

The FOUNDATION newsletter



Cover Story
Back to School
for Belum-Temengor Children

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New school shoes for Belum-Temengor's students

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Back to School Enthusiasm



Representative from Yayasan Kebajikan Negara Malaysia, En. A. Abdul Samat Bin Abd Hamid motivating the Orang Asli students during his brief speech.

En. A. Abdul Samat Bin Abd Hamid mewakili Yayasan Kebajikan Negara Malaysia memberikan kata-kata perangsang kepada para pelajar Orang Asli dalam ucapan ringkas beliau.



Handing over of the 2020 school year uniforms. In attendance were En. Sharapi Bin Samsun, Headmaster of SK Sg. Tiang (3rd from right) and En. Lizzadaroff Bin Mohamed, Headmaster of SK RPS Banun (4th from right).

Penyerahan Pakaian Seragam Sekolah bagi tahun 2020. Turut serta adalah En. Sharapi Bin Samsun, Guru Besar SK Sg. Tiang (tiga dari kanan) dan En. Lizzadaroff Bin Mohamed, Guru Besar SK RPS Banun (empat dari kanan).

Yayasan EMKAY together with various bodies have been working together over the past few years to provide support and assistance to students from the Belum-Temengor area. The planning and execution of these educational programmes and assistance have been made easy with the cooperation from both schools, SK RPS Banun in Temengor and SK Sungai Tiang in Belum.

In January 2020, and in collaboration with Yayasan Kebajikan Negara (YKN), a total of 600 pairs of school uniforms has been delivered to the schools. A simple ceremony was held on 13th January attended by the representatives from YKN, District Education Office, Department of Orang Asli, Village Headsmen and the local community.

According to the headmaster of SK RPS Banun, the donation of school uniforms means a lot to the students, as most of them are from low income

families and are unable to afford school uniforms. Even without adorning full uniform, they are still accepted and welcomed to attend their classes. The donation from YKN and YE has brought immense happiness to the students and will surely motivate them to come to school.

The Headman of Kg. Sg. Tiang, En. Roslan Bahloh has expressed his appreciation and was very thankful because children from his village will look sharp in their new school uniforms for the beginning of the school year. This move has also lessen the burden for the parents from having to buy school uniforms.

This program would not be possible without the effort of the Department of Orang Asli and the Department of Labour who organised the sewing workshop amongst the Orang Asli women of this area.



A month after the handing over of the school uniforms, YE had received news from the Headmaster of SK Sg. Tiang who had voiced his concern of the lack of school shoes. YE stepped in to address this issue too. Immediately the school shoe campaign was launched and in less than one month the response was overwhelming! YE received donations in the form of cash from various individuals who sympathised with the plight of the Belum-Temengor school children. YE was able to handover a total of 400 pairs of school shoes, each a pair for all the students in both the schools in the Belum-Temengor area.

Through another programme which was held on 3rd March, the school shoes were delivered by houseboat to Kg. Sg. Tiang. The delivery was made possible with the help of YE volunteers and a few researchers and students from Universiti Sains Malaysia who were there for their research works.

The school children were delighted to see their new sparkling white shoes being transported into their village. Our survey showed that previously only 30 percent out of the 130 students put on appropriate shoes to school.

With the donation of the school uniform and shoes, we hope that these children would be able to step into school more confidently as they too will be donning the same clothes as all other students across the country.

BANTUAN BERTERUSAN UNTUK MEMUPUK SEMANGAT SUKA KE SEKOLAH

Sejak beberapa tahun kebelakangan ini, Yayasan EMKAY dengan kerjasama pelbagai pihak berusaha untuk mendampingi dan memberikan sokongan serta bantuan kepada warga sekolah di kawasan Belum-Temengor. Penerimaan baik oleh kedua-dua buah sekolah, SK RPS Banun di Temengor dan SK Sg. Tiang, di Belum telah memudahkan YE untuk menjalankan program-program pendidikan serta menyalurkan bantuan jika diperlukan.



Pada bulan Januari 2020, dengan kerjasama pihak Yayasan Kebajikan Negara (YKN), sejumlah 600 pasang pakaian seragam sekolah telah diserahkan kepada pihak sekolah. Majlis ringkas diadakan pada 13 Januari 2020, dengan kehadiran wakil-wakil dari pihak YKN, Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah, JAKOA, serta Tok Batin dan ketua-ketua masyarakat tempatan.

Guru Besar SK RPS Banun memaklumkan bahawa pemberian pakaian seragam ini besar ertinya kepada para pelajar, kerana rata-rata mereka kurang kemampuan untuk membeli pakaian seragam untuk ke sekolah. Walaupun begitu, pihak sekolah masih menerima kehadiran mereka di sekolah, biarpun tanpa pakaian seragam yang lengkap. Sesungguhnya dengan adanya sumbangan dari YKN dan YE ini, ia telah menggembirakan para pelajar dan sekaligus memberikan mereka semangat untuk terus hadir ke sekolah.

