Yogyakarta, January, 30th 2024

Dear Dr. Miftahul Ilmi,

I am pleased to submit our manuscript entitled **"Bioerosion in the Priabonian *Discocyclina javana* in Bayat Area, Indonesia: Implications for Paleoecology"** by **Diana Rahmawati, Sugeng Sapto Surjono, Didit Hadi Barianto, Wartono Rahardjo** for consideration as a *Journal of Tropical Biodiversity and Biotechnology* research article.

In this manuscript, we show that the phenomenon of bioerosion occurring in the rigid calcareous tests of the Priabonian larger benthic foraminifera, *Discocyclina javana* (Verbeek) the Bayat Area of Central Java, Indonesia, belongs to Wungkal-Gamping Formation demonstrates bioerosion. We distinguished a varied collection of four ichnospecies from three ichnogenera. The boreholes that are linked to the predation of gastropods can be classified as *Oichnus simplex* and *Oichnus paraboloides*, *Caulostrepsis* isp., and *Helminthoidichnites* isp.

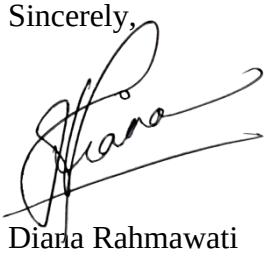
This paper is also aims to be the first to record parrotfish bite mark on the *Discocyclina javana* test in Indonesia after being first reported by Syed & Sengupta (2019). The parrotfish bite marks on the individual microspheric *Discocyclina javana* test indicate that the parrotfish were herbivorous, feeding on algae that grew on the foraminiferal test as bioclasts, same as those of Middle Eocene deposit in India (Syed & Sengupta, 2019). This information adds to the knowledge of the feeding habits of ancient parrotfish species. The presence of larger foraminifera, which are excellent recorders of shallow marine sclerobionts, suggests that the environment during Priabonian in Bayat was a shallow marine setting with low sedimentation regimes.

We believe that our paper is appropriate for publication by *Journal of Tropical Biodiversity and Biotechnology* because this finding helps to reconstruct the paleoecology and paleoenvironment of the region during this Priabonian-time slice.

This manuscript has not been published before and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. We have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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