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Trace element geochemistry and implications to health: A case study of Ishiagu, Afikpo basin, Nigeria

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The crystalline rocks in the igneous suite of Ishiagu were studied petrographically and geochemically. The petrographic results show that the rocks are mostly intrusive rocks with few extrusive rocks. The mineral components of the intrusive rocks are femic and felsic in nature. The femic minerals are pyroxene, amphibole, and biotite while the felsic minerals are quartz, muscovite and potassium feldspar. The mineral compositions of the extrusive rocks in the study area are femic (olivine, pyroxene, amphibole, biotite and plagioclase feldspar) in nature. Trace element geochemistry shows that both rocks contain the same trace elements but in varying quantities. Some of the trace elements have adverse effect on human health. Knowledge of the trace elements geochemistry is crucial in order to avoid some terminal diseases associated with them.

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