

LANDSCAPE APPRECIATION OF MOUNTAIN GEOSITES AT MACHINCHANG CAMBRIAN GEOFOREST PARK, LANGKAWI GLOBAL GEOPARK

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Mount Machinchang is a well-known hogback geological landscape in Malaysia mostly made up of sandstone. The hogback geomorphic features offer limited flat areas at the peak of this mountain range. Thus a very specific and systematic geotourism product is important for better appreciation of this mountain range. Previously, modern structures (i.e cable car and hanging bridge) have been the main attraction to this area and the real natural beauty became almost insignificant. Being a conservation area within the geopark the task to create education on nature is vital for the long term conservation and appreciation of the area. This study explores five types of appreciation through landscape approach that have been established as observation spots along the geotrail in the area. The landscape approach looks mostly at the connection among the scientific knowledge of geology, landscape and biology. The established trail and the observation spots are cable car trail, stunted forest of Machinchang trail, Landscape of Langkawi, Machinchang Peak and seascape of the Andaman. These trail and observation spots play vital roles in better appreciation by general public towards natural heritage and highlighted the role of geology in shaping the earth surround human.