



NDYS in Action, Newsletter

Natural Disaster Youth Summit Monthly News

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The VOICE of YOUTH is NEEDED!

Editor: Daniel Paz,
Salta, Argentina



Topics

Climate Change and disaster reduction

Tremors caused panic in Pakistan.

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A 5.7 magnitude earthquake shook parts of Afghanistan and north western Pakistan early on the morning of 28 February, according to the US Geological Survey (USGS). The epicentre was in the Hindu Kush region of Afghanistan, about 175km northeast of Kabul, USGS said. Tremors were felt in Kabul but there were no reports of fatalities or major damage.

According to the Pakistan meteorological office, the quake was also felt in Islamabad and parts of the North West Frontier Province (NWFP), including provincial capital Peshawar and the town of Mansehra (about 100km north of Islamabad).



Memory...and fear

In Mansehra, one of the towns worst hit by an October 2005 quake that killed at least 73,000 people in parts of NWFP and Pakistani-administered Kashmir, panic caused more problems than the quake itself. "Thousands of people came out of their houses, chanting religious verses and crying in fear. It was a frightening spectacle," commented a local resident Zaheer Ahmed, 30. "The tremors revived fears of 2005, when so many people saw tragedy."

Khadija Bibi, another Mansehra resident, said: "My granddaughter died in her school in a village near Mansehra in 2005. I feared this morning for my six other grandchildren."

The quake struck at 4.40am local time, when most people were asleep. "There are no reports of any loss of life or serious injury [in Mansehra]," said Azam Khan, a local police constable.

From villages outside Mansehra and in some parts of Swat Valley, people say cracks had appeared in the roofs of some homes - notably those made from unbaked brick. "A few bricks fell from our roof and hit one of the children sleeping in a cot below. But he has suffered only minor cuts and bruises," said Wazir Khan, 30, from a village near the town of Nowshera in NWFP.

Some local residents associated the quake with the one that struck Chile on 27 February. "We had seen the images of devastation on TV and thought the same kind of calamity was now coming our way," Sami Uddin, 17, said.

Source: www.irinnews.org

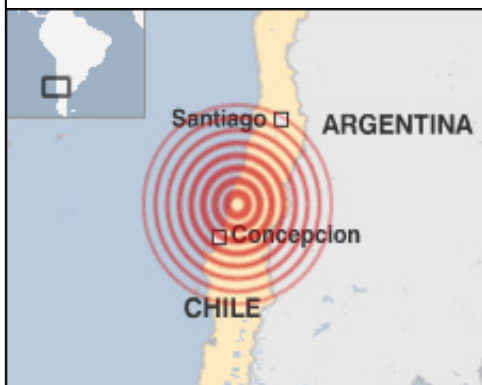
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The 1 minute earthquake had its epicenter in the Bio-Bio region, 91 km far from Concepción city on February 27, 2010 according to the US Geologic Service(USGS).

“I want people to stay calm” expressed Michelle Bachelet, President of Chile.” The damage is high, but we are evaluating the situation” she added.

Authorities said there were at least 76 dead people and they will continue working.

The president also said that there were high waves in Juan Fernández island, and it reached neighborhoods but there is no official information yet”.

As soon as the earthquake happened, authorities alerted people about a tsunami, the alert was given also for Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama and Costa Rica coasts. In Santiago de Chile the airport resulted severely damaged. Local media said there were blocked highways and many cars on the streets. People in hospitals were successfully evacuated.

After the earthquake, which is catalogued as “endless”, many other tremors were felt in different areas. The government advised people to stay at home and not run away from it!.

According to Roger Musson, a British seismologist said the earthquake was 5 times worse than Haiti's. He also said that Chile has better buildings than Haiti.

Argentina helped sending the movable unit for special medical treatments. Also hundreds of boxes containing clothes and other stuffs were sent. Water and food was also provided. Cristina Kirchner, Argentina's President said that “We must help our Chilean brothers”.

Source: www.bbc.com



Comments: I saw many horrible videos about Chile's earthquake, and let me tell you that moment is the moment I would prefer to be anywhere else in the world than there. People bleeding, screaming, shouting, crying...children..old people.. I wish they could get over it soon.

For chileans, memory is back, as for Pakistan people too. You all can do it! You can build your hearts again!



"Communication saves lives!"

■ For more information please contact ■

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