

The archaeological survey of Bukit Choras: A preliminary study

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Abstract: Ancient Kedah was one of the centre of international trade and iron production of the Straits of Malacca from the 5th Century B.C.E to the 14th Century C.E. Being located in the Bujang Valley, numerous archaeological remains were unearthed which give insight into its history and culture. Among the most important aspect of discovery in the Bujang Valley is the Hindu and Buddhist shrine, one of them being the Site of Bukit Choras. Bukit Choras is located in the northernmost limit of Bujang Valley, and is relatively large and well preserved complex. Despite of its importance, the site had been understudied. On July 2018, archaeological survey was

done on the site to review its potential for future studies. During this preliminary survey, the surface findings, distribution of cultural mounds, and the geomorphological features of the site were observed. This research had given some insights into how the geological formation of the area influenced the ancient society to build the monument there. The indication regarding the correlation between the orientation of the site with the landscape of the area also postulated.

Keywords: Bukit Choras, archaeological survey, Buddhist shrine