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# The Cambrian palaeontological record of the Indian subcontinent

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## ABSTRACT

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The Indian subcontinent's biota and biostratigraphy is amongst the least well known internationally of any Cambrian succession worldwide. Recent revision of previously described type material and a substantial number of new finds reveal a typical Cambrian skeletonized fauna and an organic walled biota, as well as various trace fossils. This biota, reviewed here synoptically, currently contains 51 non-agnostoid trilobite genera belonging to 50 species; 15 genera and species of agnostoids; one species of bradoriid arthropod; 18 brachiopod genera containing 20 species; echinoderm thecal and columnal plates; a soft-bodied eldoniid; representatives of three hyolith genera; other small shelly fossils some of which are identified to species level; acritarchs; and a variety of ichnotaxa. Regional biostratigraphic zonations for trilobites, brachiopods, small shelly fossils, and trace fossils are herein combined into an integrated Cambrian biostratigraphical scheme that permits correlation along and across the lithotectonic zones of the Himalayan margin and southward onto cratonic India. These consist of 13 named

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