variations falsely being sold under it's many different copy cat names primarily comes from the South African Rift.

Kambaba jasper is a fossilized blue-green algae sedimentary stone, an algae plant with sand and debris that has been fossilized.

There are wholesalers that are now once again deceiving the retailers, public, metaphysical and mineralogical communities by once again falsely renaming "Kambaba Jasper" to... Nebula Stone, Eldarit, Nebulastone, Nebular stone, Eldarit Nebulastone Kambaba.

The Kambaba sphere and the Kambaba heart and cabochon (shown above on the left) are sedimentary biological fossils of bioorganic origin (stromatolite) from the South African Rift

formation.

Kambaba jasper is a fossilized algae sedimentary stone. Nebula Stone is an igneous stone of crystallized minerals.

Nebula Stone evolved from inside the earth (igneous) and was" brought to the surface by Volcanic processes with it's discrete rare combination of minerals cooling and crystallizing forming green filaments of minerals radiating from the nucleus of the eyes (spherulites)".

The spots in Kambaba are usually rings of fossilized algae. The fossilizing process creates the patterns and irregular shaped orbs. Kambaba Jasper's orbs are algae squished by layers of sand and debris cemented layer upon layer over time forming some of the irregular shaped orbs.

The eyes in Nebula Stone are crystallized minerals of Anorthoclase and Riebeckite points mantled with fine grained Aegirine crystals radiating outwards from the nucleus then flowing back inwards to the Quartz, Anorthoclase and Riebeckite matrix of Nebula Stone.

Kambaba jasper is usually NOT a dark background (Matrix). The base color of Kambaba is usually "bluish-gray-green with mottled algae patterns of black specks with black swirls and sometimes green algae spots with less black, but the base (background color) of kambaba is usually lighter bluish-gray-green."

Nebula Stone is a deep green (almost black) matrix. The base color of Nebula Stone "is a deep, deep green appearing almost as black as the night sky with magmatic clear Quartz-rich vein-forms carrying clear granular Quartz throughout the matrix with microscopic prisms (points) in the self healed veins of Quartz."

Different vibration and movement of the atoms and molecules within a different substance resonate differently and have different energetic qualities. The molecular movement of atoms in Nebula Stone and the molecular movements of atoms in Kambaba Jasper are different and have very different atomic energies, that of course, are as vastly different as their different origins.

Stromatolite Kambaba Jasper (now being sold as Kambaba Jasper and some other copy-cat misleading names) has different variations of bluish-green to bluish gray to black stromatolite spots marked by fossilized "biomass" structures. Stromatolites contain rudimentary algae fossils and are known to be among the plants that contributed to the production of oxygen in

the early atmosphere of earth. Stromatolite Kambaba Jasper contains evidence of the planet's sedimentary and biological activity over many thousands of years. Kambaba jasper is sedimentary fossilized blue-green algae (prokaryotic bacteria) that grew and fossilized into clumps called Stromatolites. It derives its bluish-green with mottled patterns of black specks with black swirls and spotty patterns from fossilized algae colonies that once lived 22 million years ago.

Precambrian stromatolite is the oldest of all fossils, The banding that commonly appears in stromatolite is a record of the growth patterns of colonies of microorganisms, principally photosynthetic cyanobacteria, but also other Eubacteria and the Archaeans. The colors that are often expressed are the result of the interaction of biological and sedimentary processes, together with subsequent chemistry and mineral exchange. Stromatolites are most often described as biogenically-produced structures formed by colonies of photosynthesizing cyanobacteria (blue green algae).

During Precambrian times, bacterial mats formed a platform for trapping and cementation of sediment. For photosynthetic bacteria, depletion of carbon dioxide in the surrounding water could cause precipitation of calcium carbonate that along with grains of sediment were then trapped within the sticky layers of mucilage (that formed a film for UV protection) that surrounded the bacterial colonies. Cyanobacteria are also capable of directly precipitating calcium carbonate, with minimal incorporation of sediment within the structure. The bacteria could repeatedly re-colonize the growing hard sedimentary platform, forming layer upon layer in a cyclic repetitive process. The resulting successive layering can assume a myriad of shapes dependent upon microorganism and environment, and if left undisturbed by forces of nature could form huge domes and flat laminar structures that grew upward toward the life-sustaining rays of the sun.

