

Appreciating the Marshes

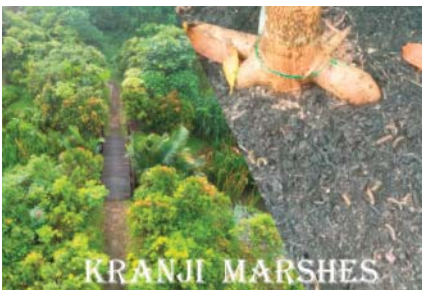
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Don't focus your attention on the two persons in the picture. Take a good look at what you see immediately behind them.

Does it bring to mind the papyrus and

reeds that provided the ancient material on which our Scripture was written on?



The importance of the papyrus and reeds links us to the importance of the marshes.

“Can papyrus grow tall where there is no marsh? Can reeds

thrive without water?” – Job 8:11

It is sadly true that when people progress with more well-paved surfaces for easy walking and well-architected edifices to comfortably relax in, the marshes are often despised for their sodden and miry ugliness. As a result, these dwindling marshes are pushed farther and farther into oblivion. Going ... going ... gone are the swamps together with the richness of Earth's biodiversity.

In contemplating biodiversity, which is by God's design in Creation, every single life form in the marshes is as critical as any in other habitats to the balance of nature.



Brother KP Teh and I were at the Kranji Marshes to appreciate nature. Our trip was organized by the Jurong Central Community Sports Club, but we also saw other nature lovers from the Nature Society of Singapore over there, some toting bulky cameras, enjoying what little natural heritage left in Singapore.

As beneficiaries of nature's abundance, man is ironically full of attitude in diminishing it instead of appreciating it as good stewards.

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.” – Job 12:7-10

Even if man treats sparrows as worth only two pennies, not one of them is forgotten by God. (Lk 12:6)

Thankfully, we still have nature lovers around, like members of the Nature Society of Singapore who, through their battles in nature's conservation, have gained praise from like-minded people. To the nature lovers, the Kranji Marshes are one of the favourite spots for birdwatching – to delight in the sight of majestic birds not forgotten by God!

The visit to the Kranji Marshes provided a kind of memorable experience, right here in Singapore, without the crowds!

John Lee