



THE GREAT PROPHECY

**Insecurities And Disasters
Caused By Human Beings'
Disobedience To Allah
As Prophesised By
Prophet Muhammad (SAW)**

By

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The Prophet of Islam, Muhammad (SAW) stated over 1400 years ago that a time will come when public wealth is embezzled by a few unjust and greedy leaders; when trusts are abused by the common man; when the most corrupt is placed in position of leadership; when the most morally bankrupt takes charge of peoples' affairs; when a man is respected because of the fear of the evil he can unleash; when the consumption of intoxicants becomes rampant; etc., etc. When that time comes, concluded the Prophet (SAW), then await earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, destructive storms, terrible winds, wars, catastrophic weather disasters and a retinue of other disasters increasingly falling one after the other like the necklace of a lady that had its thread cut and the necklace-balls falling one after the other.

There is no iota of doubt that the issues raised in the prophesy are currently manifesting themselves. In addition, resultant disasters have been unfolding increasingly at alarming rates all over the world exactly as Prophet Muhammad (SAW) prophesied! Page 113 of a report by the World Watch Institute dated 10th January, 2007 confirms this as follows:- “The number of people affected by natural disasters jumped from 177 million a year on the average in the 1980s, to 270 million annually since 2001”. The website, “usatoday.com” of 18th May, 2008 further confirms that, “According to the World Bank, natural disasters have increased four-fold over the last 30 years”.

This publication gives an insight (from the religious angle) into what causes the increase in global disasters and also proffered solutions. Scientists and others should look for alternative causes and solutions to these disasters in order to avail the human race with a cocktail of remedies!



EARTHQUAKES

&

TSUNAMIS





FIRES & VOLCANOES





BANDITRY AND INSURGENCY



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ISBN 978-2105-88-0

Published and Printed by

Lugga Printing Press, Gidan Lugga Complex,

Kofar Marusa Road, Katsina, Katsina State of Niger

**FIRST PUBLISHED AS “NATURAL DISASTERS”
IN SHAWWAL 1435 AH (AUGUST 2014)**

**Jumada Thani, 1442 Hijrah
January 2021**

Part One

INSECURITIES AND DISASTERS

The Prophet of Islam, Muhammad (SAW) stated over 1400 years ago that a time will come when public wealth is embezzled by a few unjust and greedy leaders; when trusts are abused by the people; when the most corrupt is placed in position of leadership; when the most morally bankrupt takes charge of peoples' affairs; when someone is respected because of the fear of the evil he can unleash; when the consumption of intoxicants becomes rampant; etc. When that time comes, concluded the Prophet (SAW), then await earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, destructive storms, terrible winds, fire out-brakes, wars, catastrophic weather disasters and a retinue of other disasters increasingly falling one after the other like the necklace of a lady that had its thread cut and the necklace-balls falling one after the other.

There is no iota of doubt that the issues raised in the prophesy are currently manifesting themselves globally. In addition, resultant disasters have been unfolding increasingly at alarming rates all over the world exactly as Prophet Muhammad (SAW) stated! Page 113 of a report by the World Watch Institute dated 10th January, 2007 confirms the prophesy as follows:- “The number of people affected by natural disasters jumped from 177 million a year on the average in the 1980s, to 270 million annually since 2001”. The website, “usatoday.com” of 18th May,

2008 further confirms that, “According to the World Bank, natural disasters have increased four-fold over the last 30 years”.

This Paper gives an insight (from the religious angle) into what causes the increase in global insecurities and disasters and also proffered solutions. Scientists and other professionals should look for alternative causes and solutions to these disasters in order to avail the human race with a cocktail of remedies!

Part Two

THE WORLD TODAY

The World today is facing increasing incidences of earthquakes of varying magnitudes, volcanic eruptions, wild and domestic fires, destructive storms in varying forms (e.g. tsunamis), terrible winds that cause the destruction of lives and properties (e.g. tornadoes and cyclones), catastrophic weather disasters (e.g. global warming, drought, flooding and mudslides), air disasters (e.g. aeroplane crashes), sea disasters (e.g. piracy, shipwrecks and oil spillages), health disasters (e.g. HIV-AIDS, Ebola Fever, Diabetes, Bird and Swine-flues) and a retinue of other natural disasters.