Cyanobacteria are found to be a primary organism in the formation of microbial carbonates. Prokaryotic bacteria is blue-green algae owing to its pigmentation involved in photosynthesis.

Kambaba jasper is commonly formed by the trapping, binding, and cementation of sedimentary grains by microorganisms, especially blue-green algae.

You may send this information page to others and add to your web site or eBay store.

If you want Kambaba Jasper then please ask the store for Kambaba Jasper and if you desire

Nebula Stone then please ask the store for genuine Nebula Stone... but don't let the stores sell you a misrepresented stone. The store owner or web master may not know the difference so please help them by emailing them the link to this page: Kambaba Jasper is fossilized stromatolite algae you may copy and past this link to email to others. Kambaba Jasper German (Deutsch) translation

Kind Regards

Karen and Ron

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 01/17/2008 08:24PM by Jolyon Ralph.

Wynne January 16, 2008 01:42AM

...Some companies have bought Kambaba/Crocodile rock (fossilized stromatolite algae) from Madagascar and falsely pretend that Kambaba had the same mineral composition as Nebula Stone, and therefore giving the false impression that supposedly they had the same energy. That is a scientific impossibility...

True, that is a scientific impossibility. Neither has the 'same energy' in a 'metaphysical' sense as there is no such thing.

Ted Kepling January 17, 2008 06:52PM

You make me . Who you think you are getting a pattend on a rock you say you found somewhere in Mexico . Then get shookup when somebody finds the same type in Madagascar . Kabama is not stromatolite , It`s a volcanic rock just like nebula .

Jolyon & Katya Ralph January 17, 2008 08:35PM

I was tempted to delete the whole of this thread as it stinks of cheap advertisment rather than any genuine attempt at debate.

But I left it (once I edited out the unwelcome advertising and trademark symbols) as it contains some laughable comments that should amuse you all!

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"It would be unrealistic for anyone to believe that Nebula Stone which is a igneous stone, and

Kambaba Jasper which is a sedimentary stone, could have the same atomic and molecular energy.

That is a scientific impossibility. It is a matter of simple physics. energies, and of course, are as vastly different as their different origins."

Perhaps you would like to explain the physics involved in this. What are these 'molecular energies' you talk about. What you seem to be unaware of is that most sedimentary rock is made from mineral particles ground down from previous igneous rocks. There's no difference at the molecular level. A grain of quartz is quartz whether it's from igneous or sedimentary rock. It's the same.

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"It derives its bluish-green with mottled patterns of black specks with black swirls and spotty patterns from fossilized algae colonies that once lived 22 million years ago."

Well, your geological timescale is a bit out of sync too. Precambrian rocks are at least 542 million years old, and up to about 4 billion.

So... If you want to protect the use of the name you created then it doesn't do you any good here (or legally, for that matter) to fill your statement in defence of the name with such nonsense.

If this thread gets out of hand it will be deleted.

Jolyon

Alfredo Petrov January 17, 2008 08:54PM

Bluish-green colour derived from fossilized algae? An extraordinarily stable chlorophyll? :S

Jolyon & Katya Ralph January 17, 2008 08:58PM

It seems that every time we get close to Tucson we get all this crap posted.

Oh well...

Jolyon

Uwe Kolitsch  January 18, 2008 09:36AM

I'd say delete this thread.

Jackie Younghusband April 16, 2011 11:34AM

Kambaba Jasper, green stromatolite jasper – what is its structure and geology? I sell crystals and minerals and I try to give my customers correct facts. I have just received some very pretty tumbles of this stone. I am finding it very difficult to get any scientific information although the web is full of metaphysical information. When I look at photos of fossil stromatolites, they do not look anything like this stone. So what is it? Please help.

