

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**YAP (Y *ALU* POLYMORPHISM)  
SIGNATURE IN SIX MALAY  
SUB-ETHNIC GROUPS IN  
PENINSULAR MALAYSIA**

**MUHD. SHAH JEHAN  
BIN ABD. RAZAK**

**MSc**

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## AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this thesis/dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi Mara. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledgment that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi Mara, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

Name of Student : Muhd. Shah Jehan Bin Abd. Razak

Student I.D. No. : 2011441374

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Signature of Student :

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## ABSTRACT

Malay sub-ethnic groups in Peninsular Malaysia have a rich culture and tradition such as historical knowledge and heritage, which might be reflected in the current genetic makeup of this population. They are a mixture of different races that were caused by the history of migration centuries ago and consisted of 14 Malay sub-ethnic groups in Peninsular Malaysia. The objective of this study was to analyze the genetic polymorphism of Y chromosome at DYS287 Y *Alu* Polymorphism (YAP) locus in six Malay sub-ethnic groups of Peninsular Malaysia. A total of 231 buccal cells from healthy unrelated individual males consisting of 117 Kelantan-Malay, 50 Jawa-Malay, 48 Minangkabau-Malay, 9 Banjar Malay, 3 Bugis-Malay and 4 Rao-Malay from different regions of Peninsular Malaysia were screened for the DYS287 Y *Alu* locus from their genomic DNA. It shows that Kelantan-Malay, Jawa-Malay, Minangkabau-Malay, Banjar-Malay, Bugis-Malay and Rao-Malay are completely absent of the DYS287 Y *Alu* Polymorphism. Sequence results revealed that all Malay sub-ethnic of Peninsular Malaysia groups studied do not carry the number of 45bp (long) and 28bp (short) with association of long adenine (A) residues at [poly(A) tail] of the *Alu* sequence at DYS287 locus. Allele frequency for YAP+ was absent in all Malay sub-ethnic groups in Peninsular Malaysia. There were no genetic differences between the studied Malay sub-ethnic groups of DYS287 locus. This study has provided information on the pattern of DYS287 Y *Alu* Polymorphism in Kelantan-Malay, Jawa-Malay, Minangkabau-Malay, Banjar-Malay, Bugis-Malay and Rao-Malay sub-ethnic group in Peninsular Malaysia. Further study will be done on more samples of the other Malay sub-ethnic groups in Peninsular Malaysia to determine more DYS287 Y *Alu* Polymorphism status.

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# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 BACKGROUND AND PROBLEM STATEMENT

Human Y chromosome has been recognized as a useful marker for human population genetic studies (Ge, Budowle, Planz, Eisenberg, Ballantyne, and Chakraborty, 2010; Nadia, Pala, Battaglia, Grugni, Mohammed and Baharak, 2011; Primorac, Marjanović, Rudan, Viiems and Underhill, 2011). The non-recombining portion of human Y chromosomes has special features as a single haploid and involve only father to son transmission. As a consequence, the DNA sequence on the Y chromosome preserves a unique record of mutational events that occurred in previous generations. Therefore, polymorphisms in this region were proposed as tools for male-specific gene flow investigation and for reconstructing paternal history (Mizuno, Kitayama, Fujii, Nakahara, Yoshida and Sekiguchi, 2010). One of the most useful and widely studied was the Y-linked polymorphisms known as Y *Alu* Polymorphism (YAP) element. YAP element (DYS287 locus) is referred to the *Alu* insertion (~300bp) which is present at a specific site on the long arm of the Y chromosome, Yq11 (Hammer, 1994).

This element is stable and originated almost 65 years ago as a component in human DNA (Tripathi, Cauhan, Tripathi and Agrawal, 2008). A *DYS287* are basically referred to the acronym of YAP (*YAlu* Polymorphism) and is basically generating biallelic polymorphism due to the absent or presence of the insertion. The YAP element are not present in all individual world population hence, a person can only carry either YAP+ or YAP- genotype meaning that carry insertion or a deletion (Ambrosio, Hernández, Novelletto, Dugoujon, Rodriguez and Cuesta, 2010). Analyses of YAP+ chromosome has been conducted in African, Tibetan and Japanese and has been proved to be useful in the evolutionary analysis of population studies (Vasudevan, Fatimah and Patimah, 2011). Besides that, studies have been conducted by Yang and colleagues 2008 between five ethnic groups from Northwest People Republic of China and were found at locus *DYS287 Y Alu* Polymorphism to be polymorphic. Thus, this type of marker can be shown to be a valuable for human population studies.