

Identifying Orang Asli Indigenous Knowledge of Green Technology: A Case Study in Selangor

*Norwaliza Abdul Wahab**, *Regina Ak Lambin*, *Goh Swee Choo*, *Ramlee Mustapha*
Sultan Idris Education University, Perak, Malaysia

Ramlee Abdullah

Sultan Zainal Abidin University, Terengganu, Malaysia

*Corresponding author: norwaliza@fppm.upsi.edu.my

ABSTRACT

Presently, there are varied environmental issues and challenges as a result of human activities and the usage of non-green technologies. Green technology is technology which is environment-friendly and it is developed and used in such a way so that it doesn't disturb the environment and conserves natural resources. Indigenous knowledge of "green technology" in this study is a natural knowledge and practice of the Orang Asli communities to preserve their environment and resources. The purpose of this study was to investigate Orang Asli indigenous knowledge of "green technology" in the state of Selangor, Malaysia. In gathering qualitative data, this case study collected from in-depth interview, observation and artifacts analysis. The informants consisted of 10 Orang Asli who possessed vast indigenous knowledge especially on indigenous epistemology on plants. In this study, only three domains of indigenous knowledge were examined: (a) native medicine, (b) food for consumption, and (c) products from the forest. The main finding of this study indicated that the practices by Orang Asli indigenous knowledge of their "green technology" which are environmentally friendly that can be utilized by mainstream people. In conclusion, Orang Asli indigenous knowledge has embedded "green" way of living as part of their spiritual attachment to nature for sustainable development. The indigenous ancestors have lived and safeguarded the forest for the sake of their survival and for their future generations. Their knowledge and wisdom in protecting the environment have to be taught to our present and future generations for continuous survival on the mother earth.

Keywords: Orang Asli, indigenous knowledge, biodiversity, green technology, Malaysia