The Glorious Qur'an and the Holy Bible have several narrations on peoples and communities that had been destroyed by Allah (SWT) for their disobediences to His commands. Most of those mentioned in the two religious books suffered similar disasters to those listed above, i.e. earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, wild fires, flooding, etc. Are Natural Disasters truly on the increase? Perhaps one of the leading newspapers in Nigeria, The Leadership Weekend, has the answer, as it stated in its editorial of Saturday, March 6, 2010, that,

“No fewer than 400,000 men, women and children have perished since January this year, thanks to several natural

catastrophes. The earthquakes and tsunamis in Haiti, Chile, Taiwan and Malawi have also caused untold property loss and social dislocations. These natural disasters, of course, are not necessarily confined to 2010, but their frequency this year simply conveys a sense of danger Planet Earth faces. On January 12, an earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale hit Haiti, leaving in its wake almost 300,000 dead, millions injured or homeless, and a nation under rubble. Last Saturday (February 27) an 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck off the Chilean coast. Scientists say that the intensity of the Chilean quake may have shifted the earth's axis and shortened the time duration..."

Are the current man's inhumanity to man and increasing human disobedience to Allah's commands causing the increases in global disasters? This publication gives an insight (from the religious perspectives) into what causes the increase in global natural disasters and also proffered solutions in order to avail the human race with remedies!

May Allah (SWT) forgive our mistakes and our sins and by His Mercy and Grace make *Jannat Al-Firdaus* our final Heavenly abode, *ameen*.

Part Three

MIRACLES OF THE PROPHETS OF ALLAH (SWT)

Allah (SWT) endowed each of His Prophets and Messengers with one form of miracle or another. For example, Prophet Isa - Jesus (AS) was miraculously born of a human mother without a human father. Prophet Adam (AS) was miraculously “born” without a human mother or a human father. Hawwa’u - Eve (RLA) was miraculously “born” of a “father” (from Adam’s ribs) without a mother. Prophet Nuh - Noah (AS) had the miracle of the great flood. Prophet Musa - Moses (AS) had the miracle of the stick that could turn into a snake and with which he struck the sea to pave way for him and his followers to escape from the Pharaoh of Egypt. Prophet Salih (AS) had the she-camel that emerged from a rock as his miracle. Prophet Ibraheem - Abraham (AS) was thrown into a blazing fire and it did not burn him. Prophet Daud - David (AS), as a King, had miraculous wisdom and administrative capability. Prophet Sulaiman - Solomon (AS) had the miracle of Kingship over humans, animals and birds whom he commanded and had the ability to speak to all of them. Prophet Idris (AS) had the miracle of immense education and being the first to write with a pen.

The Prophet of Islam, Muhammad (SAW) had a chain of miracles above all of which is the Glorious Qur'an. **The Glorious Qur'an** has the unique characteristic of being the only Divine Book in the World that has its original Arabic Text both completely written down and completely memorized by the Prophet that brought the Book from God to humanity and by hundreds of his Companions, during his lifetime! Therefore, mistakes in the translations of the Qur'an could easily be detected, verified and corrected by referring back to the original Arabic Text.

There is no book in this World that provides direction on all issues pertaining to life and death like the Qur'an. In whatever generation you are, the Glorious Qur'an touches your past, your present and your future. It makes Islam the only religion that has provisions for a complete way of life in this World. It also has provisions for rewards or punishments in the Hereafter for those who do good or those who do bad respectively in this temporary abode. Indeed, the Glorious Qur'an is the only book in this world that has remained unchanged for over 1,430 years, as not even a single word or letter has been added to or deleted from it! In addition, no book has been (or could be) produced like it in nature and context. It is therefore the living miracle that has pervaded all times.

Numerous writers have dwelt on the various miracles performed by Prophet Muhammad (SAW). In addition to

the Glorious Qur'an, seven out of the Prophet's numerous miracles are hereby summarised:-

1. A special umbrella of clouds used to provide shade to the Prophet (SAW) when he was an infant and carried by his nanny, Halima, in the sunny and hot Mecca weather.
2. The people of Mecca requested the Prophet (SAW) to show them a miracle as other Prophets (AS) were reported to have done, so he pointed at the sky with his finger and showed them the moon splitting into two.
3. The Prophet (SAW) used to lean against a trunk of a date-palm tree while delivering sermon in the courtyard of his mosque in Medina. When a pulpit was built in the mosque and he stopped leaning against the trunk, the tree started to make a sound similar to human crying and the prophet (SAW) had to rub it before it stopped.
4. Allah (SWT) caused water to flow from the fingers of the Prophet (SAW) when they ran short of water while on a journey. The water was used for drinking and performing ablution.
5. The Prophet's meals used to make sounds glorifying Allah (SWT) as he ate.
6. Mountains and stones used to offer the Prophet the Muslim greeting of "*salam alaikum*" whenever he passed through the streets of Mecca.

