

# Japan struck by massive earthquake

11 March 2011

Please pray for the people of Japan after a massive earthquake struck off their north east coast early today.

The tremor occurred 250 miles from Tokyo and registered a magnitude of 8.9, prompting immediate fears of a tsunami.

The quake is the biggest to hit Japan since records started 140 years ago and the sixth strongest globally since scientific monitoring began. After-shocks are expected for weeks to come.

Massive waves, measuring 30ft high, have already swept inland, deluging large areas, sweeping away property, knocking out power supplies and communications.

Early reports indicate hundreds of people have died and many more are missing.

With the scale of the damage still emerging, the Japanese Prime Minister has urged his people to help each other.

Fears of further destructive waves have prompted tsunami alerts as far away as the US and Australia.

In particular, there are concerns for the impact on smaller and poorer Pacific nations which could be affected in the hours to come.

Rob Schofield, Tearfund's Disaster Management Director, said, 'We know from our experience responding to the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami of the devastating consequences of such destructive natural forces, particularly on poor communities that are often ill-equipped to respond afterwards.'

'We will continue to monitor events in the Pacific region, particularly in poorer nations, and to pray for all those affected by this disaster.'

- Pray for the people of Japan as they face this major disaster and that the loss of life is minimal.
- Pray for those who have been injured and that they can get medical help quickly.
- Pray for God's comfort to all those who are fearful around the Pacific basin.
- Pray for wisdom for the leaders of the countries around the Pacific basin as they plan for a response to the potential approaching tsunami.
- 

If you would like to give to Tearfun Disaster Fund please visit:

<https://www.tearfund.org/Giving/Give+Now/Disasters.htm>

## One Voice

We pray because we're desperate for God - to walk with him... in step with his will for the world. To be lights that shine in the darkness.

Join our global poverty prayer movement.

[Click here for more information](#)

*One Voice. Lit up. Together. Around the world.*

