Deep phlogopite-olivine melilitite and melt-rock interaction in subcontinental lithospheric mantle (Tanzanian Craton)

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The North Tanzanian Divergence (NTD) corresponds to early stage rifting of the eastern branch of the East African Rift. In the southern part, quaternary volcanoes of the Manyara-Balangida rift have erupted primary melilitites $(34.9-42.1 \text{ wt}\% \text{ SiO}_2 \text{ and } \text{Mg}\# = 79-65) \text{ with deep mantle}$ xenoliths. Melilitites are olivine-rich and contain up to 4 vol% magmatic phlogopite as a liquidus phase suggesting that primary melts were K₂O-rich and contain H₂O (4.63-5.48 wt% H2O, 66-117 ppm Cl in phlogopite, from SIMS measurements). Lavas have high incompatible element contents, LREE/HREE fractionation, high Rb/Sr ratio and negative anomaly in K and Zr-Hf. Geochemical modelling indicates that the melilitite magmas resulted from deep and low partial melting of a carbonate-rich (0.3-0.5%) garnet peridotite containing ~2 vol% phlogopite. The depth of partial melting is estimated close to or below the lithosphereasthenosphere boundary (>130 km).

Mantle xenoliths include phlogopite-bearing peridotite and phlogopitite (100% phlogopite + rare spinel). Mantle phlogopites have high Al₂O₃ and MgO content (12.7-15 wt.% Al₂O₃, Mg#=83-93) and high water and Cl content (2.6-5.3 wt% H₂O, 100-200 ppm Cl) with major element composition close to magmatic phlogopites. They have very low incompatible element contents compared to phlogopite in melilitite and differs significantly from phlogopite in phlogopite-rich PIC and MARID xenoliths as deep-seated segregations from melts genetically linked to kimberlitic magmas. Percolation of deep asthenospheric CO2-H2Oalkaline magmas during their ascent may have produced the strong heterogeneities in the thick sub-continental lithospheric mantle beaneath the East part of the Tanzanian craton by inducing metasomatism and phlogopite crystallization in spinel lherzolite and phlogopitite lithologies.