Ketua masyarakat Kg. Sg. Tiang, Hutan DiRaja Belum, En. Roslan Bahloh pula bersyukur kerana anak-anak kampungnya kini segak mengenakan pakaian seragam baru di permulaan tahun baru persekolahan. Ianya juga mengurangkan beban ibubapa untuk berbelanja membeli pakaian sekolah.

Program ini menjadi kenyataan dengan adanya usaha di pihak JAKOA dan Jabatan Tenaga Kerja yang menguruskan program latihan jahitan di kalangan wanita masyarakat orang asli di kawasan ini.

Sebulan setelah tarikh tersebut, isu ketiadaan kasut sekolah yang disuarakan oleh Guru Besar SK Sg. Tiang, pula diberi perhatian. Kempen kasut sekolah Belum Temengor pula diperkenalkan oleh Yayasan EMKAY. Dalam tempoh kurang sebulan, hasil dari sumbangan oleh individu-individu yang prihatin, Yayasan EMKAY telah mampu menyedia dan menyumbangkan sebanyak 400 pasang kasut, atau sekurang-kurangnya sepasang kasut bagi setiap pelajar di kedua-dua buah sekolah di kawasan Belum-Temengor ini.

Dalam satu program yang diadakan pada 3 Mac 2020, kasut-kasut sekolah telah dihantar menaiki 'houseboat' ke Kg. Sg. Tiang. Program ini dijayakan oleh para sukarelawan Yayasan EMKAY bersama beberapa orang penyelidik dan pelajar Universiti Sains Malaysia, yang sedang menjalankan penyelidikan.

Jelas teruja para pelajar melihat kasut putih baru yang diangkut ke sekolah mereka. Hasil tinjauan kami, hanya 30% dari keseluruhan 130 orang pelajar di sekolah ini yang memakai kasut yang sesuai untuk ke sekolah.

Adalah diharapkan agar para pelajar akan terus hadir di sekolah dan meneruskan pembelajaran dengan rasa penuh keyakinan, kerana kini mereka melangkah ke sekolah sama seperti para pelajar di tempat-tempat lain, berpakaian seragam dan lengkap bersepatu.



'i-play' Toy Libraries' Alumni from Kg. Desa Damai and Kg. Sg. Tiang also received their new set of school uniforms. Sebahagian Alumni Perpustakaan Perpustakaan Permainan 'i-play' dari Kg. Desa Damai dan Kg. Sg. Tiang turut menerima persalinan pakaian seragam sekolah baharu.



Several transportation mediums were used to transport the donated items. Lorries, houseboat, small boats and bikes. Beberapa medium pengangkutan digunakan untuk mengangut barang sumbangan ini antaranya menggunakan perkhidmatan lori, bot dan motosikal.



A heartfelt thanks to the volunteers and villagers who helped in making this programme a success. Jutaan terima kasih diucapkan kepada barisan sukarelawan dan penduduk kampung yang turut membantu menjayakan program ini.



COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMME BETWEEN YAYASAN EMKAY AND



Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) is a very familiar collaborative partner with all the foundations within the Group composition. Since its inception, both Pulau Banding Foundation and the Yayasan Pulau Orang Utan Bukit Merah have worked very closely with various faculties of USM, be it in research work, expeditions and as well a variety of conservation related educational programmes.

As for Yayasan EMKAY, its first formal collaboration with USM was inked through a Collaboration Agreement with the School of Distance Education, signed in December 2017. Through this agreement both parties have agreed to explore opportunities to develop, support and enrich research activities, educational and training programmes in respective fields of expertise. All works were based on mutually identified activities and/or projects thus creating synergistic benefits to both parties; with special emphasis on the benefits for locals within the Belum-Temengor area.

Enhancement of Relevant National Policies for Effective TB Management: Lesson Drawing and Control - The Case of Orang Asli in Belum-Temengor, Perak was the first collaborative research project led by Associate Professor Dr. Khairiah Salwa Mokhtar which kick-started in January 2018. Aiming to investigate health seeking behavior among the Orang Asli and their awareness of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, the project was fully supported by the Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli (JAKOA) and focused on the villages with moderate transportation access. It is a spin-off from a bigger long-term research grant scheme entitled Enhancement of Relevant National Policies for Effective TB Management: Lesson Drawing and Control (2016 – 2020) with nation-wide focus and funded by the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia.

