

Biofacies Of The Mishrif Formation, West Qurna Oil field /Southern Iraq.

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A detailed study of faunal assemblages and depositional characteristics of the Mishrif Formation in west Qurna oilfield, southern Iraq is carried out. The studied samples, collected at 0.5 m interval, were thin sectioned. Seven fully cored wells were chosen for this study. This work has not been supplemented by washed residues because the majority of the studied samples characterized by their exceptional hardness due to the affect of various diagenetic processes, therefore, microfauna can be hardly separated from such rocks.

The biostratigraphic and palaeoenvironmental interpretation have revealed the late Cenomanian to early Turonian age for the Mishrif Formation, and five main biostratigraphic zones and two subzones were recognized on the basis of foraminiferal contents .

Depositional environment of the Mishrif Formation has been interpreted using information about the distribution of micro-organisms, the faunal associations, the lithology and the energy of deposition and several ecozones were suggested.

This study indicated that the Mishrif Formation was deposited during two regressive sequences, upper and the lower sequence with common occurrence of Rudist fragments which indicates the presence of Rudist biostromes separating the outer and inner- shelf conditions.