Chromite

Rock Characteristics

Rock Name: Chromite

Rock Type: Igneous Rock

Colour: Black

Grain Size: Mediuk-Coarse-grained

Texture: Massive

Mineral Composition

Major Minerals: Chromite, Olivine

Geographical Locality

Origin: Bambawo (Kambui Hills), Eastern Sierra Leone

Economic Significance

Usage: Production of Iron Ore

Detailed Description

The specimen is a black, highly dense, and massive olivine chromitite, haracterized by its weak magnetic properties. The primary mineral composition includes olivine and chromite, giving the rock its dense structure and dark coloration. The weak magnetism suggests a relatively low iron content within the olivine and chromite phases. This type of chromitite is typically associated with ultramafic rock formations and is an indicator of magmatic processes. Host rock for Chromite ore previously mined by United African Co. Limited between 1937 and 1962, with a Cr₂O₃ content ranging between 38-44%.