For familiarization purposes, a recce trip was arranged for a team of researchers in January 2018. During this trip, the team was briefed on Yayasan EMKAY's community development programmes with the Orang Asli (Jahai and Temiar sub-groups) of the Belum-Temengor area. The researchers had firsthand experience socializing with the school community when they took part in the 'Back to School' Campaign at the RPS Banun School, where the students received school uniform and other contributions. The researchers also paid close attention to forming a trusting relationship with the local community as to ensure that the discussion process would be in a casual atmosphere. It must be highlighted that without the respondents opening up to the researchers due to a certain degree of trust, the quality of the data collected may be limited. The researchers also visited the Toy Libraries at Kg Semelor in Temengor and Kg Sg Tiang, in Royal Belum during this trip. They took the opportunity to meet each Village Head to get firsthand information on the demography of the population, and talk to the locals about their awareness and health practices over the meals prepared by the volunteers.



Dental health check-up at Kg. Sg. Raba.



Meet and greet session with the village Headsman and discussion with community members.



House call and interviews at Kg. Sg. Kejar, Royal Belum.

Since then, a number of programmes have been organized with the sole purpose of getting up close with the local communities and while doing so, provide assistance along the way, in the form of donations of staple food items, clothing and other basic necessities. The team, together with other Yayasan EMKAY volunteers also carried out a number of CSR activities; gotong-royong, cleaning up the surau, tidying up the Toy Libraries, painting of buildings and creation of murals, to name a few.

Since the research is based on data collected through interviews, Yayasan EMKAY has (and shall) continue to coordinate programmes and facilitate data collecting activities within the area. To further create rapport and access to the local community members, events, including carnivals, football matches, cultural activities and sporting competition were organized locally.

The Career and Skills Training Carnival held on 9th February 2018, received tremendous support from the locals, when it recorded a turnout of more than 400 people. Asyik FM (radio channel for the Orang Asli) assisted in making public announcements of the program and was also on-site (live telecast program) during the Carnival. It was a good platform for the researchers to meet and obtain information from the locals, in a very informal but joyous setting.

Yayasan EMKAY shall endeavor to assist and support USM in this four (4) year collaboration, as we believe, the outcome of the research would have a positive impact on the general health and well-being of the Orang Asli of Belum-Temengor in general. The benefit in kind to the Orang Asli during the research period have also been very well received. During the activities with the villagers, researchers and volunteers alike, brought with them teaching aid materials, clothing, staple food and most importantly forging a sense of friendship with the locals thus strengthening and paving the possibility for future endeavours.



Mural painting acitivities at the Skills Training Workshop at Kg. Desa Damai.

Feb. '18

Career / Skills Training Carnival at Kg. Sg. Raba, RPS Banun, Temengor

- 1) Skills training booth (sewing / engine repairing / culinary / bee farming with demonstration).
- 2) Health check-up and medical advise & consultation.
- 3) Mini Toy Library / Tele-matches.
- 4) Giant Board / Card Games Competition.
- 5) Bundle Boutique.
- 6) Lucky draw.
- 7) Lunch feast with the locals.



Programmes that have been carried out (in some cases, together with other strategic partners) are :-

Oct. '18

Data Collection at Kg. Sg. Raba & Kg. Desa Damai, Temengor

- 1) Briefing and discussion with JAKOA Officers.
- 2) House calls and interviews.
- 3) Distribution of staple food and clothing items.

Data Collection at Kg. Semelor, Temengor

- 1) Casual discussion sessions held during the day (and night) at the village.
- 2) Distribution of staple food and clothing items.
- 3) Activities with the locals, ie. traditional cooking demonstration, traditional games, football match, tele-matches and community dinner.

**Nov. '18**

Educational and Health Mini Carnival at Kg. Sg. Raba, Temengor

- 1) Dental and eye check-up.
- 2) General health check-up.
- 3) Sugar level test.
- 4) Awareness talk on health kidney.
- 5) Tele-matches.
- 6) Lucky draw.
- 7) Karaoke contest.
- 8) Gotong-royong - preparing of the community feast.

**Nov. '18**

Data Collection at Kg. Kelewang, Royal Belum

- 1) Meet and greet session with the village Headsman and discussion with community members.
- 2) Sharing of information on the ecotourism activities in the village.
- 3) Supplying of cooked meals to the local community members.
- 4) Donation of food items to the children.

**Oct. '19**

Community Outreach Program at Kg. Desa Damai, Temengor

- 1) Gotong royong – cleaning of the surau and the Toy Library.
- 2) Painting of murals at the Skills Training Workshop.
- 3) Interviews for profiling and data collection.
- 4) Entrepreneurship consultation for the sustainability of the programs carried out by the villagers.
- 5) Lunch with all community members prepared by volunteers.

**Nov. '19**

Data Collection at Kg. Sg. Tiang & Kg. Sg. Kejar, Royal Belum

- 1) Discussion with the village Headsman on general awareness on health.
- 2) House calls and interviews with the locals and Orang Asli school teachers.
- 3) Visiting of the Sg Tiang school (handing over of school shoes donated by Yayasan EMKAY).
- 4) Distribution of staple food items.