Jackie Younghusband

Response: This is a typical problem. People claim a rock has certain metaphysical properties based on its perceived composition, then they have the composition all wrong.

Rock Currier April 18, 2011 11:47AM

Jackie,

You will at least have to post some pictures of what you wish comments on. We can't read your mind.

Rock Currier

Crystals not pistols.

Elysia April 10, 2012 09:59PM

I would like to second Jackie's request for more information. People are selling it all over the internet, and while we know it's jasper and contains fossils, I wonder whether they are truly stromatolites and whether anyone can verify this. Sources say they are more than a billion years old, is this verifiable?

Rock Courier – you don't have to be a mind reader to know what stone she's talking about, you only need to type two words into Google to see many, many examples of the stone. Here's one link:

<http://www.theimage.com/newgems/quartz/jasper/index.html>

It says: "More recently and currently the best known orb jaspers are coming from Madagascar, Kambaba and Ocean Jasper."

Response: Kambabe/Kabamba is a volcanic rock. Ocean jasper is a radiolarite jasper quartz. Kambaba/Kabamba is not a jasper, but ocean poppy is.

Another link says: "Kambaba jasper is known to be over 2,200 MILLION YEARS OLD Kambaba Jasper / Stromatolite is an orbicular sedimentary fossil. 3.5 TO 1.5 billion years old." <http://www.cs.mun.ca/~zubayer/myhome/fossil.htm>

Response: This person is a fool.

Another source says its color comes from blue-green algae, which I find hard to believe – it would have retained its color as a fossil? I am more inclined to believe that its coloration comes from its original sedimentary constituents. But I would like to hear what a real gemologist or mineralogist has to say about this, and it's currently not listed in mindat's mineral database.

More pics if you need

them: https://www.google.com/search?tbm=isch&hl=en&source=hp&biw=1187&bih=805&q=kambaba&gbv=2&oq=kambaba&aq=f&aqi=g2g-S7g-mS1&aql=&gs_l=img.3..0l2j0i24l7j0i5i24.85111918l0l2294l7l7l0l0l0l72l484l7l7l0.frgbld.

Please help if you can. Thanks!

Alfredo Petrov April 10, 2012 10:41PM

To answer some of your questions, Elysia: Yes, it does look like stromatolites (a rock formation produced by algae), but hard to say for sure just from looking at photos (geologists usually feel more confident when they can hold a piece in their hands to study), but at least I don't see anything that would eliminate the possibility of it being stromatolite.

Response: Orbicular albite is not a stromatolite. No organisms on this planet have albite in their structure.

It isn't necessary to have the name "Kambaba jasper" on Mindat because it isn't a well-defined mineralogical or geological term, just a trade name some seller made up. Eventually someone

may get around to giving it its own Mindat page, but it won't be a high priority.

I'm not sure why sellers like to emphasize in capital letters how a rock is billions of years old, as if that gave it added value. After all, very extensive regions of Canada, Greenland, Australia, Africa, India, Brazil are completely covered with rocks that are billions of years old, so it's not as if rocks of that age are ever going to be scarce :-)

Elysia April 11, 2012 07:41PM

Thanks for your response, Alfredo! Yes, it is funny they market it that way; on the other hand, while plenty of rocks are billions of years old, *fossils* that are billions of years old are really something. Amazing to think of those stromatolites in the sea, the algae creating oxygen and making our planet hospitable for what was eventually to come. :-)

Pharos January 03, 2014 12:09PM

hi all,
happy new year 2014.

I want a precambrian stromatolite. Is kambaba jasper is a precambrian stone ?
do we know where in madagascar this stone come from ?

Tom Kapitany February 23, 2014 12:35AM

Kabamba jasper is actually a Rhyolite
Not of organic origin
That is also incorrect

Response: Close. Albite would make it a dacite or trachyte lava, not a rhyolite.

Rob van der Hoeden April 02, 2014 09:20AM

There is a lot of misinformation, still, about the differences between Nebula stone and Kabamba, both forms of Eldarite.
The following small article by Bernhard Bruder of German EPI (Institut für Edelsteinprüfung, i.e. Institute for testing gemstones) clarifies a lot, link:

<http://www.epigem.de/index.php/informationen/neue-schmucksteine/75-nebulastone-kabamba-eldarit.html>.

