

Plant fossils and some geological aspects of the Ulu Endau Area, Johore-Pahang

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Abstract: Three main rock types are found in the Rompin-Endau area. These are volcanics, igneous intrusives and sedimentary sequences. Metamorphic rocks occur only at Gunung Lesong. The volcanic rocks are referred to as the Jasin volcanics and represent the oldest rocks of the area, probably of Mid-Permian to Triassic age. Some of these rhyolites are also mylonitised. A granite batholith found on the western flank of the area can be termed a biotite-adamellite granite. This granite pluton which has intruded the volcanic rocks, is similar to those found in other parts of the Ulu Endau area and has been dated to be of Late Triassic Age.

On the eastern plateau, sedimentary sequences of sandstone, shale, siltstone and mudstone overly the volcanics. A similar sequence of sediment is seen capping the granite hill 1448 on the western side, forming a mesa. These sediments are referred to as the Tebak Formation which is of continental origin and exhibits subhorizontal dips. Plant fossils were recorded from light grey mudstone beds in the tributaries of Sungai Telentang, and a boulder of silicified wood was found in Sungai Anak Seladang on the western flank of Sungai Kinchin. The plant fossil has been identified as *Frenelopsis malaina* Ko'ono, which is a foliage of a conifer plant, giving an age of Upper Jurassic - Lower Cretaceous. The silicified wood is also that of a conifer plant *Araucarioxylon telentangensis* Idris with a minimum age Late Triassic. A major fault trending 345-350° runs along Sungai Kinchin.

INTRODUCTION

Field visits into the Ulu Endau area in February and March 1992 revealed two new plant fossil localities. Five pieces of silicified wood were recovered from river beds during routine traverses in the area. The lithological boundaries and major structural elements in the area were also considered. The implications of these discoveries are discussed below.

Location and general geology

The Ulu Endau area surveyed are bounded by latitudes 2°32'28"N and 2°35'45"N and longitudes 103°15'30"E and 103°22'45"E (Fig. 1). This area is part of the proposed National Park that straddles the Johore-Pahang boundary. Sg. Endau and Sg. Kinchin are the major rivers that drain the area.

Lithologically the area is underlain by volcanic rocks consisting of acid pyroclastics. These are mainly tuffs and rhyolite and are referred to as the Jasin volcanics. They represent the oldest rock in the area and is probably of Mid-Permian to Triassic age (Idris *et al.*, 1987). Some of the rhyolites along Sg. Kinchin are mylonitised.