**Mar. '20**



WORK from home

The Covid-19 pandemic has effected how the whole world functions. Most, if not all countries are on partial or full lockdown, limiting the movements and daily activities of our human race.

In our country, we have been ordered to stay at home from 18 March 2020 till 3 May 2020. Most of us in the non-essential work group have been working from home. This work-from-home culture may be familiar to people who work in multi-national companies, but many of us are not familiar with this culture and trying to make the best out of this new 'normal' routine.

For those who are not tech-savvy, there are a myriad of apps and tools that they need to familiarize with and are left to fend for themselves without a colleague. Some may not own a computer at home, and this is the biggest challenge that they find themselves in when work from home is the norm.

We did a mini survey and asked some of our colleagues and co-workers of their experiences working from home during the MCO period, and this is what they said:

"My spouse works with the Ministry of Health and is on duty during this MCO period, so it's just me and my three year old at home during the day. Having a toddler and working from home is no small feat, I managed by completing my office work during the early mornings when my child is still asleep or in the late evenings when my spouse is back home and able to keep an eye on my daughter while I complete my work. Colleague #1"

For one of our colleagues who lives with elderly parents who are used to being able to go about their daily life and meeting people out of home, MCO has been challenging. She says that together they all have had to muster more patience with living in this new way, which hinders them from going out and meeting people.

Another colleague, who is attached to the Human Resource Department of our parent company, shared that working from home was frustrating for her because of the insufficient Internet speed. She also said that due to the MCO, it has affected her monthly visitation schedule to visit her mother back home and has had to miss spending her mother's birthday and precious time with her family.

Whilst some may face challenges, for others the situation is favourable...

"Working from home is much more convenient for me as it saves me the commute time. I am also able to execute my tasks better as my work is mostly computer based. Colleague #2"

"It's a norm for us as IT engineer/support because we frequently use technology to troubleshoot, backup and make virtual communications remotely. Working from home has enabled me to spend more time with my family. Colleague #3"

"Working from home did not have much difference for me as my work consist of mostly communications over email, phone calls and WhatsApp messages, something which could be done from anywhere. The only difference is the work space. I was able to spend more time with my child and it has taught me to be more grateful, spend wisely and not be wasteful. Colleague #4"

Work from home has also enabled us to know when we are at our best and to make use of that time to work. It may be early in the mornings, late at night or whenever the children takes a nap, we use the time to catch up on work.

We hope that working from home has brought you lots of good experiences, being able to stay safe (against the pandemic) with your loved ones whilst working. We also hope that you were able to find a way around the challenges that you had to face. 

CORAT CORET

Alumni Perpustakaan Permainan 'i-play'



Kamaruzzaman Tapong

Saya terdetik untuk mengambil kesempatan memenuhi ruangan ini dengan pengalaman perjalanan hidup saya untuk memenuhi harapan dan pesanan Arwah Ayah saya. Masih jauh lagi perjalanan saya untuk mencapainya, namun saya berharap agar pengalaman ini memberi sedikit idea kepada anak-anak orang asli, terutamanya puak Jahai di kampung saya untuk terus membina diri, terutamanya di dalam bidang pendidikan.

Dilahirkan di Kg. Sg. Tiang, Hutan DiRaja Belum 20 tahun yang lalu, saya dibesarkan bersama tujuh orang adik beradik di kampung yang terletak di hulu utara negeri Perak. Sebelum ke sekolah menengah, saya memang tidak biasa berada di luar kawasan hutan Belum itu.

Saya mula kenal belajar apabila dihantar oleh Emak ke Toy Library di kampung. Ayah pesan, pergi ke sana, belajar menulis, membaca, mengira. Mula-mula tu malas juga... tak kenal guru-guru, malu pun ya. Ayah tegas, kami adik-beradik, takut. Ayah antara beberapa orang yang boleh membaca dan menulis di kampung kami. Mungkin sebab itu dia dilantik sebagai Penghulu oleh pihak Kerajaan.

Saya belajar di Toy Library sejak darjah 2 pada tahun 2008. Masa tu saya juga ke sekolah di SK Sg. Tiang. Di Toy Library ada beberapa orang cikgu, orang kampung saya, termasuk juga Kakak saya. Tapi yang paling 'senior', seorang wanita yang mesra dengan panggilan Aunty Noni. Di situ saya belajar dan lebihnya, bermain. Rupanya sambil bermain tu, saya belajar!

Seronok melihat barang permainan, dan alat tulis, saya rajin ke Toy Library. Adakalanya di situ lah saya siapkan kerja sekolah dengan tunjuk ajar dari kakak-kakak dan Aunty Noni. Habis sesi, balik ke rumah, mesti dengan perut yang kenyang.