Translation of that German page:

Under the name "Eldarit" two rocks are offered. The first variant comes from Mexico and consists of a (almost) black rock with green dots and circles (A). Because some people felt like this at the sight of this rock at galaxies or star nebula in the universe, it gets the trade name "Nebula-Stone" in the USA.

Thin-section and micro-probe analyzes showed that the rock consists of a dark matrix of quartz and alkali feldspar (anorthoclas). Embedded in it are radially-arranged light green amphibol aggregates (Riebeckit to Arfvedsonit) which are surrounded by fine-grained Pyroxenen (Aegirin). The development has not yet been fully clarified, but probably it is a volcanic rock, which was overwhelmed by a weak metamorphosis. Eldarit in the described education is often the United States, in Germany very rarely traded.

In Germany you almost always get a rock under this name, the color distribution of which is exactly the opposite of the Mexican Eldarit. This rock comes from Madagascar and is also referred to as Kabamba (synonyms: Kambamb-a or Cambaba) - "jasper" (B). The opinion expressed by several companies in Madagascar and the USA that it consists of fossil Stromatolite algae is definitely wrong.

Thin-film and X-ray diffraction analyzes by the EPI Institute have shown that it is by no means a kind of jasper but a volcanic rock. In the green ground mass of quartz, pyroxene (Aegirine), as well as soda and potash spats, circular and semicircular black aggregates of tiny amphibole needles (Riebeckite to Pargasit) are embedded.

In the mineral stock the two rocks are very similar. They differ primarily in the quantity of the individual minerals, their distribution and possibly also the type of the starting rock. From a mineralogical point of view, however, both rocks are so similar that the trade names Eldarit and Kabamba can be accepted as equivalent synonyms. Since none of the examined samples could be used as a jasper, the term "Kabamba jasper" should be avoided and replaced by the term "Kabamba stone".

Response: I don't get any aegirine or riebeckite or pargasite in my infrared scans. I can read my graphs and compare to references. With X-Ray machines you cannot read them, processing the graphs through software to tell you what the peaks mean. If the references are well-defined, the output will be

reasonable.

Uwe Kolitsch  April 02, 2014 12:53PM

Thanks Rob!

Jolyon & Katya Ralph April 02, 2014 01:17PM

Perhaps such information should be copied to the relevant pages on mindat and this thread (finally) closed or deleted.

Jolyon

Doug Daniels April 02, 2014 05:14PM

Please don't delete it...it's too good for that fate! Maybe resurrect it every April 1, even.

Bruce F. April 15, 2014 12:27AM

Can you describe how one can tell the difference between nebula stone and kambaba simply by looking at two samples. I recently acquired a kambaba sphere, quite beautiful, but I then read about nebula stone and I just want to be sure what I have. My sphere is very dark green with lighter green spots and splashes (pic attached). Does nebula ever appear in shades of greens? How is the difference in appearance "obvious"? Look forward to your response.



Rock Currier April 15, 2014 10:07AM

Bruce,

There is no agreed upon definition for either of the stones except what the seller calls them. These things are rocks which have complex structures of more than one mineral. I don't think anyone has gone to the trouble to characterize them carefully and until this has been done, test to determine if another specimens of the same material is equivalent to the tested sample can not be made with any assurance. These are made up names by people looking to commercialize and their names have no origins in the scientific literature that I know of.

Rock Currier

Crystals not pistols.

Bruce F. April 16, 2014 09:17AM

All I was interested in knowing how one can recognize which is the fossilized algae and which is the mineral, created names aside. I cannot tell the difference in pics and what I wanted to own was the fossil. Any thoughts?

