

KASHMIR QUAKE: DISASTER IN SOUTH ASIA


Introduction

Focus

This *News in Review* story focuses on the huge earthquake that struck Kashmir, a disputed border region lying between India and Pakistan. We examine the scope of the human tragedy, the international relief effort that followed it, and the disaster's implications for the people and countries affected.

Did you know . . .

One thousand hospitals and about four thousand schools were flattened. In many schools almost all the children in them died at the time the quake occurred.

 Sections marked with this symbol indicate content suitable for younger viewers.

The year 2005 has seen many natural disasters strike different areas of the world, but the massive earthquake that rocked Kashmir on October 8 was surely one of the most destructive and deadly to date. The 7.6 quake occurred shortly after 9 a.m. local time, just as thousands of schoolchildren were beginning classes. Its epicentre was near Muzaffarabad, the main city of Pakistani-controlled Kashmir. Balakot, another major urban centre, was practically flattened by the force of the quake, and thousands died in that city alone. People from Bangladesh in the east to Afghanistan in the west felt the ground shaking. However, the greatest damage and loss of life occurred in Kashmir and Pakistan's North West Frontier Province (NWFP). These mountainous regions are dotted with remote villages perched high up the slopes of the Himalaya Mountains, connected only by narrow mountain roads and passes. In the quake's aftermath, thousands of people living in these areas were cut off when the ground transportation system broke down. They had to wait days and sometimes weeks for help to arrive.

Pakistan is a poor, developing country, and the sheer magnitude of the disaster that overwhelmed it when the quake struck put enormous pressure on the country's fragile infrastructure. Once preliminary reports confirmed the seriousness of the situation, President Pervez Musharraf appealed to the world for assistance. The United Nations, the United States, Great Britain, Canada, and a number of Arab nations offered millions of dollars in aid. But what was immediately needed more than anything

else were helicopters to rescue quake victims in remote areas, and tents to provide shelter to those made homeless by the disaster. In the weeks following the initial earthquake, there were hundreds of aftershocks—including a 6.2 tremor—triggering widespread panic among survivors.

The death toll from the quake rose steadily. By the end of October Pakistani authorities were estimating that approximately 79 000 people had lost their lives. International observers on the scene predicted that the final total would rise much higher, as many of those injured in the quake had subsequently died because medical assistance came too late. In addition, poor weather, including rain in the weeks immediately following the disaster, and the onset of the Himalayan winter, meant that many more would probably perish from cold, hunger, and lack of shelter. With their villages and cities destroyed, about three million people found themselves homeless. Jan Egeland, head of the United Nations office that co-ordinates humanitarian affairs, called the quake a human tragedy of the first order, and appealed to the rich countries of the world to do much more to help Pakistan cope with the catastrophe. He directly called on NATO to make fleets of helicopters available so that those still waiting for help in the mountains could be rescued and brought to hospitals in Pakistan's capital, Islamabad, and other major cities.

In addition to direct government aid, people around the world contributed to various charitable and non-governmental organizations in order to help the

Lurking Danger

One of the worst fears of the World Health Organization (WHO) was an outbreak of tetanus after the Kashmir quake. Tetanus is a bacterial infection of the nervous system caused by the entry of bacteria found in the ground or human feces into cuts and scratches. Tetanus can be fatal if the infected person does not receive antibiotic drugs in time.

people of Kashmir. Muslims in a number of countries were especially generous, touched by the fact that the quake had struck during the holy month of Ramadan, when Islam particularly emphasizes the importance of helping the less fortunate. But with other natural disasters such as the Asian tsunami and Hurricane Katrina attracting widespread international attention and financial assistance, there were fears that “disaster fatigue” might dampen the generosity of individual donors in prosperous Western countries such as Canada.

One hopeful sign to emerge from the earthquake, however, was the fact that a

shared adversity had appeared to be bringing India and Pakistan, two old enemies in the region, closer together. The Indian government offered substantial aid to Pakistan, an offer that was gratefully accepted. It remained to be seen if the aftermath of the quake in Kashmir could result in improved relations between the two countries. It was hoped that this might possibly include a final resolution to their decades-old dispute over control of the region, a clash that had more than once threatened to erupt into a full-scale nuclear conflict in South Asia.