7. The Prophet (SAW) ascended to the Heavens and returned to the World through the great Mosques of Ka'aba (in Mecca) and al'Aqsa (in Jerusalem).

All the above could be verified from numerous books, websites and other writings on the miracles of Prophet Muhammad (SAW). Below are some References:-

1. *Muhammad*. Encyclopedia Britannica. 2007.
2. *Tafsir ibn Kathir*
3. Annemarie Schimmel, *And Muhammad Is His Messenger: The Veneration of the Prophet in Islamic Piety*, University of North Carolina Press, 1985
4. NASA Lunar Science - Evidence of the moon having been split into two
5. Bukhari (5:28:208-211), Bukhari (4:56:830-832), Bukhari (6:60:345), Bukhari (6:60:349f.), Bukhari (6:60:387-391), Muslim (39:6721), Muslim (39:6724-6726), Muslim (39:6728-6730)
6. Yusuf Ali, *Meaning of The Noble Qur'an*,
7. Denis Gril, *Miracles, Encyclopedia of the Qur'an*, Brill, 2007.
8. A.J. Wensinck, *Mu 'djiza*, Encyclopedia of Islam, 2007
9. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islamic_view_of_miracle
10. www.sunnah.org/history/miracles_of_Prophet
11. faithforum.wordpress.com/islam.../miracles-of-prophet-muhammad-pbu

Part Four

THE PROPHECY OF MUHAMMAD (SAW)

Besides the miracles of the Glorious Qur'an and other great miracles, one great miracle of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) was his ability to prophesise on future happenings. Presented below is one of his great prophecies in which he foretold (over 1,400 years ago) the situation the World is in today! *Hadith* number 2218 on page 90 of volume 4 of the book, “*Sunan Al-Tirmidhi*” reported Abu Huraira (AS) as having narrated that the Prophet (SAW) said,

عن أبي هريرة قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: " إذا أخذ
الفیء دولا، والأمانة مغنما، والزكاة مغرما، وتعلم لغير الدين، وأطاع
الرجل امرأته، وعق أمه وأدنى صديقه وأقصى أباه، وظهرت
الأصوات في المساجد، وساد القبيلة فاسقهم، وكان زعيم القوم
أرذلهم، وأكرم الرجل مخافة شره، وظهرت القينات والمعازف،
وشربت الخمر، ولعن آخر هذه الأمة أولها، فليرتقبوا عند ذلك ريحا
حمراء وزلزلة وخسفا ومسحا وقذفا، وآيات تتابع كنظام بال قطع
سلكه فتتابع "

Translated into simplified English, the *Hadith* means:-

From Abu Huraira who narrated that the Messenger of Allah (SAW) said,

"A time will come when public wealth is embezzled by a few (unjust and greedy leaders); when trusts are abused; when Zakkat becomes like taxation; when knowledge is

acquired but not used religiously (as ordained by Allah); when a husband obeys his wife and disobeys his mother and he brings his friend close to him and distances himself from his father; when the Mosques are turned into shouting arenas; when the most corrupt is placed in position of leadership; when the most morally bankrupt takes charge of peoples' affairs; when a man is respected because of the fear of the evil he can unleash; when (immoral) male and female dancers and musicians emerge everywhere; when the consumption of alcoholic drinks (drugs and other intoxicants) becomes rampant; when the present generation curses (and blames) the previous generation (for their current problems).

When that time comes, *then await destructive red-winds; earthquakes; humiliating crises; destructive weather transformation; striking (fighting wars) and destroying each other; and all sorts of other natural disasters falling one after the other like the necklace of a lady that had its thread cut and the necklace-balls falling one after the other”.*

Who can fault this Prophecy narrated over 1,400 years ago in relation to today's global happenings? The issues raised in this Prophecy have today manifested themselves all over the World, as they are the norm. Perhaps analysing them shall bring them out in clearer terms for all to comprehend and ponder.

