

Headline	FRIM researcher gets Best Book award		
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FRIM researcher gets Best Book award

KUALA LUMPUR — The importance of forests to lives, and the contribution of effective forest conservation to human prosperity and harmony won Forest Research Institute Malaysia's Khairuddin Kamarudin a Best Book award recently.

The FRIM assistant research officer received his award at the Malaysian Scholarly Publication Council (Mapim)-Ministry of Education Malaysia 2013 awards ceremony at Universiti Putra Malaysia on May 19.

Khairuddin, popularly called Tok Din, took home a trophy and RM15,000 for his book *Hutan Hujan Tropika Semenanjung Malaysia*, under the Science, Technology and Medicine Category. It was presented by Deputy Education Minister II P. Kalamathan.

Also present were FRIM director-general Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod, Mapim chairman and director-general of Higher Education Prof Datuk Dr Morshidi Sirat, UPM vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Fauzi Ramlan and UPM deputy vice-chancellor (Research and Innovation) Prof Dr Mohd Azmi Mohd Lila.

The awards are to recognise writers for their contribution in disseminating and sharing knowledge through publications.

The panel of judges believed that Khairuddin's book, published by Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP) last year, would make a good reference source for universities, schools and the public because it presents comprehensive data, backed by interesting illustrations.

It also has a wide range of facts related to tropical rainforests including the latest previously

unpublished information in the peninsula.

Khairuddin obtained his Diploma in Taxonomy from the Royal Botanic Garden in Kew, London, in 1991.

Khairuddin, who joined the Timber Engineering Unit of Forest Research Institute in 1979, works at the FRIM Kepong botanical garden branch.

He has written several books and articles and represented Malaysia as an author and photographer for the Children's Books and Source Materials on Asean Collection Project (1997).

As a result, a book titled *Forest — Forest Everywhere* was published in cooperation with Thailand's Education Ministry's department of curriculum and international development.



Khairuddin (left) with Abd Latif. — Picture courtesy of FRIM