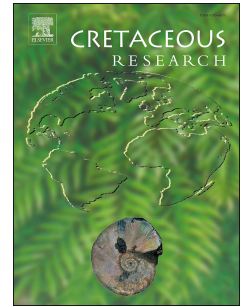


Accepted Manuscript

An integrated study of upper Campanian-lower Maastrichtian carbon isotopes and calcareous plankton biostratigraphy of the Kurdistan Region, northeastern Iraq

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PII: S0195-6671(17)30259-8

DOI: [10.1016/j.cretres.2017.09.020](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cretres.2017.09.020)

Reference: YCRES 3711

To appear in: *Cretaceous Research*

Received Date: 26 May 2017

Revised Date: 13 September 2017

Accepted Date: 29 September 2017

Please cite this article as: Farouk, S., Thibault, N., Jaff, R.B.N., Faris, M., Ahmad, F., Khashaba, A., An integrated study of upper Campanian-lower Maastrichtian carbon isotopes and calcareous plankton biostratigraphy of the Kurdistan Region, northeastern Iraq, *Cretaceous Research* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.cretres.2017.09.020.

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1 **An integrated study of upper Campanian-lower Maastrichtian carbon isotopes and**
2 **calcareous plankton biostratigraphy of the Kurdistan Region, northeastern Iraq**

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15
16 **Abstract**

17 New carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) isotope records calibrated by planktonic bioevents provide
18 general support for a late Campanian age assignment of the Shiranish Formation (Fm.)
19 and its boundaries in the Dokan section (NE Iraq). The Shiranish Fm. is characterised at
20 the base by a mid-Campanian unconformity as can be interpreted by absences of
21 nannofossil zones CC20-21. The Shiranish Fm. then spans nannofossil biozones CC22-
22 CC23a (UC15d-e^{TP} to UC16a^{TP}). Results obtained on carbon isotopes suggest that
23 diagenesis affected and compromised a few carbonate samples in the uppermost 50 m of
24 the section. However, once these samples are discarded, pristine trends suggest that the
25 top of the section records a negative carbon isotope excursion that is interpreted as

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