KLANG

Nama 'Klang' ialah nama lama yang pernah disebut dalam catatan kuno bukan sahaja era Kesultanan Melaka, bahkan jauh semasa era Majapahit. Ketika kegemilangan Kerajaan Melaka, kawasan Klang adalah antara yang termasuk dalam jajahan takluk Melaka, selain Jeram dan Bernam. Perkara ini tercatat jelas dalam naskhah Sejarah Melayu (Sulalatus Salatin) karangan Tun Sri Lanang. Dalam catatan sejarah juga menyatakan Tun Perak, Bendahara Melaka kelima merupakan Bendahara yang termasyhur dalam sejarah Kerajaan Melaka, asalnya ialah Penghulu Klang. Beliau diberi kepercayaan oleh sultan-sultan silih berganti bermula Sultan Muzaffar Syah ibni Sultan Muhammad Syah (Sultan Melaka kelima, 1340-1378) hingga Sultan Alaudin Riayat Syah ibni Sultan Mansur Syah (Sultan Melaka ketujuh, 1449-481).

Selain itu, Sejarah Melayu turut merakam peristiwa kunjungan Tun Jana Khatib dan Tuan Jajahan Buguran dari Selangor (merujuk kepada Klang) menemui Paduka Seri Maharaja (Raja Singapura keempat, 1244-1257). Laksamana Cheng Ho (Era Dinasti Ming, 1368-1644) turut mencatatkan kedudukan Selangor dan juga Klang di dalam peta pelayarannya. Nama 'Klang' juga disebut jelas dalam puisi Majapahit iaitu Nagara Kertagama pada tahun 1365. Hal ini membuktikan bahawa Selangor telah dikenali dan Klang berfungsi sebagai pusat perdagangan utamanya.

Klang bukan sahaja tercatat sebagai antara bandar tertua di Tanah Melayu bahkan kewujudannya dikatakan telah wujud sejak sebelum masihi lagi. Nama ‘Klang’ berasal daripada bahasa Mon-Khmer iaitu ‘Klong’. Klong boleh diertikan sebagai gudang kerana di sini dahulunya ialah pusat pelabuhan penting. Klang mula berkembang seawal zaman prasejarah iaitu Zaman Hoabinhian, Neolitik, Logam dan Protosejarah. Perkembangan ketara pada Zaman Logam-Protosejarah di mana dibuktikan dengan penemuan beberapa artifak seperti gendang Dong Son dan loceng gangsa yang ditemui di tapak arkeologi Kampung Bukit Kuda.





Klang is an old name, mentioned in ancient records that predated the Malacca Sultanate, as early as the era of Majapahit. During the glory days of the Malacca Sultanate, Klang was one of its subjugated territories, besides Jeram and Bernam, as recorded in the Malay Annals (Sulalatus Salatin) written by Tun Sri Lanang. Historical records also stated that Tun Perak, the fifth Bendahara of Malacca, the most famous and well known Bendahara in the history of the kingdom, was previously the Penghulu (chieftain) of Klang. He was trusted by successive sultans starting from Sultan Muzaffar Syah ibni Sultan Muhammad Syah (fifth Sultan of Melaka, 1340-1378) to Sultan Alaudin Riayat Syah ibni Sultan Mansur Syah (seventh Sultan of Melaka, 1449-481).

