

Granny's house still standing after 40 years

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KOTA TINGGI: Jemah Salleh's house in Kampung Kelantan has withstood many floods over the past 40 years, including the last major one in 2006.

Her late husband built the house using cengal wood.

"Heavy floods are nothing new to my family as this is a flood-prone area, but God willing we are safe," said the 78-year-old grandmother of 32 grandchildren.

Every time a flood occurs, Jemah would open the windows, front and back doors so that the floodwaters could flow through.

As such, her house has never had any serious damage.

Jemah, fondly known as Mak Long among the villagers, said she always kept important documents within

reach in the event of floods.

"Forget about the television, refrigerator or furniture, save your life first," was her advice.

Another villager, Rahmat Ismail, 40, said a downpour would bring back memories of the major flood that hit Kota Tinggi district about seven years ago.

"I still have pictures of the submerged district," he said.

Rahmat has two sampan as a precautionary measure.

The Star had, on Friday, reported that the northeast monsoon is expected to lash five states badly, including Johor.

According to the Drainage and Irrigation Department, the monsoon is expected to also hit Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, Perak, Sabah and Sarawak between November and March.



Flood-prone area: Jemah looking at the water level of Sungai Johor which is behind her house in Kampung Kelantan, Kota Tinggi.