

# How humans respond to earthquakes

Nepal earthquake April 25th 2015

# Background Information

- The two main places that were affected by the earthquake in 2015 were the Kathmandu Valley and Gorkha regions in Nepal
- It was a 7.9 magnitude earthquake which is a really strong earthquake
- The aftershocks were catastrophic because they were high magnitude like a normal earthquake
- The death toll was over 8,500 people
- 5 and a half million people were affected
- Over 473,000 houses destroyed

# Earthquake and aftershocks

## List of aftershocks 5.0 and higher [\[edit\]](#)

The list below is incomplete and maybe inaccurate for some aftershocks. Note: The list below shows bigger earthquakes only.

#	Date <sup>[1]</sup> ⇅	Time <sup>[2]</sup> ⇅	District in Nepal ⇅	Magnitude <sup>[3]</sup> ⇅	Fatalities ⇅	Reference ⇅
Main shock	25 April 2015	11:56 NST	Gorkha	7.9	9,061 deaths; 23,447 injured	<a href="#">[5]</a>
01	25 April 2015	12:22	<a href="#">Sindhupalchowk</a>	5.5		<a href="#">[6]</a>
02	25 April 2015	12:30	Gorkha	6.6		<a href="#">[7]</a>
03	25 April 2015	12:41	<a href="#">Rasuwa</a>	5.7		<a href="#">[8]</a>
04	25 April 2015	12:52	Rasuwa	5.0		<a href="#">[9]</a>
05	25 April 2015	13:32	<a href="#">Tibet</a>	5.1		
06	25 April 2015	14:02	Sindhupalchowk	5.2		
07	25 April 2015	14:05	Gorkha	5.1		
08	25 April 2015	14:14	Gorkha	5.2		
09	25 April 2015	14:40	<a href="#">Kavrepalanchowk</a>	5.7		
10	25 April 2015	14:48	Rasuwa	5.3		
11	25 April 2015	15:02	Tibet	5.9		
12	25 April 2015	15:15	Sindhupalchowk	5.5		
12	25 April 2015	18:29	Gorkha	5.5		
13	25 April 2015	23:27	Tibet	5.4		<a href="#">[10]</a>

# Bhaktapur (the old city)



- In the Kathmandu Valley
- 60% of houses destroyed in Bhaktapur City
- Houses were very close together so there were no safe places to be
- When one house moved and cracked it affected the houses around it

# Bhaktapur (the old city)



- Many people can not afford to rebuild houses
- People are still living in temporary houses
- The old way of building with bricks and mud, the doorways were the safest places to be during the earthquake



# Bhaktapur (the old city)



- Some people are still living in broken houses
- It is a World Heritage City so people have to rebuild in the same way as the original building
- This can be expensive for people

# Bhaktapur (the old city)



Immediately after the earthquake people needed:

- To be safe
- Shelter
- Clean drinking water
- Medical help

Many local people volunteered to help others, the army helped as well as emergency services.

# Bhaktapur (the old city)



The biggest problem is that Nepal is a landlocked country. Immediate relief aid had to come in by air or land but the airport was not safe for aircraft because it was damaged. All immediate relief had to come into Nepal over land or by helicopter.

Since Bhaktapur is a World Heritage City the money to rebuild is focused on temples and places of significance.





# Bhaktapur (the old city)



# Bhaktapur (the old city)



A month after the earthquake, NGO (non-government organisations) were the main help. These organisations were Red Cross, UNICEF, Rotary Clubs, Lyons Club and governments from other countries.

It is now 18 months since the earthquake and most of the money is going to temples and other World Heritage Sites so that it helps tourism. Many people are still living in temporary shelters and still need lots of money to rebuild their homes.

# Gorkha - at the epicentre



The Gorkha region is remote and hard to access. Most people walk or have animals to transport things. This made it very hard for people to help after the earthquake because things had to be transported in by road and trails or helicopter.

People built using stones for houses and roofs and when they fell they hurt many people.

# Gorkha - at the epicentre



Immediately after the earthquake the most important things were:

- Safety
- Clean water
- Medical help
- Shelter
- food

NGO (non-government organisations) were the first to get into remote places.



# Gorkha - at the epicentre



Immediately after the earthquake the most important things were:

- Clean water
- Medical help
- Shelter
- food

NGO (non-government organisations) were the first to get into remote places. Karma Flights and many volunteers walked in with medical supplies, shelter and food. Smaller NGOs were quicker to respond than bigger ones due to less people to organise.



# Gorkha - at the epicentre



The earthquake was very scary for people and it was hard for them to feel safe again.

# Gorkha - at the epicentre

One month after the earthquake the things people needed the most were:

- Repair their houses
- Repair transport routes (many roads were blocked due to landslides)
- Get food supplies for everyone
- Ensure clean drinking water
- Warm clothes for the winter

The earthquake caused other natural disasters like landslides and changing waterways, which made it hard for people.



# Gorkha - at the epicentre



Rebuilding of the school

# Gorkha - at the epicentre



NGOs are still working in this area to help the people. They are rebuilding schools like the one in the video. They are also trying to help people by giving school resources that they can't buy because their money is going to rebuilding their houses.

# Gorkha - at the epicentre



18 months after the earthquake people are still rebuilding schools and temples. These people don't have much money so they are not able to use money for things they need for school because the money is being used to repair buildings.



# Back to pokhara

Now that I am going back to pokhara they want me to name the school that I and my family helped to rebuild in the previous page

The people also need warm clothes for winter so we're taking lots of donations to the school and the village.

It takes years in nepal to rebuild after an earthquake

questions?

The end