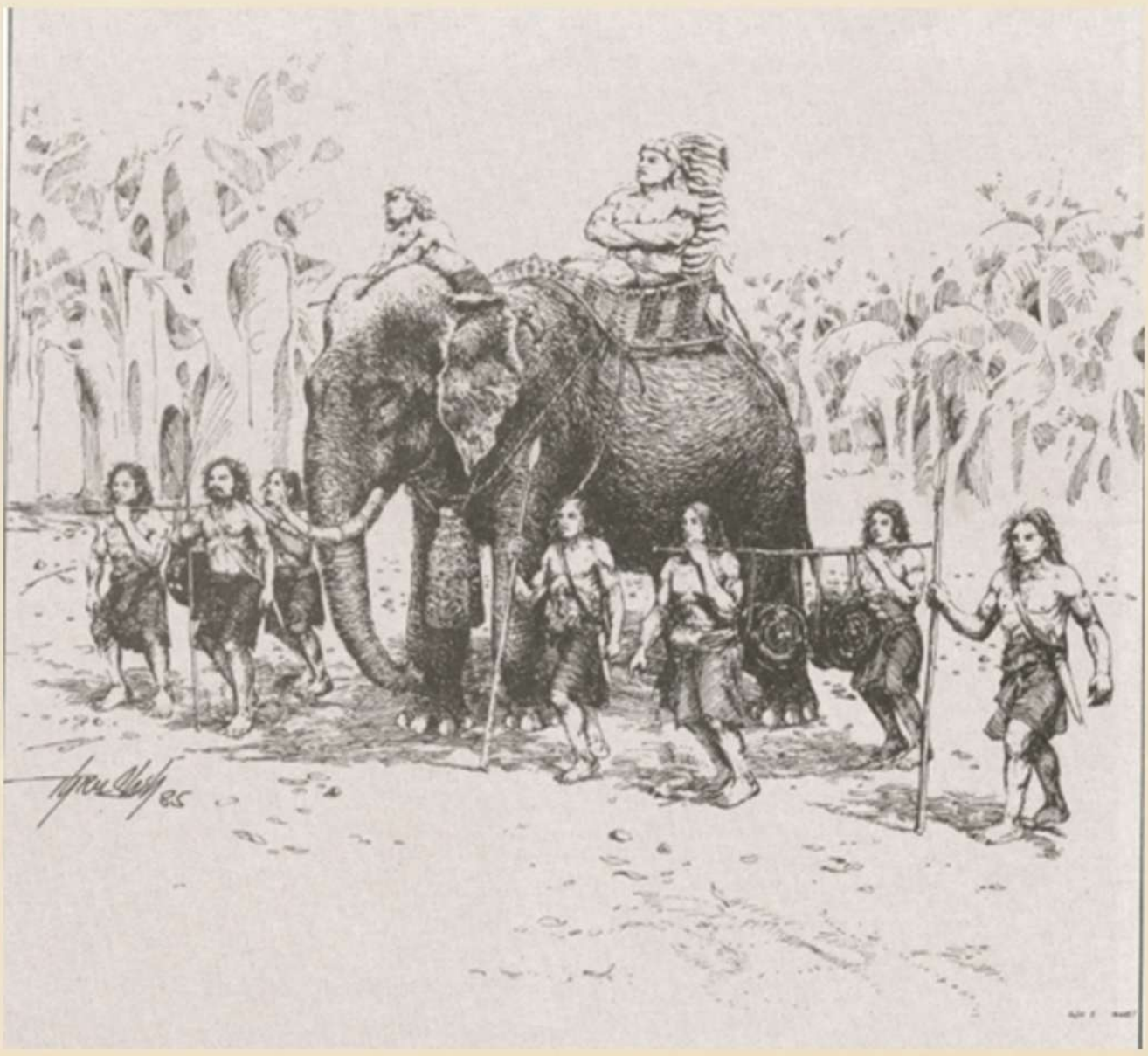
Additionally, the Malay Annals had also recorded the visits of Tun Jana Khatib and Tuan Jajahan Buguran from Selangor (referring to Klang) to meet Paduka Seri Maharaja (the fourth King of Singapore, 1244-1257). Admiral Cheng Ho (Ming Dynasty, 1368-1644) had also recorded the position of Selangor and Klang in his navigation map. The name of 'Klang' was also clearly mentioned in the Majapahit poem “Nagara Kertagama” in 1365. This further proves that Selangor was well known and Klang had functioned as its main trading centre.

Klang is not only noted as one of the oldest cities in Tanah Melayu but its existence is also said to have been dated in B.C.E (Before Christ Era). The name 'Klang' comes from a word in the Mon-Khmer language which is 'Klong'. Klong can be interpreted as “warehouse” as the location used to be an important trading port. Klang had began to develop as early as the Prehistoric Periods, particularly during the Hoabinhian Era, Neolithic Era, the Metal Age and the Protohistoric Periods. This was proven by several artefacts discovered at the Kampung Bukit Kuda archaeological site such as the Dong Son drums and the Bronze Bells.

KLANG

Klang pernah dijadikan sebagai ibu kota ketiga bagi negeri Selangor sebelum Kuala Lumpur dan Shah Alam. Petempatan awal di Klang dipercayai telah wujud sejak Zaman Prasejarah berdasarkan penemuan peralatan gangsa dan besi di lembangan Sungai Klang sekitar 2,500 tahun dahulu. Daerah Klang adalah salah sebuah daerah utama yang mempunyai tapak-tapak Zaman Logam di Selangor.
Menurut pendapat Linehan, peralatan gangsa dan besi yang ditemui di Klang dibawa dari Funan. Sesetengah pengkaji pula mempercayai bahawa peralatan besi bersoket yang ditemui di Klang merupakan alat yang dibuat menggunakan bahan-bahan tempatan iaitu berasal dari Zaman Besi di Semenanjung Tanah Melayu. Manakala gendang dan loceng gangsa merupakan peralatan yang dibawa dari luar Semenanjung Tanah Melayu.

Klang was once made the third capital of the state of Selangor before Kuala Lumpur and Shah Alam. Early settlements in Klang are believed to have existed since Prehistoric Times based on the discovery of bronze and iron tools in the Klang River basin around 2,500 years ago. Klang district is one of Selangor's main districts with Metal Age sites. According to Linehan, the bronze and iron tools found in Klang were brought from Funan. Some researchers believe that the socketed iron tools found in Klang are made using local materials originating from the Malay Peninsula's Iron Age. At the same time, bronze drums and bells are equipment brought from outside the Malay Peninsula.