To Consider

1. Why was the earthquake that struck Kashmir so destructive to lives and property?

2. Why did Pakistan face such difficulties in dealing with the consequences of the disaster?

3. What is meant by “disaster fatigue,” and why did some worry that it might limit international assistance to Pakistan after the quake?

4. What hopeful sign might be emerging as a result of the quake in terms of relations between India and Pakistan?

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Video Review

Watch the video and answer the questions in the spaces provided.

Did you know . . .

Canada has one of the largest communities of expatriate Pakistanis in the world. About 15 per cent of these people come from the earthquake-ravaged zone.

Viewing for Information

1. a) When did the earthquake strike? _____
b) What region was most affected? _____
2. What two countries claim control over the area of Kashmir?
_____ and _____
3. a) What is the name of the main city in Pakistani Kashmir? _____
b) What percentage of its houses was destroyed in the quake? _____
4. Why was it so difficult for relief efforts to reach those affected by the quake?

5. How did the weather conditions immediately following the quake add to the problems faced by both survivors and rescuers in the region?

6. Approximately how many people of Pakistani origin live in Canada?

7. In what way did the response to the quake demonstrate a great measure of co-operation and assistance among people of different religions from the area affected?

8. a) What is the DART?

b) What role is it playing in earthquake relief efforts in Pakistan?

c) Why have some humanitarian relief agencies criticized its efforts?

Did you know . . .

DART needs more women to work in the region because local tradition does not allow men to treat women.

9. a) What are the most pressing problems quake victims faced in the weeks following the disaster?

b) To what degree were international relief agencies meeting the survival needs of victims?

10. Why were many Pakistani quake victims so critical of the response of their country's government and army to their situation? Be specific.

11. Why are earthquakes so frequent in this part of the world?

12. a) Why have both India and Pakistan claimed control of Kashmir since both countries became independent in 1947?

b) How many wars have they fought over the region since then? _____

c) In what ways did the conflict become even more serious during the 1980s?

d) Why would another war between these two countries be potentially so dangerous for the world?

13. Why do some international observers hope that the aftermath of the quake may bring India and Pakistan together and possibly even resolve the Kashmir dispute?

14. Why do some international relief agencies fear that the public response to the South Asia quake may be less generous than the need requires?

15. What was your original response to the news of the Kashmir quake?

Quote

“When you’re helping people who have suffered like this, even if you bleed and sweat or pass out, it still feels good.”

— Canadian DART member Brock Secord (*Toronto Star*, October 18, 2005)

16. Have you responded to the needs of the victims in any way? Explain

Viewing Activity

Watch the video, and then form groups to share your impressions of it with your classmates. As a group, discuss your reactions to the scenes of devastation and human suffering depicted in it. Compare these images with those of other natural and/or human-made disasters you have seen on television during the past few years (e.g. September 11, Asian tsunami, Hurricane Katrina, etc.) In what ways do you think this disaster is both similar to and different from others that you know about and that have been reported on in the media. Discuss why countries such as Pakistan are particularly vulnerable to huge natural disasters such as this earthquake. Evaluate the response of governments and non-governmental humanitarian relief agencies to the quake, and discuss what more you think could and/or should be done to help its victims cope with the tragedy and its after-effects, in countries like Canada.

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Background to Pakistan

You might wish to view a map of the region while re-viewing the information in this section.

Quick Facts

Pakistan is a South Asian country lying between India to the east, Afghanistan and Iran to the west, China to the north, and the Arabian Sea to the south. Pakistan's total land area is 796 100 sq. km, making it slightly smaller than British Columbia. Its population is approximately 160 million and its capital city is Islamabad. English and Urdu are the official languages, but the most widely spoken ones are Punjabi, Sindhi, and Siraiki. The country's major religion is the Sunni branch of Islam, which claims 77 per cent of the country's population as followers. About 20 per cent of Pakistanis are Shi'ite Muslims, while there are small minorities of Hindus and Christians. Its main natural resources are natural gas, petroleum, and poor-quality coal.

Once part of British India, Pakistan gained its independence along with India in 1947. It is a federal republic with a two-house parliament, consisting of a senate and national assembly. The president is General Pervez Musharraf, who came to power in a military coup in 1999. The name "Pakistan" was coined by nationalistic students at Cambridge University in England during the 1930s as an acronym for the nationalities that they hoped would one day compose an independent state: Punjab, Afghani, Kashmir, Iran, Sindh, Turkmen, Afghanistan, and Baluchistan. Until 1971, the country now known as Bangladesh formed the eastern part of Pakistan.