1. ***When public wealth is embezzled by a few (unjust and greedy leaders):*** Public wealth is today held and controlled by a few who treat it as their personal wealth and use it for their and their immediate families' and friends' needs to the detriment of the ordinary citizens who actually own it and have equal or even greater stakes in it.
2. ***When trusts are abused:*** Public and private trusts are daily abused through bribery, corruption, embezzlement and insincerity. Leaders misappropriate public funds and the ordinary citizens abuse whatever is entrusted in their care. Dishonesty by both the leaders and the followers now reigns supreme!
3. ***When Zakkat becomes like taxation:*** Indeed, *Zakkat* (mandatory annual Islamic dues from money, some goods and produce that should be given to the poor and the needy) is treated today as ordinary taxation, as it is not given, collected or disbursed in accordance with the Shari'ah.
4. ***When knowledge is acquired but not used religiously (as ordained by Allah):*** It is a fact and a pity that the learned scholars of today do not use their knowledge in accordance with the dictates of Allah (SWT). Religious knowledge is bastardised and scientific knowledge is used in inventing bombs and other arms and

ammunitions for the mass destruction of innocent people.

5. ***When a husband obeys his wife and disobeys his mother and he brings his friend close to him and distances himself from his father:*** This Western culture of making the wife more important than the mother and bringing a friend closer than a father has today taken root all over the World. Young people ignore and take their aged parents to “Old Peoples’ Homes” and enjoy their wealth with their friends and wives/husbands!
6. ***When the Mosques are turned into shouting arenas:*** The Mosques and other religious places of worship are indeed today turned into shouting arenas as a result of squabbles due to different religious sects. Here, Mosques also represent Churches and Synagogues, as all places of worship today suffer the same fate of serving as “fighting arenas”.
7. ***When the most corrupt is placed in position of leadership:*** This is one of the biggest problems in the World today. Government corruption is more pronounced in the developing countries where corrupt people are placed in positions of leadership. On the other hand, corruption is more endemic in the leadership of the private sector in developed countries. Multinational companies aid and abet corruption in both

developed and developing nations. They embed money laundering in their transactions without any shame.

8. ***When the most morally bankrupt takes charge of peoples' affairs:*** Certainly it is common today to see the most morally bankrupt taking charge of peoples' affairs as Advisors and Special Assistants to the corrupt leaders.
9. ***When a man is respected because of the fear of the evil he can unleash:*** Nowadays, those capable of unleashing evil (like political thugs) are revered and respected due to the fear of their evil machinations.
10. ***When (immoral) male and female dancers and musicians emerge everywhere:*** Indeed, male and female half-naked (sometimes nude) musicians and dancers and their musical instruments are increasingly adored and celebrated all over the World. There doesn't seem to be any house today (particularly in the urban areas) where immoral music and dances are not featured daily on the TV screens or on computers or mobile telephones.
11. ***When the consumption of alcoholic drinks (drugs and other intoxicants) becomes rampant:*** Alcoholism and drug addiction are the order of the day in all communities of the World. These "twins" (alcohol and drugs) are so embedded in all Nations of the World that even Islamic States are finding it impossible to contain their menace.

12. When the present generation curses (and blames) the previous generation (for their current problems): Yes, present generations are cursing and blaming previous generations for their woes.

Sadaqa Rasulul Lah (the Prophet has spoken the truth!). The World today is in the hands of the tyrants, the embezzlers, the corrupt and the evildoers. These Leaders unleash havoc, kill and maim at will. The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. The present generation is blaming the previous generation for their predicaments. The Executive, the Legislature, the Judiciary and indeed most arms of the Leadership at all levels seem to be guilty of injustice!

