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MINERALOGICAL, PHYSICAL AND MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF LIMESTONE ROCKS . IN MA'AN AREA, SOUTH JORDAN

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Abstract: Jordan limestone has a broad distribution and occurs in several stratigraphic levels. It is used for construction of composite wall for aesthetic purposes, ... as thin polished tiles (marble), floor tiles and monumental architecture or dry stonewalling that characterizes the architecture of Jordan buildings. The main goal of this study is to characterize the limestone rocks in Ma'an area in southern part of Jordan and to assess their suitability for building stone. For this purpose a detailed geological, petrographic and physico-mechanical tests were carried out on some representative samples of this area aiming at establishing a better understanding of the important properties of these rocks. It is shown that the controlling factor of Ula classification of Ma'an area limestone is the uniaxial unconfined compressive stress.