Historical Timeline

August 1947 – Pakistan gains independence, under the leadership of Mohammad Ali Jinnah, a one-time

colleague of Mahatma Gandhi in the struggle for freedom from Britain. Shortly after both countries gain independence, they go to war over Kashmir. Religious conflict between Hindus and Muslims claims one million victims, as Muslims flee to Pakistan, and Hindus seek refuge in India.

April 1948 – Following months of post-independence religious conflict, Indian and Pakistani leaders sign a pact respecting the rights of minorities in each country.

October 1958 – The first in a series of military coups occurs in Pakistan, with General Ayub Khan seizing power and banning political parties.

September 1965 – A second Indo-Pakistani war erupts over Kashmir, ending in a UN-brokered cease-fire. One month later, Pakistan opens its first nuclear reactor.

January 1966 – The Soviet Union brings India and Pakistan together to sign a peace treaty in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

December 1971 – India and Pakistan go to war again over East Pakistan, when Pakistani military forces were brutally crushing a pro-independence movement backed by India. India defeats Pakistan, forcing 90 000 troops in the area to surrender. East Pakistan declares itself independent, taking the name of Bangladesh. In the aftermath of its defeat, the Pakistani military government is discredited, and civilian rule is restored under Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

January 1972 – Bhutto and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi sign a peace accord in Simla, India, and relations between the two countries begin to improve.

Did you know . . .

Pakistan's rugged, remote Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP) is practically a no-go zone for the country's army while armed groups of bandits and Islamic fundamentalists roam its mountains with impunity. It is believed that Osama bin Laden, the mastermind behind the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington on September 11, 2001, is hiding in this area.

Did you know . . .

The Urdu term for earthquake is *zalzala*. However, survivors in the region use the term *Qayamat*, which means the Apocalypse or Judgment Day. — *Globe and Mail*, October 22, 2005

July 1977 – Yet another military coup topples Bhutto's government. General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq seizes power, declares martial law, and suspends the constitution. Two years later, Bhutto is hanged after being found guilty of committing a political murder, despite widespread international condemnation of the unfairness of his trial.

August 1988 – Zia and a number of senior military officers die in a mysterious plane crash near Bahawalpur, Pakistan. A few months later, Bhutto's daughter Benazir leads her People's Party to victory in general elections.

January 1990 – An uprising against Indian rule in the part of Kashmir under its control breaks out, leading to increased tension with Pakistan.

October 1993 – Benazir Bhutto returns to power after three years in opposition.

February 1997 – Bhutto's rival, Nawaz Sharif, defeats Bhutto in elections and becomes prime minister.

May 1998 – Pakistan conducts five nuclear bomb tests, in response to India's detonation of a bomb earlier in the month.

June 1999 – Militant pro-independence Kashmir guerrillas seize hilltop positions on the Indian side of the line of control, provoking a full-scale crisis with Pakistan.

October 1999 – A military coup overthrows the civilian government. General Pervez Musharraf assumes the presidency. In protest, the Commonwealth bans Pakistan from membership.

September 2001 – Following the terrorist attacks on the United States, Musharraf allies Pakistan with the Bush administration's war on terrorism and supports the invasion of Afghanistan. Musharraf's move earns him considerable favour in the West. Pakistan is readmitted to the Commonwealth. But Islamic fundamentalist groups inside the country stage mass protests against his pro-U.S. stand and express their support for the ousted Taliban government in Afghanistan. He is the target of assassination attempts.

June 2004 – India and Pakistan resume talks on easing nuclear tensions between them, which had been suspended after Pakistani extremists were blamed for an attack on the Indian parliament in 2001.

October 2005 – A massive earthquake strikes Pakistan-controlled Kashmir, near the city of Muzaffarabad, killing tens of thousands, causing great destruction, and leaving over three million homeless.

Activities

1. Read the timeline above and, based on the information it provides, select what you think are the five most significant events in Pakistan's modern history. Give reasons for your selection.
2. After reading the timeline, what recurring events or themes do you notice in the modern history of Pakistan? How do you think these would affect the country's ability to respond to crises such as the October 2005 earthquake?