The ordinary citizens (who are seen as victims of leadership atrocities) seem to be part and parcel of the problems. Many ordinary citizens today have forgotten the virtues of honesty and holding trusts. An ordinary hawker of basic food items on the streets institutes cheating in his dealings with his customers. Masons and labourers have to be watched at construction sites or else a lot of the cement entrusted to them will be stolen. An average driver would drain the fuel from the tank of the car he is employed to drive and sell it off. Labourers on the farm will have to be supervised or else some of the farm produce will be stolen by them despite their being paid for their labour. Some security guards connive with thieves to attack the

residences of those who employ them. Some policemen and soldiers have been arrested using the official guns supplied to them for armed robbery. Some tailors have been known to have stolen parts of the cloths given to them for sewing. Young men employed to serve as shopkeepers have time without number disappeared after they have stolen the proceeds of the sales. There seems to be no group of ordinary citizens today that could be said to be above board. In a nutshell, Leaders could be adjudged as being “corrupt” and the followers classified as being “cheats”.

As the Prophet (SAW) prophesied, these unsavoury happenings have now led to an increase in all sorts of disasters. Some of the disasters are well known from time immemorial (like earthquakes, storms and wild fires), while others are fairly new phenomena (like HIV-AIDS and Ebola Fever).

There is no iota of doubt that the issues raised in the Prophecy are currently manifesting themselves all over the World. In addition, resultant disasters have been unfolding at alarming rates all over the Globe, exactly as the Prophet (SAW) prophesied when he said that,

When that time comes, then await:-

1. ***Destructive red-winds:*** Any doubts on the increase in destructive red-winds (wild and domestic fires, tornados, etc.) all over the World?

2. ***Earthquakes:*** Is the World not witnessing more and more devastating earthquakes and land tremors?
3. ***Humiliating crises:*** Is there more humiliating crises than the current World Economic Recession, political confusion and tyranny?
4. ***Destructive weather transformation:*** Is global warming not resulting in varying forms of destructive weather transformations like tsunami, rainstorms, flooding etc?
5. ***Striking (fighting wars) and destroying each other:*** Is the World not witnessing more wars, more suicide bombings, more gun-related crimes and more terrorist and insurgency activities?
6. ***And all sorts of other natural disasters falling one after the other like the necklace of a lady that had its thread cut and the necklace-balls falling one after the other:*** Certainly and without any iota of doubt, the following natural disasters are on the increase, one falling after the other:-
 - a. Terrible winds that cause the destruction of lives and properties (e.g. tornadoes and cyclones).
 - b. Earthquakes of varying magnitudes.
 - c. Storms in varying forms (e.g. tsunami, flooding).
 - d. Destructive wild and domestic fires.
 - e. Unsavoury weather disasters (e.g. global warming).

- f. Destructive volcanic eruptions.
- g. Air disasters (aeroplane crashes).
- h. Sea disasters (piracy, shipwrecks and oil spillages).
- i. Heath disasters (HIV-AIDS, Ebola, diabetes, bird-flu, etc).
- j. Insurgency and Terrorism.

One needs only to research into the relevant literature and Websites in order to confirm that the Prophet of Islam, Muhammad (SAW), had spoken the truth! Such literature and websites amply demonstrate that tyranny and the predicaments mentioned by the Prophet (SAW) are now rampant; and similarly World disasters are rampant!

Those who are doubting these assertions should please refer to the following and other related Websites for confirmation:-

1. [www.worlddeadliestdisasters](http://www.worlddeadliestdisasters.com)
2. [www.wikkepedia/worlddisasters](http://www.wikkepedia/worlddisasters.com)
3. [www.wars and rumours of wars](http://www.warsandrumoursofwars.com)
4. www.geocities.com/disasters
5. www.infoplease.com/disasters
6. www.across.co.nz/worldworstdisasters.html
7. www.worldddisaster.info
8. www.famousdisasters.net

A GLANCE WILL CONVINCE YOU !

The Tables, Information and Comments below will convince all doubters on the authenticity of the Prophecy of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) on the rampant nature of Natural Disasters as a result of Human disobedience to Allah (SWT).

1990 - 2010 EARTHQUAKES WORLDWIDE

The following two tables list the number of earthquakes that occurred worldwide between 1990-2010, including the earthquake magnitude and numbers of deaths.

