

P E R B I N C A N G A N

(D I S C U S S I O N)

OCCURRENCE OF A NOT UNEXPECTED DOLERITE IN CENTRAL KEDAH - A DISCUSSION

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Sir: Khoo and Tan claim to have solved the mystery of the weathered igneous rock locality at the 10½ milestone Alor Star - Pokok Sena road, Kedah. However, Abdullah Haron (1979), has done a B.Sc. undergraduate thesis on the area and this has not been acknowledged by Khoo and Tan.

Abdullah (1979) described thin sections of the fresh rock, and illustrated his thesis with photomicrographs. He showed the rock to be composed of plagioclase (55%), clinopyroxene (35%), and minor chloritized biotite, quartz, calcite, sericite and apatite. He described the texture as that of diabase. He also gave a chemical analysis: SiO₂ 49.52%, Al₂O₃ 14.04, FeO (total) 9.48, MgO 9.98, CaO 9.32, K₂O 1.98, Na₂O 3.21, MnO 0.23, and TiO₂ 1.20. He concluded that this dolerite represents a sill intruded between bedded chert and shale.

Many students produce undergraduate theses that deserve publication at least in part. However, this is seldom realized, because subsequent employment comes in the way of their plans to write.

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Reference

Abdullah Haron, 1979. The stratigraphy and general geology of Poko Sena area, Kedah. Unpubl. B.Sc. thesis, Department of Geology, University of Malaya, 84 pages + maps.

** This letter has been edited according to the suggestions and recommendations of the Editorial Advisory Board*