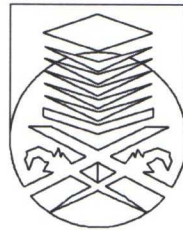


**RECOVERY OF THE GEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE AS  
A SUCCESSFUL GEO-TOURISM SITE  
CASE STUDY: GUNUNG KERIANG, KEDAH.**

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## ABSTRACT

Today, serious degradation of the geo-heritage has lead by technological development, economic and population growth and social changes in most parts of the world. These occurrences have encouraged many researchers and nature-lovers to a greater appreciation of this fragile natural environment and have resulted in numerous and vary studies conducted in order to conserve it. Methodology had been used in this project, (i)Ian McHarg's Ecological Inventory Method and (ii)Design development for proposed strategies. This study showed that several key success factors for sustainable conservation which includes the level of the stakeholders' awareness, participation and appreciation towards heritage values and its economic potential and enforcement of legislation or policy will bring toward the successful of the geo-tourism. Embracing this fact, and recognizing its implications for the nature, innovative public education programs and promotional activities will discourage the massive quarrying and the disoriented cultural-spatial design on site. Indirectly, the strong genius loci and successful ecosystem can be implemented. Having shown the importance of these geological landscape, the last sections of the study show how the present practice of environmental designers preclude the generation of ideas towards successful geo-tourism in Gunung Keriang, Kedah.

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## **CHAPTER 1 | Introduction**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Today, serious degradation of the geo-heritage has led by technological development, economic and population growth and social changes in most parts of the world. These occurrences have encouraged many researchers and nature-lovers to a greater appreciation of this fragile natural environment and have resulted in numerous and vary studies conducted in order to conserve it. Usually, nature conservation is related with the protection of biodiversity as the most at risk element of natural environment. But it is quite clear that conservation of both abiotic and biotic nature should get much responsiveness. Geo-heritage may result in a wide range of impacts, depending by the site and its location. Potential damage and degradation of landforms and the impacts of some tourism consumers on visitor experience are the main issues that geological landscape faced.

Making geodiversity significant to people, where they live and how they live, is crucial for successful geo-conservation. The people are more likely to understand and value geodiversity if they are more aware of it. Therefore, the need for its conservation and appreciation of the benefits can be delivered to society (Tilden, 1977 and Anderson & Brown, 2010). Unfortunately, many number of rare features in the geological landscape, have been destroyed already and can no longer be treasured by visitors. The awareness and understanding of environmental change and its impact in geodiversity, will help us to make better and more informed decisions about the upcoming of our environment. It is very challenging to make policy and legislation work for geo-conservation. Integrating these with practice at all levels of government that support the conservation and management of the natural environment also might impossible. Massive quarrying remnants an activity which has significant land use implications. Rehabilitating the abandoned quarrying operations are safe from disturbing important geological sites is a good effort. The most mining activities and limestone quarrying has the potential to cause a particular set of environmental impacts due to the karstic nature of the terrains (Van Beynen & Townsend, 2005 and North et al., 2009).