1990 – 1999

| Magnitude | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 8.0–9.9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 7.0–7.9 | 12 | 11 | 23 | 15 | 13 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 14 | 23 |
| 6.0–6.9 | 115 | 105 | 104 | 141 | 161 | 185 | 160 | 125 | 113 | 123 |
| 5.0–5.9 | 1,635 | 1,469 | 1,541 | 1,449 | 1,542 | 1,327 | 1,223 | 1,118 | 979 | 1,106 |
| 4.0–4.9 | 4,493 | 4,372 | 5,196 | 5,034 | 4,544 | 8,140 | 8,794 | 7,938 | 7,303 | 7,042 |
| 3.0–3.9 | 2,457 | 2,952 | 4,643 | 4,263 | 5,000 | 5,002 | 4,869 | 4,467 | 5,945 | 5,521 |
| 2.0–2.9 | 2,364 | 2,927 | 3,068 | 5,390 | 5,369 | 3,838 | 2,388 | 2,397 | 4,091 | 4,201 |
| 1.0–1.9 | 474 | 801 | 887 | 1,177 | 779 | 645 | 295 | 388 | 805 | 715 |
| 0.1–0.9 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 17 | 19 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 5 |
| No Magnitude | 5,062 | 3,878 | 4,084 | 3,997 | 1,944 | 1,826 | 2,186 | 3,415 | 2,426 | 2,096 |
| Total | 16,612 | 16,516 | 19,548 | 21,476 | 19,371 | 21,007 | 19,938 | 19,872 | 21,688 | 20,832 |
| Deaths | 51,916 | 2,326 | 3,814 | 10,036 | 1,038 | 7,949 | 419 | 2,907 | 8,928 | 22,711 |

Source:- National Earthquake Information Center, U.S. Geological Survey.

Website:- neic.usgs.gov/neis/eqlists/eqstats.html

2000 – 2010

| Magnitude | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 8.0–9.9 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 7.0–7.9 | 14 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 14 | 10 |
| 6.0–6.9 | 158 | 126 | 130 | 140 | 141 | 140 |
| 5.0–5.9 | 1,345 | 1,243 | 1,218 | 1,203 | 1,515 | 1,693 |
| 4.0–4.9 | 8,045 | 8,084 | 8,584 | 8,462 | 10,888 | 13,917 |
| 3.0–3.9 | 4,784 | 6,151 | 7,005 | 7,624 | 7,932 | 9,191 |
| 2.0–2.9 | 3,758 | 4,162 | 6,419 | 7,727 | 6,316 | 4,636 |
| 1.0–1.9 | 1,026 | 944 | 1,137 | 2,506 | 1,344 | 26 |
| 0.1–0.9 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 134 | 103 | 0 |
| - | - | 3,120 | 2,938 | 2,937 | 3,608 | 2,939 |
| Total | 22,256 | 23,534 | 27,454 | 31,419 | 31,194 | 30,478 |
| Deaths | 231 | 21,357 | 1,685 | 33,819 | 284,010 | 82,364 |

| Magnitude | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 8.0–9.9 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 7.0–7.9 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 16 | 22 |
| 6.0–6.9 | 142 | 172 | 166 | 144 | 150 |
| 5.0–5.9 | 1,712 | 1,885 | 1,537 | 1,896 | 1,983 |
| 4.0–4.9 | 12,838 | 12,275 | 11,943 | 6,805 | 10,383 |
| 3.0–3.9 | 9,990 | 9,876 | 11,138 | 2,905 | 4,321 |
| 2.0–2.9 | 4,027 | 3,593 | 3,542 | 3,014 | 4,623 |
| 1.0–1.9 | 18 | 43 | 16 | 26 | 39 |
| 0.1–0.9 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| - | 864 | 828 | 1,829 | 17 | 24 |
| Total | 29,568 | 29,671 | 30,183 | 14,825 | 21,546 |

| | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Deaths | 6,605 | 712 | 88,011 | 1,790 | 320,129 |
|---------------|--------------|------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|

Source:- National Earthquake Information Center, U.S. Geological Survey.

Website:- neic.usgs.gov/neis/eqlists/eqstats.html

1998 – 2014 FLOODS, AVALANCHES AND TIDAL WAVES

1988

Aug.–Sept., Bangladesh: heaviest monsoon in 70 years killed more than 1,300. Floods inundated three-fourths of country, leaving 30 million homeless and damages estimated over \$1 billion.

1993

June–Aug., Ill., Iowa, Kan., Ky., Minn., Mo., Neb., N.D., S.D., Wis.: flooding of the Mississippi River and tributaries caused 50 deaths and about \$12 billion in damage. Almost 70,000 left homeless.

