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#### TANJUNG PIANDANG: A JOURNEY BACK TO MY HOMETOWN'S HEART

### Fadhfina Mahat, Dr. Arnieyantie Abduf Hadi, Rabiatut Adawiyah Ab Rahman & Johanna Adlin Ahmad

Tanjung Piandang, a serene town nestled within the district of Parit Buntar, Perak, is more than just a place on a map—it holds a special place in my heart. While I didn't grow up here, it's where I was born, and it remains my refuge when I 'balik kampung' for family gatherings, Raya celebrations, and 'kenduri' events. This town's charm lies in its beautiful blend of tradition, nature, and steady development, representing a harmonious coexistence that draws me back every time.

My connection with this town grew stronger when I began my career here after completing my diploma. I got my first job with the Kerian District Council (MDK), marking the start of my journey toward financial independence. Working in this environment gave me a deeper appreciation for the people and the place, as I witnessed the development of Parit Buntar firsthand. What once was a quiet town is now home to a thriving community, with local markets, eateries, and new businesses shaping the landscape.

One of the crown jewels of Tanjung Piandang is Ban Pecah, a breathtaking coastal retreat where the sea and land meet in a stunning display of natural beauty. As the sun sets, the sky is painted in hues of orange and pink, making it a perfect spot for photographers and nature lovers. Visitors are drawn here not only for the views but also for the delicious local dishes served in humble seaside eateries.



The fresh mee udang, grilled fish, spicy prawn sambal, and the rich ais coklat kental are some of the must-try signature dishes that reflect the freshness of the sea and the warm hospitality of the locals.

Do you know the historical reason why it's called Ban Pecah? Well! Let me tell you about it from the local sources. Ban Pecah got its name from a local legend tied to its history.



The name, which means "Broken Bund," originated when a water bund (or embankment) in the area was deliberately damaged, causing seawater to flood the paddy fields.

According to a far-off story of the olden times, a man, upset with his nephew's success broke the bund out of jealousy, leading to the area's current appearance and the name Ban Pecah.

This tale has become part of the local folklore, adding a layer of mystery to this beautiful coastal spot.

Tanjung Piandang's paddy fields stretch far and wide, offering a peaceful, almost meditative scene. The rhythm of rural life here, where rice farming has been passed down through generations, makes the town feel like a place where time slows down. It's a reminder of how nature and human efforts come together to create something beautiful. In many ways, Tanjung Piandang and Parit Buntar are symbolic of Malaysia's rural beauty and quiet progress. The balance of tradition and development, the warmth of the community, and the picturesque views make this town a truly special place. It's not just a hometown but it's where my story began, and it's where others can find a peaceful escape, steeped in culture, natural beauty, and genuine hospitality.

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