

Emergence of New Islands Post-Anak Krakatau Eruption

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Geography

Why in News?

Indonesia's Geological Agency (PVMBG) confirmed in early October 2026 that two new island-like landforms emerged in the waters around Mount Anak Krakatau in the Sunda Strait.

Key Geographical Observations

- **Spatial Location** - One offshore islet formed approximately 760 meters off the northwest coast of Anak Krakatau, while the second formed roughly 495 meters off the southeast coast.
- **Eruption Dynamics** - Preliminary analysis indicates that low-viscosity, fluid magma extruded from an elongated **northwest-southeast seafloor fissure**.
- The rapid accumulation of erupted volcanic debris, tephra, and lava mounds breached the water surface to form two distinct islets.
- **Morphological Volatility**- Geologists note that these new landmasses remain highly vulnerable to ocean wave erosion, marine currents, or future flank collapses, making their long-term permanence uncertain.

Historical Context

- **Location** - Situated in the **Sunda Strait** between Java and Sumatra, lying along the volatile subduction zone where the Indo-Australian Plate subducts beneath the Sunda/Eurasian Plate.
- **Legacy of Krakatoa**
 - **1883 Cataclysm**: The historic eruption of the original Krakatoa volcano collapsed the structure into a submerged caldera, triggering tsunamis and global climate cooling.
 - **1927-1930 Emergence**: Submarine eruptions gave birth to *Anak Krakatau* ("Child of Krakatoa"), which established permanent dry land by 1930.
 - **2018 Flank Collapse**: A massive underwater lateral collapse triggered a deadly Sunda Strait tsunami and reduced the island's height from ~338 meters to ~110 meters.

Anak Krakatau Eruption

A young volcano with a powerful legacy

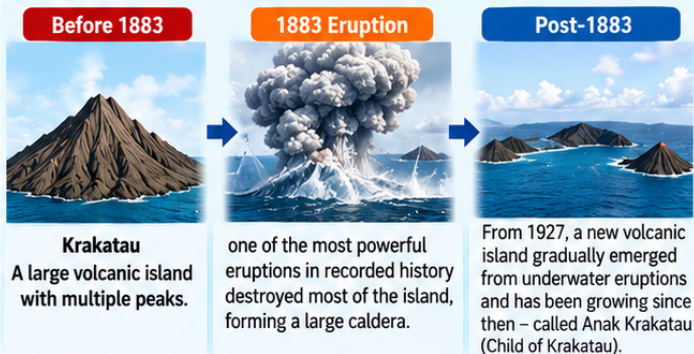
Anak Krakatau (Child of Krakatau) is an active volcanic island in the Sunda Strait, Indonesia, formed after the catastrophic eruption of the Krakatau volcano in 1883.



Location



How Anak Krakatau Formed?



Key Features

	Type	Active stratovolcano
	Location	Sunda Strait, Indonesia
	Coordinates	~6.10° S, 105.42° E
	Origin	Formed in 1927 from underwater eruptions
	Parent Volcano	Krakatau (1883)
	Height	~338 metres (varies due to eruptions)
	Nature	A small, growing volcanic island with frequent eruptions

Current Status and Impact



Frequent Eruptions

Anak Krakatau regularly erupts, producing ash, lava flows and volcanic activity.



Potential Hazards

Explosive eruptions can trigger ash fall and, in extreme cases, may lead to landslides or tsunamis, posing risks to nearby coastal areas and marine traffic.



Monitoring

Indonesian authorities continuously monitor its activity and maintain alert levels based on volcanic activity.



Regional Importance

Serves as a natural laboratory for understanding volcanic processes and helps improve disaster preparedness in the region.

Sources: USGS Volcano Hazards Program | Indonesia's Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation (PVMBG) | NASA
The Guardian | Scientific literature on Krakatau and Anak Krakatau

Reference

[Business Standard](#) | [Anak Krakatau volcano](#)



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