FLUORITE LOCATION JEBEL TIRREMI, TAOURIRT (MOROCCO) REBORN

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orocco is legendary for mineral collectors. The highly diversified geology results in a large variety and abundance of mineral deposits, and mineral specimens. Among these are several fluorite deposits, which are mostly concentrated in the central and southern part of Morocco. Taourirt is located in the North-Eastern part of the country where mineral localities are relatively scarce. Although known since the 1940s, it has never been heavily worked, and has been completely abandoned for many years. Recently, a small outcrop was reborn as a big industrial quarry producing fair amount of the specimens.

Geographic Location

1. Geographic location of Fluorite Quarry on Tirremi Hill, Taourirt, Morocco.

Taourirt is a medium sized town 1 hour drive from Oujda – the biggest town in the North-Eastern Morocco. The fluorite quarry is located on a very distinctive hill about 10 km NW from Taourirt, near the Fes-Oujda highway. The hill is known as Jebel Tirremi; it is round in shape with a diameter about 2 km, and relatively flat topped. The quarry, called simply "Fluorite Quarry" is located on the most western part of the hill, on its Western slope.

Geology

Jebel Tirremi is built mostly by Pliensbachian (Lower Jurassic) well bedded limestones and dolomites. Fluorite and baryte bodies are located on the edges of the Tirremi Hill, mostly at its Western side, and clearly connected with faults cutting



2. Fluorite Quarry on Tirremi Hill, Taourirt. Photo: *Spirifer Minerals*.

6. Fluorite with calcite and quartz.9.5 cm.Specimen and photo: Robert Brandstetter.

7. The best known fluorite specimen from early days of mining (more info in text).
17 cm, crystals up to 3 cm.
Specimen: Nicole Dörr.
Photo: Robert Brandstetter.



