
Permian fauna and volcanic activity in the Padang Tengku area, Pahang

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Pyroclastic rocks are widely distributed in the vicinity of Padang Tengku, Pahang. Agglomerates, volcanic breccia, lapili, lapili tuff and tuff of rhyodacitic to rhyolitic composition are commonly found associated with other tuffaceous sedimentary rocks. The tuffaceous sandstones and mudstones, and limestones are commonly overlain or interfingered with these pyroclastic rocks. Limestone clasts are also found as lithic fragments in pyroclastic rocks. Fossils are usually found in the overlying tuffaceous sandstones and mudstones. The fauna

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consist of brachiopods, bivalves, corals, bryozoans and trilobites. These fauna indicate warm shallow water paleoenvironment and are comparable with the Upper Permian *Leptodus* shale fauna found in the Merapoh area. The volcanic activity in this area seems to have provided a breeding niche for the studied fauna.

Batuan piroklas didapati tersebar luas di kawasan Padang Tengku, Pahang. Agglomerat, breksi volkano, lapili, tuf lapili dan tuf berkomposisi antara riadasit hingga riolit seringkali ditemui berasosiasi dengan batuan sedimen bertuf yang lain. Batu pasir dan batu lumpur bertuf, dan batu kapur kerap kali menindih atau saling menjeri dengan batuan piroklas ini. Klasta batu kapur turut ditemui sebagai serpihan batuan dalam batuan piroklas. Fosil selalunya ditemui dalam batu pasir dan batu lumpur bertuf. Faunanya terdiri daripada brakiopod, bivalvia, karang, briozoa dan trilobit. Fauna ini menunjukkan persekitaran cetek berair panas dan setara dengan fauna syal *Leptodus* berusia Perm Akhir yang ditemui di kawasan Merapoh. Kelihatan bahawa aktiviti volkano di kawasan ini telah menyediakan tapak bagi membiaknya fauna yang dikaji.