Tamat sekolah rendah, saya hanya ingat saya dapat D dalam subjek Matematik dalam Peperiksaan UPSR. Kemudian, saya meneruskan pelajaran di sekolah menengah di SK RPS Banun. Satu jam menaiki bot dari kampung! Ayah kata, "ada asrama, tinggal sana." Aduh! Takutnya.. Rindunya nak balik kampung. Nak balik sendiri, tak boleh dan tak mampu. Kami dihantar balik sebulan sekali menaik bot yang disediakan oleh pihak JAKOA. Saya keraskan hati. Jumpa dan berkawan dengan orang asli dari puak Temiar, juga pengalaman baru. Tinggal di asrama, satu pengalaman yang berharga. Saya belajar hidup sendiri di kalangan rakan sebaya yang masing-masing tak pasti ke mana arah tuju kami. Yang saya ingat, kata-kata Ayah, "belajar, belajar, belajar... sampai mana pun, mesti belajar."



Bangunan Perpustakaan Permainan 'i-play' di Kg. Sg. Tiang yang memulakan operasi pada tahun 2008. Di sinilah tempat saya belajar membaca, menulis dan mengira.



Saya bersama-sama rakan-rakan dari Belum Rainforest Resort mengadakan demo masakan penyediaan roti jala pada Karnival Kerjaya & Skim Latihan Masyarakat Orang Asli Belum-Temengor di Kg. Sg. Raba.



Antara aktiviti kegemaran saya dan rakan-rakan pada waktu petang adalah berkelah dan bermain bola sepak. BG12



Gambaran perkampungan Orang Asli Kg. Sg. Tiang, Royal Belum.

Sebaik tamat tingkatan 3 aliran PAV (Pendidikan Asas Vokasional), Ayah meninggal. Sedihnya... memang terfikir nak berhenti sekolah, duduk rumah jaga Emak dan adik-adik sebab Abang keluar bekerja dan Kakak terus bertugas di Toy Library. Teringat pesan Ayah, dan atas desakan Emak dan Kakak, saya meneruskan pendidikan di Kolej Vokasional Gerik (KVG). Dua tahun saya merantau, tinggal di asrama, berkenalan dan bertemankan orang Melayu pula. Saya cuba pulang ke kampung, tetapi atas dasar tak mampu, saya jarang-jarang jumpa keluarga. (Untuk yang tak pernah ke tempat saya, dari Gerik, saya perlu menaiki kenderaan selama 45 minit ke Jeti Awam di Pulau Banding. Dari situ satu jam menaiki bot, merentasi Tasik Temengor, baru tiba ke kampung kami. Kadang-kadang kalau Emak dan Kakak atau Abang datang ke Gerik, dapatlah kami berjumpa.

Di KVG, saya banyak meluangkan masa bersukan bersama rakan. Saya belajar pelbagai subjek, ada yang saya minat, ada yang kurang. SPM/SPMV tak lah teruk sangat.... syukur dapat kredit untuk Bahasa Inggeris, Matematik, Pendidikan Islam, Sejarah dan Bahasa Melayu. Di samping itu, saya juga berjaya mendapat Sijil Kemahiran Malaysia (Tahap Dua) dalam Kursus Penyediaan dan Pembuatan Makanan. Mulai dari situ, saya berminat di dalam bidang penyediaan makanan, dan membolehkan saya menjalani program Latihan Bahagian Kulinari selama beberapa bulan di Belum Rainforest Resort pada awal tahun 2018.

Sekali lagi, keluarga kami diduga apabila salah seorang abang saya jatuh sakit, dan perlukan rawatan berterusan (hingga ke detik ini). Saya balik ke kampung untuk menjaga adik-adik tatkala Emak menjaga Abang di hospital di Gerik dan kadangkala di Ipoh. Di kampung, saya lah yang masakkan untuk adik-adik berbekalkan ilmu yang diperolehi di kolej dan juga sebagai pelatih di resort.

Waktu petang, saya berlatih sukan bola sepak dengan pasukan para pelajar SK Kg. Tiang di padang sekolah atau berkelah. Ada juga masa apabila Kakak perlukan bantuan di Toy Library, saya turut membantu. Itu lah cara saya berbakti kepada masyarakat kampung. Saya juga dilatih sebagai penggiat agama di surau.

Tetapi, saya masih berminat untuk menyambung pelajaran di peringkat yang lebih tinggi. Setelah genap setahun di kampung, dengan bantuan Yayasan EMKAY, mulai Januari 2020, saya mendapat tempat dan kini menuntut di Kolej KEDA, Sik, Kedah dalam jurusan sama dari KVG dan ia juga merupakan program lanjutan iaitu SKM (Tahap Tiga).

