

CERAMAH TEKNIK TECHNICAL TALK

When hillsides collapse – Story of landslides in Malaysia

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Platform: Zoom

The above talk was delivered by P.Geol. Abdul Rasid Jaapar (President, IGM; GMT Group) on 27th April, 2023 via Zoom. Some 100 members participated. An abstract of the talk is given below:

Abstrak: The earliest written record of landslide in Malaysia as far as the writer is aware is the rockfall incident that occurred on 7th December 1919 at Bukit Tunggul, Perak, which claimed 12 lives and loss of properties. The recent landslide disaster in Batang Kali occurred on 16th December 2022 and claimed 31 lives happened slightly more than 100 years after the first recorded landslide incident. Are we still dancing the same tango after 100 years of numerous landslide experiences? We faced the same scenarios after every landslide incident, deadly or not! The recent Batang Kali disaster has just manifested our weaknesses, in many aspects of managing landslide disasters. This technical talk will try to discuss the historical perspective of landslides in Malaysia, responses from the authorities, professional organisations as well as from the mass media on some of the deadliest landslide disaster events in Malaysia. The presenter will also try to discuss the understanding and practice in landslide and/or slope investigation especially on rock slope engineering practices. Some case studies on landslide and/or slope investigation will be discussed including the emerging disastrous multiple debris flow. The talk will be closed with some discussion on policy intervention, steps on building community resilience towards landslide risk and some recommendations of way forward.

We thank Sdr Rasid for his support and contribution to the Society's activities.

Tan Boon Kong
Chairman, Working Group on Engineering Geology
29th April 2023