Extension Activity

Using your school's resource centre, a history of Pakistan, or the Internet, research and find out more about the life and times of each of the following figures in the country's history: Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Ayub Khan, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Benazir Bhutto, Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, Pervez Musharraf.

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The Conflict Over Kashmir

Further Research

To stay informed about events in the region, consider visiting these official government Web sites: Pakistan (www.pakistan.gov.pk), India (<http://indiaimage.nic.in>), or Kashmir, India, (<http://jammu.kashmir.nic.in>).

The massive earthquake that struck on October 8, 2005, devastated much of Kashmir, a rugged, mountainous region at the northern tip of the Indian subcontinent. But this area sits on more than just a geological fault-line. For over 50 years, it has been a continuing flash point of dispute and conflict between the two countries that both believe it to be rightfully theirs—India and Pakistan. Since both of these South Asian states possess nuclear weapons, concerns have grown in recent years that any full-scale war between them might potentially escalate into an unimaginable disaster. For this reason, many international observers regard the line of control that divides Kashmir into its respectively Pakistani- and Indian-administered regions as the most dangerous border in the world.

The dispute over Kashmir dates back to 1947, the year both India and Pakistan won their independence from Great Britain. Mahatma Gandhi and others who had been active in the non-violent liberation struggle had hoped that the subcontinent would not have to be partitioned. But pressure from both Hindu and Muslim groups in the former colony for separate states of their own proved too great. Pakistan's first leader, Mohammad Ali Jinnah, had once worked alongside Gandhi, but he now realized that his people's future lay in their own, predominantly Islamic state. The problem facing both Gandhi and Jinnah, however, was that in many parts of pre-independence India the Muslim and Hindu populations were mixed. Drawing a clearly defined boundary between them proved to be an immense challenge. At the same time, a wave of

sectarian religious conflict swept over the region in the wake of the independence proclamations, taking over a million victims. Depending on their religion, refugees fled to safety in either India or Pakistan. This was the largest mass transfer of population in history. The new state of Pakistan was divided into two sections, at the western and eastern ends of the subcontinent, separated from each other by India.

The various provinces that had once composed British India were permitted to vote on whether they wanted to join India or Pakistan. By the time the deadline had passed, Kashmir had not held a vote, and the issue appeared to be unresolved. Taking matters into their own hands, tribesmen from Pakistan's remote North West Frontier Province invaded Kashmir, appealing to the area's predominantly Muslim population to join Pakistan. Meanwhile, Hari Singh, the maharajah, or ruler, of Kashmir under Britain, signed an agreement with India handing his former kingdom over to it. India immediately dispatched troops to Kashmir, and the conflict began.

The first Indo-Pakistani war ended in 1949 with a United Nations-brokered cease-fire that established the line of control, dividing Kashmir in two. This uneasy truce remained in force until 1965, when yet another conflict erupted. Another violent confrontation took place in 1971, but the focus of that war was East Pakistan, which emerged from the fighting as the independent state of Bangladesh. Beginning in the late 1980s, a third factor complicated the situation in Kashmir even further. A local, militant, pro-independence group

Did you know . . .

Janes, a London-based military analysis group, estimates that India has between 50 and 150 nuclear warheads, while Pakistan has between 25 and 50.

was formed, with links to radical Islamic fundamentalists in neighbouring Afghanistan. Since then it has been staging guerrilla attacks on Indian military bases inside Kashmir and agitating among the local Muslim population for an independent Kashmiri state.

The Kashmir crisis became acute in the late 1990s, after India and Pakistan both tested nuclear weapons, revealing to each other and the world that they possessed the means to turn the entire subcontinent into an atomic hell. Conservative estimates by the U.S. military put the potential death toll from such a cataclysm in the tens of millions, with most of the main cities of both countries levelled. They also noted that such a disaster would have far-reaching and totally destabilizing consequences, not only for the two countries themselves, but also for South Asia, the Middle East, and probably the entire world. For this reason, Indian and Pakistani leaders have been working sporadically to improve relations between the two countries, and explore the possibility of a negotiated settlement to the long-running Kashmir dispute.

It is possible that the October 8, 2005, earthquake, which caused great destruction and loss of life on both sides of the line of control, may speed up this process of peace-making between the

two old enemies. India dispatched a massive shipment of aid to Pakistan in the wake of the disaster, for which President Musharraf publicly expressed his government's gratitude. Relief efforts in Kashmir have involved military units from both countries, with Indian troops careful not to step over the line of control into the Pakistani-ruled region.

