

## The Discovery of Phallic Rock at Jenagor, Terengganu

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Several phallic rocks pillars (Figure 1) and broken ceramic pieces (Figure 2) were discovered by locals along Sungai Terengganu at Madrasah Khairul Ihsan (MKI), Jenagor, near Kuala Berang. These discoveries may be of historical values considering that these monuments were found just about 1 km upstream from the tomb of the Shariff Muhammad Al Baghdadi, the writer of Terengganu Inscription Stone first found just 10km downstream. A study was undertaken to determine the nature and origin of the pillars and the ceramic pieces with the objectives to determine the significances of the discoveries.

The ceramics (Figure 2) were found buried in sand within a small stream. The site is situated about 12m above river level within an alluvial valley. The unique penis-shaped rocks (Figure 1) stood 2.5 meters tall above excavated ground surface. The pillars are genuine naturally sculptured moderately weathered coarse-grained granitic boulders with anthropomorphic shapes (phallus). They are buried under thick sandy gravel sediment (Figure 1). There are three pillars arranged in a triangle forming what look like a monument. The biggest of which form the tip of the triangle that point to the north. A petrological examination of the granite rock (Figure 3) shows that the

rock consists of K-feldspar, quartz, plagioclase, biotite, and other accessory minerals probably apatite, zircon and secondary muscovite. The grain size ranges from 5 mm to 3 cm.

The ground where the rocks were buried consists of several layers of sandy PEBBLES soil. Each layers contain internal cross stratifications. These layers have undergone weathering giving rise to the red colourations. The layers coincide with the boundaries of the pillars' zonation. This may suggest the pillars were weathered and oxidized and corroded away within the soil layers after they were erected.

A walk over site and GPR surveys of the site showed no other granite boulders on the hill. The river bank is littered with boulders similar in shape to the phallus rocks. This suggests that there are no more buried pillars around the site and that the pillars must be carried up the hill as they are not in situ boulders. If they represent object erected in the historical time, it can be said that they are not Islamic in character and must predate the arrival of Islam in Terengganu. The tip of the triangle pointing to north may indicate they could have been used for navigation. However the phallus shaped monuments point to penis worshipping likely related to Hinduism.

The discovery of this phallic rock collection, herewith being named "Terengganu Phallic Rock" is hereby attributed to the remains of Hindu culture that further proof of the early Hinduism presence, where lingam worshipping was practised prior to the penetration of Islam into the Malay world. The ceramics suggest that Terengganu was once a trading centre along the South China Sea coast.



Figure 1: The triangularly arranged phallus rock.



Figure 2: Broken pieces of ceramic.



Figure 3: Nature of the granite.