Kristi Hugs April 28, 2014 09:20PM

It's sorta easy actually.....kambaba jasper, crocodile jasper whatever it is, has a green background with black orbs. Nebula stone has a black background with green orbs and can get a much better polish than Kambaba. Yeah, I know that is my simpletons way, but i have both and it works for me :)

Dan Damrow June 04, 2015 03:15PM

I cut, polished and sell stromatolites from worldwide sources for years and have also researched scientific aspects of various stromatolites. At present, I have more than 100 types or varieties of stroms. Kambaba is most certainly not a stromatolite and no matter how much someone wants or pretends it to be it simply is not. It is a form of flow rhyolite with mineral phenocrysts. It is fraud for individuals to continue selling this material as on fossil on ebay or through any other market. For more conversation please contact me at the above email. Dan

Response: Albite does not occur in rhyolite at detectable levels which would be less than 1%. It is a dacite or trachyte.

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 11/22/2015 12:11AM by Debbie Woolf.

Chuck Rose (2) November 21, 2015 08:10PM

Thank you...I needed a good laugh today...cheers!

Owen Melfyn Lewis  November 26, 2015 07:35PM

Sigh.....

Now I have this energetic pet rock that I have named the Tantric Stone. My girlfriend loves its powers! She says its the riebeckite in it that really does it for her.

Only we have the real, true, energetic Tantric Stone. Do not be fooled by others using our name. They are crooks and charlatans who lie in their teeth and would steal from the grandmothers.

I remain, Sir,

Your humble and obedient servant,
Etc., etc..

Stone Mania March 16, 2017 01:42PM

I have been reading about Kambaba Jasper for many years and most articles state it is a sedimentary rock that contains stromatolites or blue-green algae however I have recently discovered with a degree of certainty, that this is not the case.

To read more please follow [this link](#) to the Fossil Forum and read the insertion by member "Painshill". I can't copy and paste it here as it's not my article. What it basically says is, Kambaba Jasper is not actually a true variety of jasper, nor does it feature stromatolites and it's not even a sedimentary rock, it's volcanic meaning it's an igneous rock. Its green colouration is quartz which features orbs of feldspar embedded with aggregates made up of tiny needles of amphibole which is an important group of generally dark-colored minerals which form prism or needle-like crystals. Referring to it as a jasper is not accurate and the name Kambaba Stone would be more appropriate.

At the blog link, this is the most interesting:

Posted April 4, 2014 (edited)

Here's the email transcript of Pr. Riding concerning Kambaba Jasper:

Jean,

Many thanks for your interesting enquiry. I had never heard of Kambaba Jasper before, and I found it a bit hard to dig through all the gemstone descriptions to try to find out what it might be. I'm still not sure but maybe it is the same as ocean jasper, also described as orbicular jasper, which according to the information below occurs in silica-rich volcanic ash.

On this USGS site:

http://vulcan.wr.usgs.gov/LivingWith/VolcanicPast/Places/volcanic_past_nebraska.html

I found this:

Nebraska's Orbicular Jasper:8

Orbicular jasper forms when a silica rich rhyolitic ash flow cools quickly. Quartz and feldspar crystallize in spherulites, radial aggregates of needle like crystals, that provide the interesting structure seen in this kind of jasper. Better known examples of orbicular jasper are often seen offered as Poppy Jasper or Morgan Hill Jasper from California or Ocean Jasper from Madagascar. The Nebraska stone has a similar structure to these latter varieties.

Wikipedia also has an entry on 'Orbicular jasper'.

And here:

<http://www.mindat.org/min-27171.html>

Many mineral/rock deposits can have banded/layered structure and it can be difficult to compare their origins, but if Kambaba Jasper crystallizes from hot volcanic fluids then it is not microbial and not a stromatolite.

About biofilms, it seems very reasonable to imagine that quorum sensing is pretty well as old as bacteria, which I would place at least as old as 3500 million years. But apart from comparing biofilms of that age with present-day ones, I cannot think of a way of testing this interpretation.

*Thanks again for your interesting enquiry.
All good wishes for your work,
Robert*

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Response: You test the stromatolite interpretation by a method of spectroscopy and if it is not quartz, it is not a stromatolite. In terms of poppy jasper, that is a radiolarite fossil jasper.