On October 30, 2005, peace expectations appeared to be working. Indian and Pakistani negotiators concluded talks that paved the way for the opening of five points along the previously closed line of control in Kashmir. This move would not only allow the free movement of relief workers across the border, but would also permit people on both sides of the line to resume contact with friends and relatives whom they had not been allowed to visit for decades. In addition, it might help the people of Kashmir to decide for themselves what their ultimate fate should be. This agreement was concluded on the very day that a series of terrorist bombings rocked the Indian capital, New Delhi. As such, it was a clear indication of just how much the level of trust and the desire for peace between the two old rivals had risen in the weeks since their shared misfortune of the Kashmir earthquake.

Inquiry

1. Why has religious division been such a serious problem in India and Pakistan ever since the two countries gained independence?
2. Why has the dispute over Kashmir been so difficult for India and Pakistan to resolve peacefully?
3. Why does a potential Indo-Pakistani war over Kashmir cause international observers such great concern?
4. What role, if any, do you see for Canada in the rebuilding of Kashmir and the promotion of peace between India and Pakistan?

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Some Facts about Earthquakes

Further Research

For more information about earthquakes and earthquake activity in general, consider a visit to the American National Earthquake Information Center at <http://neic.usgs.gov>.

The earthquake that devastated Kashmir was one of the most destructive and deadly to have hit that area of the world in a century. Earthquakes are among the worst natural disasters, killing an estimated three million people in the 20th century. Seismologists, the scientists who study earthquakes, are now able to predict with considerable accuracy the regions where earthquakes are most likely to occur. But even with the advanced, state-of-the-art technology existing today, it is still impossible to pinpoint accurately where a major quake will strike.

What is an earthquake?

Although we often use the term “solid ground” to refer to the earth beneath our feet, in fact it is anything but solid. Instead, it is a constantly shifting ensemble of huge sections known as tectonic plates. The motion of these plates is immensely slow and only observable over long periods of time. The movement of the earth’s tectonic plates is responsible for continental drift—that is, the gradual movement of the planet’s major landmasses away from each other. North America and Europe, for instance, two continents that once formed a huge super-continent, are moving away from each other at the rate of five centimetres per year. The land mass of the Indian subcontinent, where both India and Pakistan are located, is moving at approximately one millimetre per week north into Asia.

The movement of the tectonic plates creates a great deal of stress on the earth’s crust. When this stress becomes too severe, part of the crust will buckle, causing a violent motion along a fault-

line, or fracture. This is an earthquake. Most quakes occur in parts of the world that sit atop these fault-lines, or boundaries between the major tectonic plates. The state of California, for example, is located on the San Andreas Fault, and has experienced many earthquakes—the most serious to date being the 1906 quake that struck San Francisco.

Earthquakes can vary markedly in their destructiveness. The most serious quakes are called “shallow-focus” events, because the focus, or actual site, of the quake is only a few kilometres below the surface of the earth. Far less dangerous are “deep focus” quakes, which take place at a much greater depth and as a result cause less damage. The point on the earth’s surface immediately above the focus is known as the epicentre. In addition to occurring on land, earthquakes can also originate far beneath the ocean floor. Such quakes do no immediate damage where they take place, but can generate huge waves, known as tsunamis, that can travel quickly over great distances, reaching their destructive peak when they crash into the shore. It was such an oceanic earthquake in the Indian Ocean that touched off the deadly Asian tsunami of December 26, 2004, and resulted in hundreds of thousands of deaths and massive destruction in Indonesia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, and India.

How are earthquakes measured?

A geologist at the California Institute of Technology named Charles Richter developed a scale for measuring the strength of earthquakes in the 1930s. Although scientists sometimes use other scales, Richter’s is the standard mea-

surement of the force, or magnitude, of the quake. There are no minimum or maximum limits to the Richter scale. It is a logarithmic scale, meaning that a one-point increase in the magnitude of the quake actually represents a tenfold increase in its destructive power.

