

# Preobrazhenskite

# Mg<sub>3</sub>B<sub>11</sub>O<sub>15</sub>(OH)<sub>9</sub>

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**Crystal Data:** Orthorhombic. *Point Group:*  $2/m\ 2/m\ 2/m$ . As crystals, to 4 cm; in nodules and granular massive.

**Physical Properties:** Hardness = 4.5–5 D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = 2.45

**Optical Properties:** Semitransparent. *Color:* Colorless, lemon-yellow, dark gray.  
*Optical Class:* Biaxial (+), nearly uniaxial (+).  $\alpha = 1.570$   $\beta = 1.570$   $\gamma = 1.595$   
 $2V(\text{meas.}) = \text{n.d.}$

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:*  $Pbcm$ .  $a = 16.291(4)$   $b = 9.181(2)$   $c = 10.571(2)$   $Z = 4$

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Inder deposit, Kazakhstan.  
5.28 (10), 3.79 (10), 3.230 (9), 3.187 (9), 2.821 (9), 2.769 (9), 2.641 (9)

Chemistry:	(1)	(2)
SiO <sub>2</sub>	0.30	
B <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	65.90	65.47
R <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.17	
MgO	20.65	20.67
CaO	0.00	
H <sub>2</sub> O <sup>+</sup>	13.39	13.86
H <sub>2</sub> O <sup>-</sup>	0.16	
Total	100.57	100.00

(1) Inder deposit, Kazakhstan; after washing to remove soluble halides. (2) Mg<sub>3</sub>B<sub>11</sub>O<sub>15</sub>(OH)<sub>9</sub>.

**Occurrence:** In fine-grained halite–polyhalite rock.

**Association:** Inyoite, halite, polyhalite, kieserite, anhydrite, aksaite, boracite, ginorite, halurgite, strontiorborite, metaborite, kaliborite.

**Distribution:** In Kazakhstan, in and under the Inder borate deposit, and from the Chalkar salt dome, Ak-sai Valley, Uralsk district.

**Name:** To honor Pavel Ivanovich Preobrazhenskii (1874–1944), investigator of Russian salt deposits, Institute of Halurgy, St. Petersburg, and Institute of Mining and Chemical Stock, Moscow, Russia, a discoverer of the Inder deposit, Kazakhstan.

**Type Material:** Mining Institute, St. Petersburg, 1497/1–2,5; A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, 57015.

**References:** (1) Yarzhemskii, Y.Y. (1956) Preobrazhenskite, a new borate from the salt strata of the Inder uplift. *Doklady Acad. Nauk SSSR*, 111, 1087–1090 (in Russian). (2) (1957) *Amer. Mineral.*, 42, 704 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Ostrovskaya, I.V. and I.B. Nikitina (1969) The formula of preobrazhenskite. *Tr. Mineral. Muz. Akad. Nauk SSSR*, 19, 206–209 (in Russian). (4) (1970) *Amer. Mineral.*, 55, 1071–1072 (abs. ref. 3). (5) Burns, P.C. and F.C. Hawthorne (1994) Structure and hydrogen bonding in preobrazhenskite, a complex heteropolyhedral borate. *Can. Mineral.*, 32, 387–396. (6) Kondrat'eva, V. (1969) X-ray determination of borates, 153. (7) Pekov, I.V. (1998) Minerals first discovered on the territory of the former Soviet Union. *Ocean Pictures*, Moscow, 170.