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### First report on the herpetofauna of Pulau Dayang, Pahang, West Malaysia

Pulau Dayang is a small oblong-shaped island (1.9 x 3.8 km) located ca. 0.08 km north of Pulau Aur in the south-eastern portion of the Seribuat Archipelago at the southern end of the South China Sea. The island consists of a low range of granitic rock outcroppings with an elevated middle section being composed a giant boulder forming a peak. The majority of the island is covered with coastal vegetation which has been severely degraded. Small streams occur on the northern end of the island.

The herpetofauna of the adjacent island of Aur is known to have one frog, 14 lizards, and 4 snakes (Grismer et al, 2001; Escobar et al., 2003) but no field investigations have taken place on Pulau Dayang. Therefore, a herpetological survey was conducted with the intent of composing a preliminary checklist of the species diversity and to obtain D4NA tissue samples of representative specimens. A total of five lizards and one snake were collected.

Collections were made between 1200 and 1700 h on 22 July 2002 on the southern portion and summit of the island. Liver tissue and tail tips were taken from representative specimens and preserved in 90% ethanol. Specimens were preserved using 10% formalin and stored in 70% ethanol. Specimens collected are listed below. Museum acronyms are ZRC, The Zoological Reference Collection, at the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore and LSUPC, La Sierra University Photographic Collection at the Department of Biology, La Sierra University, Riverside, California.

Squamata (lizards):

*Cnemaspis* sp. (Das & Grismer in press) (LSUPC.L7229).- One specimen was found on a rock under human trash, leaves, and pieces of wood at approximately 1650 h. This species was thought to be endemic to the adjacent Pulau Aur.

*Hemidactylus frenatus* (Duméril & Bibron 1836) (ZRC.2.5491).- Several individuals were

seen in human habitations. One specimen was collected on the same rock as the *Cnemaspis* sp..

*Gekko monarchus* (Duméril & Bibron 1836) (ZRC.25493).- Two specimens were caught on the same rock as the *H. frenatus* and *Cnemaspis* sp. at approximately 1655 h under debris.

*Mabuaya mutifasciata* (Kuhl 1820) (ZRC.2.5492).- One specimen was collected on a rock approximately 1 m above ground while basking along the trail to the top of the island. A juvenile was found at 1704 h on the ground beneath a piece of wood.

*Varanus salvator* (Laurenti 1768).- Fragments of shed skin were found in a coconut plantation behind the village.

Squamata (snakes):

*Ramphotyphlops braminus* (Daudin 1803) (LSUPC. 4749).- One specimen was found within a rotting log next to a rock cave. A great deal of leaf litter and debris were present next to the log.

The reptiles and amphibians of Pulau Dayang are a subset of those found on Pulau Aur. We expect to find *Limnectes blythii*, *Bronchocela cristatella*, *Cosymbotus platyurus*, *Cyrtodactylus consobrinus*, *Lygosoma bowringii*, *Sphenomorphus scotophilus*, *Calamaria lovii*, *Macrophistodon flaviceps*, *Ahaetulla prasina* and *Emoia atrocostata* on Pulau Dayang, because these species occur on Pulau Aur (Grismer, et al. 2001) and the islands are so close and the habitats are so similar. We do not expect to find *Acanthosaura armata* or *Dasia olivacea* owing to the severe deforestation. Future fieldwork is planned.

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**A record of *Anomochilus leonardi*  
Smith, 1940 (Anomochilidae) from  
Peninsular Malaysia**

(with one text-figure)

The genus *Anomochilus* (family Anomochilidae) contains two species, *A. leonardi* Smith, 1940 and *A. weberi* (van Lidth de Jeude, 1890), and is distributed over Peninsular Malaysia, Borneo and Sumatra (Cundall et al., 1993). These fossorial snakes are rarely encountered, and thus little is known of their natural history. The holotype and paratypes of *A. leonardi* were collected in Pahang, at elevations between 230-240 m. a.s.l. (Smith, 1940). Lim and Mohd Sharef (1975) recorded the third specimen for Peninsular Malaysia from Gombak, Selangor, at about 200 m a.s.l. elevation. The discovery of *Anomochilus leonardi* by Stuebing and Goh (1993) extended the distribution of this species to Sabah, East Malaysia. The specimen from Sabah was collected under grassy herbaceous layer at the edge of forest, at about 20 m a.s.l. Another specimen was collected from Merapoh, Pahang and now kept at the wet collection of the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP),



**FIGURE 1:** *Anomochilus leonardi* from the campus of the Forest Research Institute Malaysia, Kepong (03° 14'N, 101° 38'E; 70 m a.s.l.), Selangor State, Malaysia (FRIM 0026).