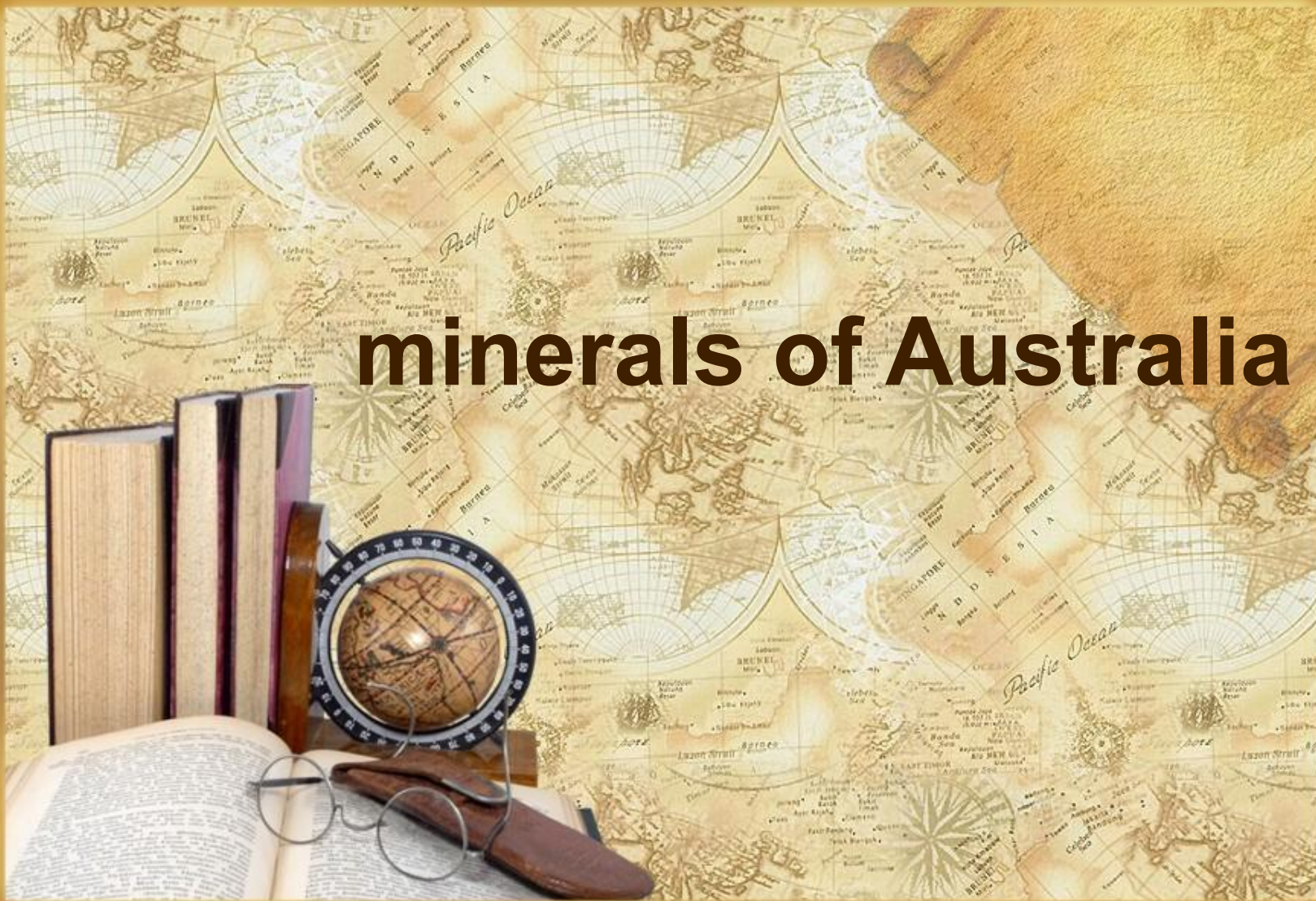


# minerals of Australia



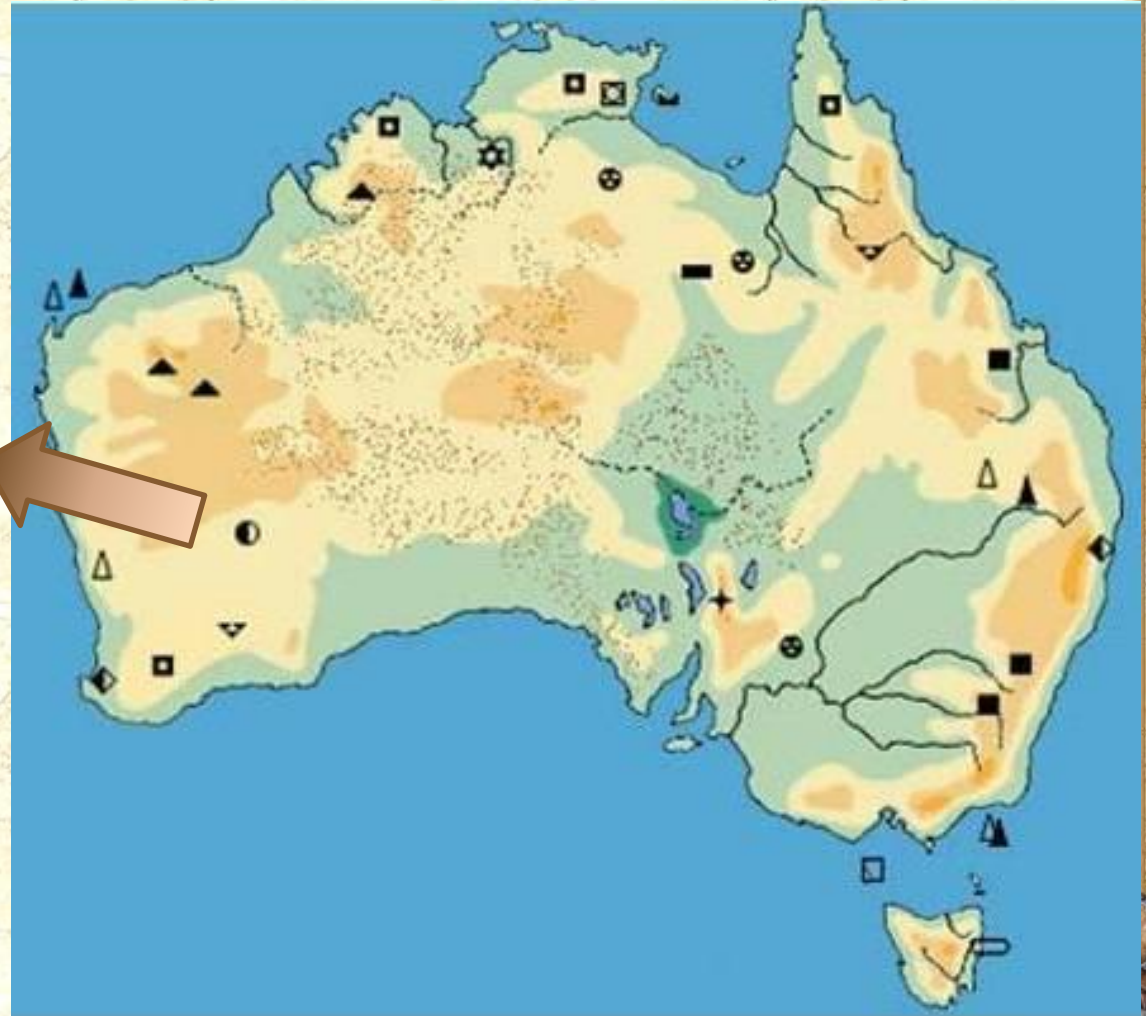
# Australia rock formation history

Почему в Австралии преобладают магматические полезные ископаемые, что стало причиной формирования такого богатого производственного потенциала горных массивов этой местности? Раньше она находилась в составе большого материка – Гондваны, но в конце мезозойской эры из-за разлома тектонических плит отделилась, и начала постепенно отдаляться, пока не достигла нынешнего положения. Теперь фундамент материка представлен большой австралийской плитой, поэтому ее территория имеет вид равнин – практически горизонтальной плоскости, высота которой не превышает 100 метров над уровнем мирового океана. В северных и западных регионах преобладают щиты, которые накладываются друг на друга, образуя горную складчатость. Здесь сосредоточено множество месторождений полезных ископаемых. Большая часть пород материка континентального и морского происхождения, что говорит об осадочном типе формирования.

