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Facies, depositional environments, and sequence stratigraphy analysis of the upper Barremian-lower Aptian carbonates in the northeast Kelardasht, N Iran

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

1	Facies, depositional environments, and sequence stratigraphy analysis of the upper
2	Barremian-lower Aptian carbonates in the northeast Kelardasht, N Iran
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12	
13	Abstract
14	The carbonates accumulated within a time interval spanning the late Barremian-early
15	Aptian, comprise the Member 2 of the Chalous Formation. The member cropped out in
16	the northern Central Alborz Mountains Range, northern Iran. Detailed field surveys,
17	lithofacies and facies analyses was carried out to investigate the depositional
18	environments and sequence stratigraphy analysis at five outcrop sections. Based on
19	petrographic investigation and texture, sixteen facies and microfacies were defined and
20	assigned to the back-barrier lagoon, shelf margin/shoal, and shallow open marine facies
21	belts. Vertical and lateral facies changes, lack of several geological evidence including
22	siliciclastics, bioherms, calciturbidites, clinoforms, together with lateral thickness
23	changes as well as comparison to recent and ancient carbonate platforms, suggest
24	deposition on a non-rimmed isolated carbonate platform. The upper Barremian to lower

25 Aptian deposits of the study areas comprises three third-order depositional sequences.

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