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## **Supporting Information**

## Novel porous MgO sorbent fabricated through carbon-insertion

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Samples	Atomic Concentration/%				
	C1S	O1S	Mg1S	C/Mg	
MA-1	34.8	40.1	25.1	1.4	
MA-2	37.3	45.7	17.0	2.2	
MA-3	43.6	44.5	11.9	3.7	
MA-4	41.9	45.7	12.4	3.4	
MA-5	44.8	44.4	10.8	4.1	
MA-6	40.4	45.8	13.9	2.9	
MN	37.7	47.4	14.9	2.5	

Table 1. XPS data of carbonized magnesium salts.



Fig. S1 Images of (a) MA-1, (b) MA-2, (c) MA-3, (d) MA-4, (e) MA-5, (f) MA-6 and (g) MN samples.



Fig. S2. Final appearances of (a) MA-5 and (b) MN dissolved into 0.02M HCl.



**Fig. S3** (a) SEM images, (b) EDX spectrum, and (c, d) x-ray mapping of MA-1 sample, in which the magnification is 5000.



Fig. S4. Influences of  $N_2$  flow (a) and carbonization time (b) on the CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption at 473 K by MA-5 composite.

(a) Carbonization time is 2 h. (b)  $N_2$  flow is 30 ml min^-1.



Fig. S5 The particle size distribution of MA-5-s sample.