

**Palynofacies indications of depositional environments
and source potential for hudrocarbons: Lower
Cretaceous Sulaiy Formation, southern Iraq**

*AL-AMERI, T. K. Department of Geology, College of Science,
University of Baghdad, P.O. Box 47062, Jadiriyah, Iraq*

Three types of palynofacies have been identified in samples from the suburface Lower Cretaceous (Berriasian- Valanginian) Sulaiy Formation in southern Iraq. They indicate that deposition occurred in environments ranging from distal dysoxic- anoxic shelf to suboxicanoxic basin. These conditions favoured the accumaulation of large amounts of organic matter in a mainly biodegraded (amorphous) state. Burial of the sediments has been deep enough for their organic contents to be rendered thermally mature. Hence, the succession is highly rated as a potential source of oil with subordinate gas, not only in Iraq but also in neighbouring Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.