# minerals of Australia



**Gold mine  
at Kalgoorlie**



# Ferrous Ores



In the first place in terms of production in the country is iron ore. In mines and quarries, brown, magnetic iron ore and hematite are mined, which contain up to 60% of iron. This ore is very valuable for production, because the cost of its processing pays off well, and the raw materials are of high quality.

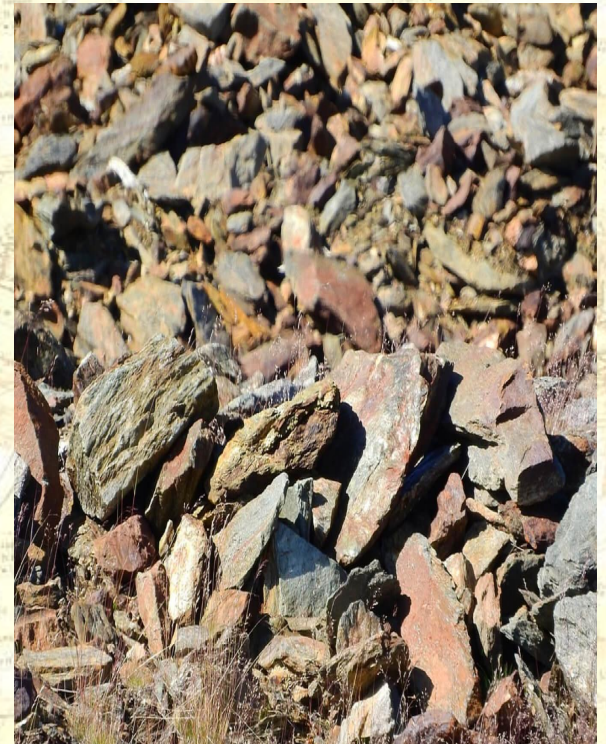


# Non-ferrous metals

Australia's aluminum ores are represented by bauxite. The country ranks second in the extraction of this valuable metal, giving Guinea several points. A quarter of the total world stock of aluminum raw materials is concentrated here. Most bauxites are concentrated in the highlands:

- Wape;
- Gov;
- Jarrandel.

There are also large reserves of polymetallic compounds that contain zinc, chromium, silver, lead, and copper. Deposits are being developed by open pit mining in New South Wales, Queensland and the Northern Cities.



# Coal

Australia's mining industry is also world famous. The state of New South Wales has large coal deposits. Despite the fact that deposits of this rock are found throughout the eastern continent, the largest part is mined here. Now coal is the main export raw material - more than 25% of the extracted mineral is sold on the world market. Coal deposits in Australia have been found near Newcastle and Queensland.



# Oil and natural gas

For the first time in Australia, a gas field was discovered in 1904, near the town of Queensland. In 1994, the country had already reached such a level of production that it could independently provide all the needs of the mainland, as well as export it for sale. All deposits are connected by a pipeline through which fossil fuel is transported for further use.

Most gas is produced in western Australia, in Carnarvon. It is exported to Western countries, most of it is bought by Asia. Methane is also obtained at places where coal is excavated; mines are cleaned from it to avoid explosions and poisoning of workers. In the northern territory, gas reserves are much smaller, they go to meet the needs of the country. In the Timor Sea, natural gas is also extracted at oil fields, but its amount there is less extensive. This area is valued as a deposit of black gold.



# Gold

Australia is second in the world in the extraction of this precious metal. This caused the 21st century gold rush. Even tourists here can buy a license for gold mining, paying only 25 dollars. The largest field is located in the west of the mainland, near Kalgoorlie and Boddington.





# Gems



The magmatic formation process has caused a large number of precious and semiprecious stones to appear in this area. They are from the largest deposits - opals. These minerals are called pieces of the Australian sky. The color palette is dominated by bright blue stones, with streaks of white. The extraction of this raw material brings the country more than \$ 30 million a year. The largest field is in the vicinity of the Victoria Desert. This was the reason for the construction of the railway in this area and the development of nearby cities.



# Relief Australia Minerals

- The flattest continent, represents a plain whose edges are elevated;
- at the base lies the Australian platform;
- the only mainland on Earth where there are no Volcanoes and modern glaciation.