Doakan saya berjaya menggenggam segulung Diploma, yang boleh membanggakan Arwah Ayah dan terus berbakti kepada keluarga. Masih banyak yang perlu saya tempuh dan pelajari. Namun, syukur Alhamdulillah, dengan adanya sokongan dan bantuan serta tunjuk ajar dari sahabat-sahabat di YE, Emak dan keluarga, saya yakin, kejayaan pasti jadi milik saya satu hari nanti, Insyaallah.



Saya (barisan akhir, lima dari kiri) bersama rakan seperjuangan di Kolej KEDA dalam salah satu program anjuran Kolej.

WORLD TAPIR DAY

27th April 2020



This shy and timid creature is celebrated every year on April 27th. This solitary herbivore has an enormous barrel shaped body that tapers in front to help them maneuver through the thick forest and very useful in escaping predators. While some may say that tapir looks very familiar to wild boar or even the elephant, it is actually closely related to rhinoceros and horses, where these animals are also odd-toed ungulates (mammals with hooves). Tapir has three toes on their hind feet and four toes in front. It has a proboscis snout (doubled as upper lip) which is very versatile to grasp leaves as it forages for food.

The most popular tapir in Malaysia is definitely the Malayan Tapir (*Tapirus indicus*). It could be easily identified with its black and white body. Do you know that the juvenile one looks very different from the adult? It has a brown coloured body with yellow stripes across which helps to camouflage the youngster.

A study by Kyoto University in collaboration with Pulau Banding Foundation (through observation of the animals' activities around salt licks in Royal Belum, Perak) confirmed that tapirs communicate with each other by making distinctive clicking sounds.



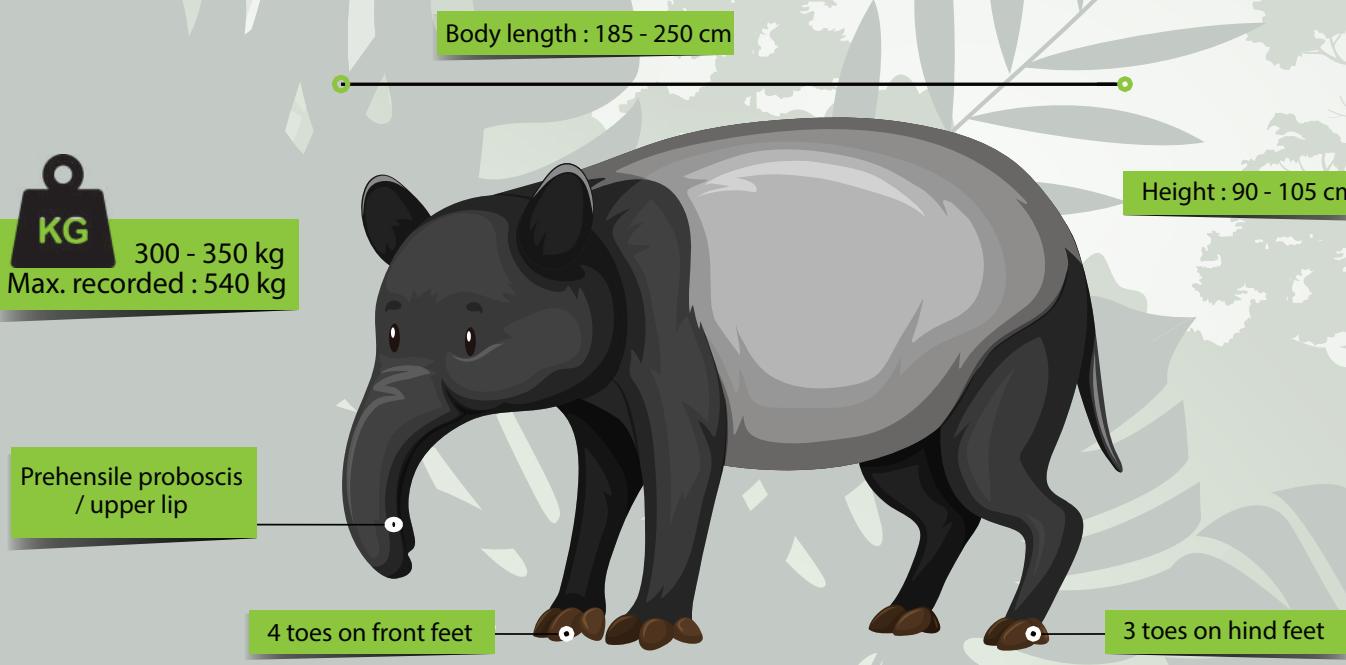
Jabatan Perlindungan Hidupan Liar Dan Taman Negara
(PERHILITAN)

Photo of a juvenile tapir at Pusat Konservasi Hidupan Liar Sungai Dusun, Selangor.
[Photo from PERHILITAN]



Ms. Yuko Tawa from Kyoto University setting up her camera trap in Royal Belum.

