

Phylogenetic analysis study of Cultivable moderately halophilic and halotolerant bacteria in Gomishan mud volcano

Mozhgan Ghiasian¹

Mohammad Ali Amoozegar^{2*}

Abbas Akhavan Sepahy³

Sara Saadatmand⁴

Mahmoud Shavandi⁵

1, 4. Department of Biology,
Science and Research Branch,
Islamic Azad University, Tehran,
Iran

2. Extremophiles Laboratory,
Department of
Microbiology, Faculty of Biology,
College of Sciences, University of
Tehran, Tehran, Iran

3. Department of Microbiology,
Islamic Azad University, North-
Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad
University, Tehran, Iran

5. Microbiology and
Biotechnology Group, Research
Institute of Petroleum Industry,
Tehran, Iran

***Corresponding author:**

amoozegar@ut.ac.ir

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Abstract

Gomishan mud volcano is located 7 km from Gomishan city and sampling from this mud volcano was performed in August 2013. The temperature of mud was about 38 ± 1 °C with a pH of 8 ± 1 . The measured salinity was 34 g/L. Sodium and chloride were the highest and iron was the lowest ions of the mud. The culture medium for the isolation of moderately halophilic and halotolerant bacteria was used. High viable counts ($1 - 3 \times 10^6$) were obtained in culture media. A total of 122 isolates were obtained 42 colonies were selected based on primarily morphological and physiological traits and their 16S rRNA sequences were determined. The isolated genera included *Halomonas* (20%), *Arthrobacter* (5%), *Kocuria* (5%), *Thalassobacillus* (5%), *Marinobacter* (20%), *Paracoccus* (5%), *Roseovarius* (5%), *Jeotgalicoccus* (5%), *Bacillus* (15%), and *Staphylococcus* (15%). Oxidase and catalase enzymes were studied in all isolates and 98.4% of isolates were positive catalase and 69.7% were positive oxidase.

Keywords: Mud volcano, Halotolerant bacteria, Moderately halophilic bacteria, Phylogenetic tree.