



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

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Nobiru18 Apr

Ishinomaki 18 Apr

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Photos from NASA Earth-watching satellites Kashima, Fukushima





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Photos from NASA Earth-watching satellites Naruse-gawa, Miyagi





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Evacuated (NPA;









Inundation on 24 March





Photos from NASA Earth-watching satellites Fukushima Daiichi





Photos from NASA Earth-watching satellites Fukushima Daiichi





20 mSv/year

Declining radiation: Total annual Sv would be much lower than the critical level outside 20km area



http://dl-web.dropbox.com/u/16653989/NuclPlants/can.gif A Japanese living in US plotted from the information exposed by governmental agencies of Japan.



In comparison with Chornobyl case

Figure II. Map of ¹³⁷Cs deposition levels in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine as of December 1989 [I28]



Based on: http://www.unscear.org/unscear/en/publications/2008_2.html & http://blog.energy.gov/content/situation-japan/



Main characteristics

- A concatenation of disaster events from EQ to Tsunami & Nuclear.
- A break of access network to resources propagating from local to nation & intern'l.
- Happened in the most well experienced and prepared nation.
- Unprecedented disaster in the world which put us to rethink about how to live with nature.
- Little damage on buildings. A dam break.



Some lessons/reactions

- "Tsunami Tendenko" Everybody has to run away by itself without caring even parents or children at Tsunami (1896 Meiji Sanriku)
 - Tragedy in Sanrikutakada 13 community chiefs and many others lost lives by helping the elderly and handicapped
- "Tsunami 3m" was announced 3 minutes after the EQ and electricity went down. Corrections in 30' and 45' later never reached the people.
- Under estimate in hazard maps Evacuation centers were hit and many lives were lost. Over confidence in evacuation center. Limits in historical records based design. (>65 centers were hit)
- Neglecting Jogan Tsunami (869) AIST engineers appealed TEPCO to renew the basis for the Jogan Tsunami in 2009 but the voice was not taken up.

Some reactions

- Failure of EQ prediction? System for forecasting fell short.
- Much worse? if it happened in any other countries. How effective were the efforts taken so hard so far?
- If it happens in Tokyo, the impacts must have been much more destructive to the whole Japanese and international economy. How to design development to <u>avoid chain reactions</u> and network break in globally dependent society? How to keep the access available to resources such as water, foods, energy, information and transportation?
- Discipline and order: Is it a surprise to be calm, patient, quiet and honest under the extreme suffering?



By Kyung Lah, CNN (March 16, 2011)

http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/asiapcf/03/16/japan.cultural.order/index.html

- * Victims organize themselves and wait patiently for supplies
- * Japanese are raised to put the group ahead of the individual
- * Its rules sometime seem too conformist, but in this case, they are benefits
- * Japanese are hurting, but they are mourning quietly
- Tokyo (CNN) -- I've been asked questions along this theme multiple times, from my friends and family in the United States to colleagues who work around the globe: How, amid Japan's worst natural disaster in 100 years, can the Japanese seem so calm?
- Food and water are both scarce. Electricity in the tsunami zone is nearly nonexistent. Survivors have lacked information about their missing loved ones.
- But unlike other disasters where the world has observed looting, rioting and public outbursts of sorrow and rage, it has seen a country quietly mourning, its people standing patiently for hours in orderly lines for a few bottles of water.



Discussions for reconstruction

- Not a reconstruction but a new construction with new development concepts such as eco city, compact city, new energy city ???
- Landuse regulation
 - Move to higher lands
 - Tall buildings
 - Tsunami dikes, highways: Where & how high to build?
- How far to secure safety by structural protection?
 - Decision principle: Economic efficiency? National balanced development policy? National safety? (If Tokyo were hit)
- How to secure safety against excess events?
 - Evacuation policy especially for the disaster weak.
 - Evacuation rather than tsunami dikes???