Facts about Tapir



Threats

Fragmentation of forests due to extensive development, aggressive agricultural activities and logging have caused many Malayan tapir to lose their habitat. This results in many sightings of scared and baffled tapirs in villages and/or as victims of road kills. In addition, illegal hunting too, contributes to the decrease in its population. IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List) has already listed and declared the Malayan tapir as an endangered species.

Other Species

However, apart from Malayan tapir, do you know that there are 4 other species of tapir across the world? All of them are from Central and South America.



Baird's Tapir
(*Tapirus bairdii*)
Distribution:
- South America
- South Mexico
[Photos by Joel Sartore]



Lowland Tapir
(*Tapirus terrestris*)
Distribution:
- South America



Mountain Tapir
(*Tapirus pinchaque*)
Distribution:
- Northwestern South America

New Species, Kobomani Tapir (*Tapirus Kobomani*)

In 2013, a new species was found in the Amazon (Cozzuol et al., 2013). It is recorded as a much smaller species as compared to the Mountain tapir. Nonetheless, more studies are required to analyse this new species.

In conjunction with the World Tapir Day, let's make a pledge to help all efforts related to the conservation of this amazing animal, and together we can sustain our rich biodiversity for the future generation.

Fun fact

Tapirs are the most primitive large mammals in the world. Experts believe that tapir has been around for 20 million years yet has changed very little.

References

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WABAK COVID-19 DARI KACAMATA SEEKOR ORANGUTAN

Datangnya pelancong memakai pelitup muka, kemudiannya semakin hari semakin berkurang. Pada satu ketika, kelihatan tiada seorang pun pelawat yang ke sini. Para pekerja yang selalu dilihat tidak kelihatan, hanya tinggal tiga atau empat orang sahaja. Luar biasa betul keadaan ini. Kami tidak tahu mengapa situasi berubah secara tiba-tiba begini.

Ranjer-ranjer yang selalu menjaga kami juga kelihatan lain, mereka juga turut memakai pelitup muka. Mereka kurang bercakap sesama sendiri dan menjaga jarak antara satu sama lain.

Di sekeliling, suasana amat sunyi, hanya kedengaran rakan-rakan haiwan kami dan alam sekitar, gelak tawa, ruuh rendah pekerja serta pelawat tidak lagi kedengaran. Bunyi generator serta enjin bot juga kurang didengari. Makanan yang kami terima kelihatan hampir sama pada setiap hari.

Sang angin membawa khabar bahawa sejenis wabak kini menyerang manusia, mereka sedang berperang dengan bertaruh nyawa dengan wabak ini. Terdengar juga ratusan ribu orang telah meninggal di seluruh dunia.

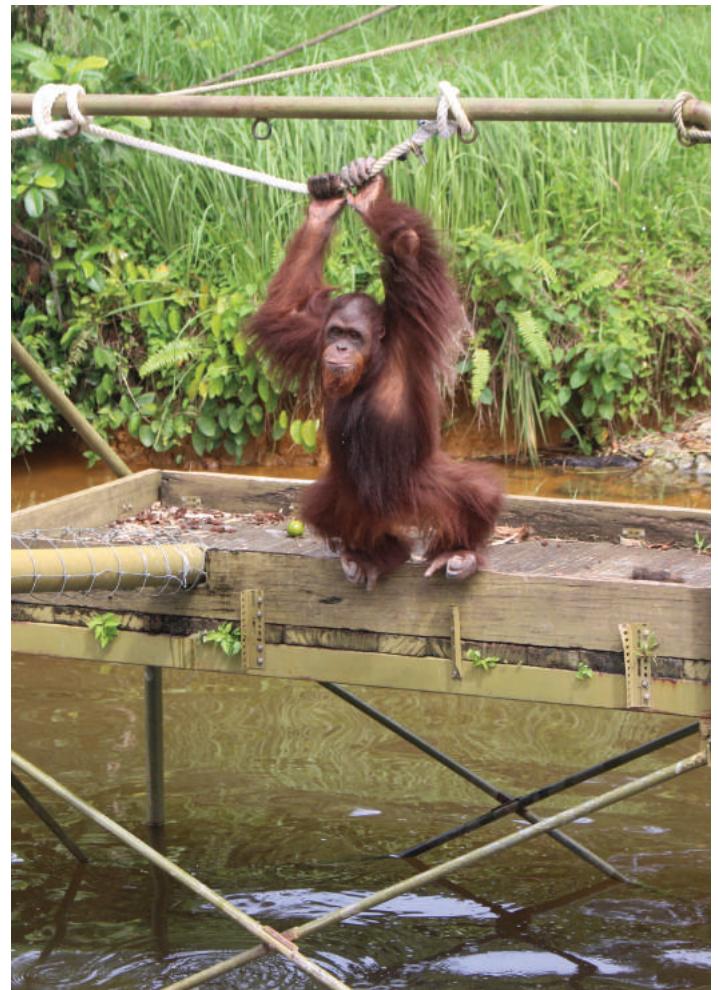
Persoalannya, adakan keadaan ini akan berterusan? Kami berharap tidak. Kami berharap keadaan akan kembali seperti dahulu.

