



Photograph of the Month

Fibrous quartz vein filling from a shear zone in cameroon

The image shows a thin section of a filled cavity in brecciated quartzite from the Banefo-Mvoutsaha shear zone, NE Bafoussam, Cameroon. The structure is composed of an outer rim of cataclasite, which acted as a nucleation core for the growth of quartz fibres with a typical radial growth pattern. The last stage of growth produced equidimensional quartz grains in the centre. It is not clear what induced the change in growth pattern from fibrous to blocky grains in this case. In the literature, fibrous growth is commonly attributed to opening of a vein by small increments, while blocky shapes are attributed to growth into an open cavity, or fast vein opening. Here, this clearly cannot apply; the cavity filled post-tectonically and something induced the sudden change in crystal morphology. Crossed polars. **Sample location:** N05°29.164', E10°28.323'. Photograph: Djibril Gus Kouankap Nono.© Djibril Gus Kouankap Nono.

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