

Malaysia

Malaysia-5: Pahang River



Introduction

Malaysia is situated in the heart of Southeast Asia, just north of the equator. It has a total land area of 330,200 km² and is divided into two distinct regions: Peninsular Malaysia, which extends from the Thai border down to the island nation of Singapore and across the South China Sea, and the two states of Sabah and Sarawak on the northern coast of Borneo, which are bordered by Indonesia to the south and the Philippines to the east.

Being in the tropical region, the climate is hot and humid throughout the year. The mean annual rainfall is 2,500mm and the temperature range from 21°C to 32°C. Out of a total population of about 22 million (2000), approximately 18 million live in Peninsular Malaysia whilst 4 million live in Sabah and Sarawak. The population come from a variety of ethnic background. The majority of Malays, Chinese and Indians are in Peninsular Malaysia whereas Iban, Kadazan and Bidayuh are the main indigenous ethnic groups in Sabah and Sarawak.

The river catalogued in this volume is the Pahang River, Pahang. It is the longest river in Pahang State with the length of about 440 km and the area of 29,300km². It flows generally in the south and south-eastern direction and eventually eastward to discharge into the South China Sea. The river originates from the Central Mountain Range in the west and the East Coast Range in the North East. This area is in the tropical rain forest with a mean annual rainfall of about 2,170 mm. Its mean annual discharge measured at Lubok Paku (27,000 km²) is about 596 m³/s

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