Namun, kami bersyukur kerana kebajikan kami senantiasa dijaga dan dipelihara oleh insan yang menyayangi kami.

Ketika seluruh negara Malaysia menghadapi tempoh Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) yang berkuatkuasa sejak 18 Mac 2020, Pulau Orang Utan Bukit Merah (POUBM) tidak terkecuali dengan saranan tersebut dan telah menutup operasinya kepada pengunjung. Sebahagian pekerja dibenarkan bekerja dari rumah sementara pekerja bahagian operasi datang bekerja secara bergilir.

Setelah beberapa hari penutupan POUBM, pihak Yayasan Pulau Orang Utan Bukit Merah (YPOUBM) sekali lagi diuji apabila aras air Tasik Bukit Merah surut ke tahap minimum iaitu hanya 1 kaki.

Tasik Bukit Merah ialah sebuah tasik buatan air tawar yang pada asalnya adalah sebuah empangan. Tasik ini berkeluasan 40 kilometer persegi dan mempunyai kapasiti takungan kira-kira 70 juta meter padu air. Air dari tasik ini sebahagiannya dialirkan ke kawasan sawah padi di sekitarnya menerusi dua buah terusan iaitu Terusan Besar dan Terusan Selinsing. Fenomena air surut ini berlaku setiap tahun ketika musim penanaman padi iaitu apabila empangan dibuka untuk kegunaan petani di sekitar kawasan ini. Walaubagaimanapun, keadaan ini bergantung kepada cuaca dan aras air akan terus berkurangan sekiranya tiada hujan ketika musim ini.





Pada tahun ini, sekali lagi air dari Tasik Bukit Merah dilepaskan ketika musim menuai, namun keadaan cuaca yang panas dan kurang taburan hujan ketika ini menyebabkan aras air menurun ke tahap minimum. Keadaan ini menyukarkan kerja kakitangan bahagian operasi yang masih perlu bekerja ketika ini. Mereka perlu menaiki bot kecil yang tidak berbumbung dan perlu mengharungi keadaan cuaca panas dan hujan setiap hari selama sekurang-kurangnya satu jam berulang alik ke POUBM setiap hari. Keadaan aras air tahun ini kelihatan lebih cetek dan teruk daripada tahun-tahun sebelumnya dan hampir menyamai keadaannya pada tahun 2016.

Kedua-dua keadaan ini (PKP dan air surut) telah menyebabkan pihak YPOUBM mengalami kesukaran dari segi operasi harian untuk mengangkut bekalan makanan dan ubat-ubatan orangutan dan dana peruntukan yang semakin berkurangan dari hari ke hari berikutnya tiada pendapatan yang diperoleh ketika ini.

Walaupun berbagai ujian dan keadaan yang sukar perlu diharungi oleh pihak YPOUBM, semangat dan kerjasama daripada semua pekerja wajar diberi pujian kerana masih memberikan yang terbaik untuk memelihara spesies yang sangat dilindungi ini.

Sokongan dan bantuan di saat ini dari semua pihak amat dialu-alukan bagi membantu menampung kos membiayai makanan dan kebajikan enam belas ekor orang utan yang terdapat di Bukit Merah.

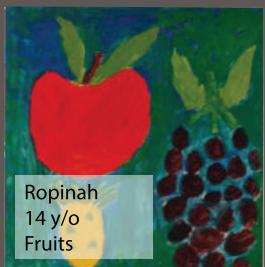
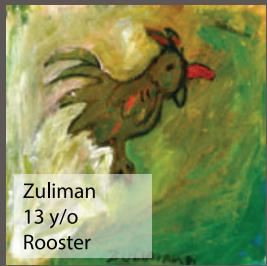
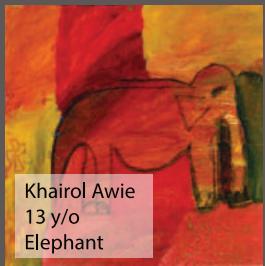
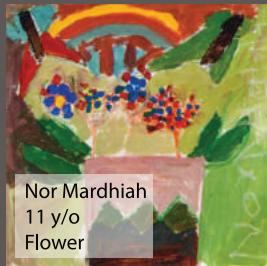
Sumbangan boleh disalurkan terus ke akaun Yayasan Pulau Orang Utan Bukit Merah:

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