DOLOMITIZATION IN SAMANASUK FORMATION. ITS IMPLICATIONS, PETROGRAPHY, GEOCHEMISTRY AND RESERVOIR CHARACTERISTICS IN KAHI SECTION NIZAMPUR BASIN, NORTH WESTERN HIMALAYAS, PAKISTAN



A thesis submitted to Bahria University in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of BS in Geology

BY

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ABSTRACT

The dolomite of study area belongs to the Samanasuk Formation and is exposed in the Kahi area in Nowshera region, which is present in the Nizampur basin formed by the uplifting of Attock-Cherat ranges. The study of area was conducted through field observations, petrographic studies and isotopic analyses which helped in the identification and understanding of various diagenetic phases and their respective impacts on the reservoir attributes throughout the diagenesis. The various diagenetic phases recognized mainly consists of (i) Replacive dolomites of three different phases (ii) Saddle Dolomite (iii) White calcite cement formed during early stages (iv) White Calcite cement formed during late stages (v) The transparent calcite cement. Other features observed in the study area included Oolites, butcher chop weathering and bedding parallel stylolites. The studies conducted regarding porosity and permeability of the dolomite revealed that an increment in the porosity was generated as a result of certain diagenetic phases such as dissolution, replacement and recrystallization as well as diagenetic alterations along faults but was reduced due to the late stage processes of compaction and cementation. As concluded, circulation of Mg-rich fluids resulted in dolomitization along the fault and associated fractures. Underlying the Samanasuk formation lies the Chichali formation which is siliciclastic in nature and underwent dewatering of basinal fluids or deep and hot hydrothermal fluids which is considered the possible source of dolomitization for the study area dolomite.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All glory to Almighty ALLAH (s.w.t), the benevolent and the merciful. Praises to the Almighty who bestowed us the intelligence and power to complete our final thesis of Bachelors. The completion of the project is solely owed to the blessing of God, without His assistance and gracious help we would not have achieved this milestone. Our group is also thankful to the people who have supported us during our work.

Foremost, we would like to extend a sincere gratitude and indebtedness to our guide, respectable class teacher and supervisor **Madam Maryam Saleem** for the help and the consistent support that she gave us during our project. Our group appreciates the patience and moral support of our supervisor that she extended to us during our work. Our group also acknowledges the efforts of our supervisor which broadened the sphere of our knowledge.

We are also thankful to the teachers of our department who were always there for our guidance and assistance whenever needed. Particularly we are thankful to **Sir Mumtaz khan**, **Sir Saqib Mehmood** and **Sir Masood Anwar**. We also thank **Mr. Yaqoob khan** physicist at national center for Physics for his assistance during XRD analysis in his lab. Last but not the least we are thankful a big time to **Mr. Emad Ullah khan** who was a consistent helping hand in our project from day one.

We as a group are happy and glad to have completed the thesis, our collective efforts and hard work enabled us to complete the project on time. We hope our efforts will not only be beneficial for our careers but also for the discipline of Geology.

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