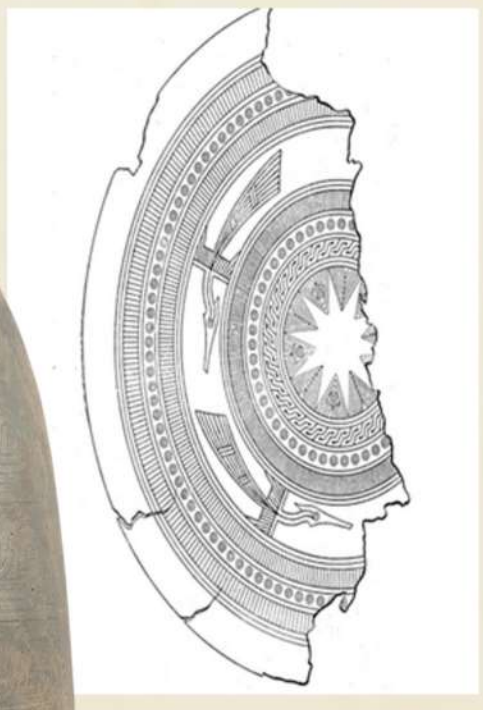
Ilustrasi kegunaan loceng gangsa dan gendang gangsa (Sheppard, 1986)
Illustration of the use of bronze bells and drums (Sheppard, 1986)

Tapak-tapak yang diklasifikasikan sebagai tapak Zaman Logam di Klang ialah Bukit Kuda, Bukit Jati dan Bukit Badak. Pada tahun 1905, beberapa peralatan besi bersoket beserta tiga buah loceng gangsa telah ditemui oleh para pekerja Jabatan Keretapi ketika sedang menggali tanah untuk pembinaan jalan kereta api di Klang. Para pengkaji berpendapat kemungkinan tapak asal penemuan peralatan gangsa dan besi tersebut adalah di bahagian hilir Sungai Klang. Loceng-loceng gangsa yang ditemui ini telah dikategorikan sebagai peralatan zaman akhir prasejarah. Loceng gangsa ini telah disimpan di Muzium Negara dan salah sebuah daripada loceng ini dikatakan telah dibawa ke Muzium British, Londo

The sites classified as Metal Age sites in Klang are Bukit Kuda, Bukit Jati and Bukit Badak. In 1905, some socketed iron tools and three bronze bells were found by the Railway Department employees while digging land to construct a railway in Klang. Researchers believe the original site of the discovery of bronze and iron tools is likely to be in the lower part of the Klang River. These bronze bells are categorised as late prehistoric tools. The bronze bells have been kept in the National Museum, and one is said to have been taken to the British Museum of London.

KLANG







Ilustrasi perincian motif-motif 'burung bangau yang bergerak melawan arah jam' pada permukaan serpihan gendang DongSon Klang (kiri), Loceng Gangsa Gajah yang ditemui di Klang (kanan) (Linehan 1951)

Ilustration of motif details showing 'storks moving counter-clockwise on the surface of the Klang DongSon drum fragment (left); Bronze Elephant Bell found in Klang (right) (Linehan 1951)

Pada tahun 1944, terdapat penemuan bahagian kepala sebuah gendang gangsa yang telah dijumpai di kawasan Bukit Kuda. Pada tahun 1948 sebanyak 21 unit peralatan besi bersoket dikatakan telah dijumpai di kawasan Bukit Jati. Sembilan daripada jumpaan ini dikategorikan sebagai mata lembing bersoket. Jumpaan peralatan besi bersoket di Bukit Jati ini merupakan penemuan terbesar berkaitan peralatan Zaman Logam yang ditemui di negara kita. Kesimpulannya, daripada data-data yang diperolehi jelas membuktikan bahawa Klang adalah sebuah daerah yang penting dalam lipatan sejarah negeri Selangor. Terbukti petempatan di Klang telah wujud sejak Zaman Prasejarah lagi. Klang telah diklasifikasikan sebagai sebuah petempatan Zaman Logam bersusur galur daripada perkembangan sistem sosial dan budaya Neolitik yang bermula di Jenderam Hilir.

In 1944, the head of a bronze drum was found in the Bukit Kuda area. In 1948, 21 units of socketed iron equipment were said to have been found in the Bukit Jati area. Nine of these finds are categorised as socketed spear points. The discovery of socketed iron tools at Bukit Jati is the biggest discovery related to Metal Age tools found in our country. In conclusion, from the data obtained it is clear that Klang is an important district in the history of the state of Selangor. It is proven that settlements in Klang have existed since Prehistoric Times. Klang has been classified as a Metal Age settlement following the development of the Neolithic social and cultural system that began in Jenderam Hilir.

