

# **CAVE ARTHROPODS OF GUNUNG SEWU KARST : AN OVERVIEW**

by : Cahyo Rahmadi<sup>1</sup>  
Biological Research Centre, Indonesian Science Institute

## **ABSTRACT**

Gunungsewu karst is well known for the unique geomorphological phenomena with well developed cave passages. At least 500 caves have been explored where a half of them have been mapped. However, no detail information of the faunas is available including the arthropods dwelling inside the caves. Only four categories of troglobite/stigobite and two categories of stigobite have been described as of 11 categories that have been recognized from the Gunungsewu karst. The dearth of the publications and researches so far are still far from the thoroughly explanation of the arthropods diversity of the areas. On the other hand, deterioration resulted from mining activities and sedimentation due to the scarce vegetation cover has been found to worsen the arthropod habitats. Efforts are still called for further exploration and researches to understand the diversity of cave faunas in Gunungsewu Karst in bid to have better planning for sustainable utilisations.

Keywords : Arthropods, cave, Gunungsewu

---

<sup>1</sup> Ph:62-8159948333 ; email: cahyo.rahmadi@lipi.go.id