Lithostratigraphy and sedimentology of Upper Paleozoic Kuantan Group in N.E. Pahang and South Terengganu

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The Upper Paleozoic Kuantan Group, which crops out in Sg. Lembing-Panching, Bukit Pak Sagor, and western Gambang areas in Pahang, and Ceneh-Air Putih-Bukit B. Besi areas in Terengganu, is made up of three formations, namely, the Charu Formation, the Panching Limestone and the Sagor Formation.

The Charu Formation, which consists of interbedded sandstone, siltstone and shale and well exposed in the area drained by Sg. Charu, along road cuts at Kuantan-Sg. Lembing road, is divided into three lithologic units, assigned the category of member, namely, from oldest to youngest, the Kolek, Berkelah and Lepar Members.

The Kolek Member, with type section at Kg. Kolek and a total thickness of about 1300 m, consists of steeply dipping beds of sandstone, siltstone and shale, and is considered to be of Lower Carboniferous (Visean) age. It comprises of tuffaceous sandstone facies and laminated shale-mudstone facies.

The Berkelah Member is found along the Kuantan-Temerloh road while the Lepar Member, along roads in the Felda Lepar Hilir. Both members consist of tuffaceous sandstone, laminated mudstone, shale and siltstone.

The Panching Limestone, which is conformable on the Charu Formation, is exposed at limestone hills of Bt. Panching, Bt. Charas, Bt. Sagu and Bt. Tenggek. The limestone, which is massive bedded and partly recrystallised has a faunal assemblage suggesting an age range from Visean (Lower Carboniferous) to Namurian (Lower to Middle Carboniferous).

The Sagor Formation, which is also conformable on the Panching Limestone and well exposed at the type locality, just 3 miles north of Bukit Pak Sagor, has a total thickness of about 1400 m consisting of conglomerate, sandstone, shale and mudstone and is assigned an Upper Carboniferous age.

Unconformably overlying the Sagor Formation, the rock unit described by Tan (1972) as Taweh Beds, is assigned a status of Formation, i.e. the Taweh Formation, which consists of interbedded conglomerate, sandstone, quartzite and carbonaceous shale. It is classified as part of the Jurassic-Triassic rocks in Pahang (Tembeling Group).

In south Terengganu, sediments and metasediments, showing different degrees of thermal metamorphism in Ceneh-Air Putih-B. Besi areas, consist mainly of soft argillaceous siltstone, tuffaceous sandstone, interbedded sandstone-mudstone, shale, schist, phyllite, of Lower Carboniferous age, and acidic and undifferenciated granitic rocks assigned an Upper Carboniferous age. Interbedded medium sandstone-mudstone with high ratio of sand/mud constitutes a C facies, while interbedded standstone (fine-medium) - mudstone forms A D facies of Bouma sequence.

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