

Position of *Charybdis* in the *Portunidae* family based on the CO1 gen in *C. helleri* and *C. lucifera*

Gilan Attaran-Fariman¹

Yaser Fatemi^{2*}

Fatemeh Naseri³

1, 2. Chabahar Maritime University, Department of Marine Biology, Faculty of Marine Sciences, Chabahar, Iran

3. Chabahar Veterinary Office, Chabahar, Sistan and Baluchistan Province, Iran

***Corresponding author:**

y.fatemi@gmail.com

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Abstract

Crabs of the *Charybdis* genus are one of the most important group of the *Portunidae* family. But their position in the family has always been debated. In the present study, phylogenic relationship of this family were examined based on CO1 gen. crab samples were collected from the coasts of Chabahar Bay in 2014. After morphological analysis of the samples, DNA was extracted by using the CTAB Method. Polymerase chain reaction was conducted and gene sequence of CO1 determined. Based on morphological and phylogenetic analysis *C. helleri* and *C. lucifera* were identified. Based on phylogeny tree the *Portunidae* family showed a monophyletic relationship and the position of the *Charybdis* genus in the family with a high boot strap was supported.

Keywords: Chabahar, *Charybdis*, *Portunidae*, Oman Sea, CO1 gen, Crab.