The total energy a quake can release increases even more dramatically, rising by a factor of 32 for each one-point increase on the scale. As a result, quakes of magnitudes between 2 and 3 occur frequently along the earth's main fault-lines, and are barely noticeable to those living there. A level 5 quake is moderate, but still not always very destructive. There are at least 1 500 magnitude 5 quakes somewhere in the world every year. When a quake reaches magnitude 6, then it is considered to be major. The single most powerful quake ever measured was a 9.5 magnitude event occurring in Chile in 1960. The amount of energy a quake releases is mind-boggling, far dwarfing even the most powerful nuclear bombs. For example, the San Francisco quake, which was magnitude 8.3, would have been a million times more powerful than the atomic bomb that the U.S. dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima at the end of the Second World War. To date, the deadliest earthquakes have been the 2004 event that triggered the Asian tsunami, claiming 200 000 lives, and a massive quake in China in 1976 that killed 242 000.

Where do earthquakes occur?

The boundary regions at the meeting-point of two of the earth's major tectonic plates are most at risk of earthquakes. Technically, however, they can occur anywhere in the world. The edges of the huge Pacific Plate, underneath the Pacific Ocean, are a particularly

active area, which geologists have nicknamed the "ring of fire." Frequent earthquakes have occurred around this ring, along the western coast of North America, and in Chile, Alaska, and Japan. Volcanic eruptions are also common in these areas. Seismologists believe it is only a matter of time before a massive quake strikes somewhere along the Pacific Coast, from Alaska south to Mexico. In California, this forecasted event is nicknamed "the big one." It would cause unimaginable destruction and loss of life should it occur near major cities such as Los Angeles.

Can earthquakes be predicted?

Despite all the scientific and technological advances that have occurred since the Richter scale was first developed, seismologists are still unable to predict earthquakes accurately before they strike. But by using statistics and projections based on probabilities, they can make some informed guesses. For example, if an area has been hit by four magnitude 7 quakes in the last two centuries, then there is an even chance of another quake occurring in the next 50 years. Seismologists can also calculate the degree of stress of a portion of the earth's crust, and by what amount it is increasing. When this information is combined with a calculation of the time elapsing since the last earthquake there, scientists can determine whether or not another one is likely in the immediate future. But this requires extremely exact and detailed seismological data, which are not always easy to obtain, especially in remote, mountainous, and rugged terrain such as Kashmir.

Inquiry

1. What important scientific advances have been made over the 20th century regarding our understanding of earthquakes and where they occur?

2. Why is it still very difficult for seismologists to predict the exact location of an earthquake with any degree of accuracy?

3. Why do you think the most deadly earthquakes in modern history have taken so many lives in the countries they have struck?

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Activity: How Canadians Can Help

Did you know . . .

Before its dispatch to Kashmir, Canada's DART team's last mission was in Sri Lanka as part of the tsunami relief effort. It was also used in an earthquake zone in Turkey in 1999. During that operation, DART treated more than 5 000 patients in its field hospital, and produced more than 2.5 million litres of purified water.

In the wake of the Kashmir earthquake, many Canadians anxious to help the victims of this tragedy turned to a number of humanitarian aid agencies to make their financial donations. When disasters such as this earthquake occur, governments in countries such as Canada offer direct government-to-government assistance to the areas affected. In this case, Canada's government aid took the form of \$67-million in relief supplies, tents, and reconstruction, and the dispatch of the 200-member DART (Disaster Assistance Response Team) to provide water, medical services, and rebuilding skills to quake-devastated regions.

In addition to this direct government aid, thousands of Canadians sent financial contributions to the Canadian organizations who appealed for help for quake victims. These non-governmental organizations (NGOs) work in parts of the world hit by serious natural and/or human-created disasters to provide assistance to those most in need. There are a number of such groups, some of which have been providing humanitarian aid for a considerable period of time.

Here is a list of some of the most important NGOs involved in the efforts to aid quake victims in Pakistan. Log on to the Web site of one of them, and prepare and present a report on its activities. Focus on the following:

- a) the kind of assistance it provides
- b) how it obtains its funding
- c) parts of the world in which it operates
- d) its basic objectives
- e) the information it provides about its activities and/or the problems of the areas in which it operates

Web Sites

Canadian Red Cross
www.redcross.ca

World Vision Canada
www.worldvision.ca

UNICEF
www.unicef.ca

International Development and Relief Foundation
www.idrf.ca

South Asian Regional Co-operation Council of Canada
www.sarc-canada.com

Oxfam Canada
www.oxfam.ca