1997

Dec. 1996–Jan. 1997, U.S. West Coast: torrential rains and snowmelt produced severe floods in parts of Calif., Ore., Wash., Idaho, Nev., and Mont., causing 36 deaths and about \$2–3 billion in damage.

March, Ohio and Mississippi Valleys: flooding and tornadoes plagued Ark., Mo., Miss., Tenn., Ill., Ind., Ky., Ohio, and W.Va. 67 were killed and damage totaled approximately \$1 billion.

April, N.D., S.D., and Minn.: Grand Forks, N.D., and surrounding area devastated as the Red River swelled 13 ft above flood level. Eleven deaths were recorded.

Summer, central and northeast China: heavy flooding of Yangtze River killed more than 3,000 and left 14 million homeless. Estimated damages exceeded \$20 billion.

1999

Summer, Asia: torrential downpours and flooding left more than 950 dead and millions homeless in S. Korea, China, Japan, the Philippines, and Thailand.

Oct., southwest Mexico: heavy rains killed at least 360 people in mudslides and flood waters

Nov. and Dec., Vietnam: devastating floods caused \$285 million in damage and killed more than 700 people.

Dec. 15–16, northern Venezuela: heavy rains caused catastrophic flooding and mudslides, killing an estimated 5,000 to 20,000 people. Country's worst modern-day natural disaster

2000

Feb., southeast Africa: weeks of rain resulted in deadly floods in Mozambique and Zimbabwe, killing more than 700 people and leaving 280,000 homeless.

Mid-September, Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam: rising flood waters from the Mekong River and its

tributaries destroyed crops and livestock and left at least 235 people dead and 4.5 million homeless. Damages were estimated at \$50 million in Cambodia and \$24 million in Thailand.

2002

Sept. 20, Karmadon Gorge, North Ossetia, Russia: an avalanche caused by a 500-ft chunk of glacier left 150 people dead.

June–Aug., Asia: annual monsoons caused record floods and more than 2,000 deaths in China, India, Nepal, and Bangladesh.t5

Aug., Europe: record flooding across central and eastern Europe killed 108 people and caused billions of dollars of extensive infrastructure damage and deforestation.

2004

May 18–26, Dominican Republic and Haiti: torrential rains overflowed the Soliel River, causing floods and mudslides, destroying villages, and killing more than 2,000.

June–Aug., South Asia: annual monsoons left 5 million homeless and more than 1,800 dead in India, Nepal, and Bangladesh.

2005

Jan.-Feb., South East Asia: extreme winter weather including cold, snowfall, avalanches, and flooding in

Afghanistan, India, and Pakistan killed more than 800 people.

July 26, Mumbai, India: a record 37 in of rain in a 24-hour period and a week of monsoon rains left 1,000 dead in Western India.

2006

Feb. 17, Guinsaugon, Philippines: a landslide, caused by heavy monsoon rains, engulfed Guinsaugon, burying more than 1,000 people. Rescue workers were unable to recover many survivors. More than 3,330 were left homeless. The landslide was estimated to be 13 ft deep and covered an area of 1.2 sq mi (3 sq km).

June 22–28, Northeast U.S.: heavy rainfall broke records, caused extensive flooding, and killed 16.

August, Ethiopia: flooding of several rivers in southern and eastern Ethiopia killed more than 800.

2007

June 18, Gainesville, Tex.: torrential rains inundated parts of Gainesville and Sherman, killing four.

June 24, Karachi, Pakistan: 226 were reported dead after heavy rains and severe storms.

July 8, West Bengal, India: Monsoon rains and flooding left 660 people dead, and more than a million stranded.

August 14, North Korea: Hundreds are reported dead or missing after a week of heavy rain in central and southern North Korea. Huge areas of farmlands were washed away, provoking fears that North Korea's food crisis could worsen.

mid-August, Midwest and Plains states: A string of storms triggers flooding in Ohio, Wis., Minn., Texas, and Okla., and destroys hundreds of homes. More than 20 people are killed.

2008

March 17–19, Ark., Ill., Ky., Mo., Ohio.: 13 people die, hundreds of people are evacuated from their homes, and hundreds of roads are closed during major floods that stretch from Texas to Pennsylvania.

May 3, Myanmar: Cyclone Nargis hits the Irrawaddy Delta and the city of Yangon, killing about 78,000 people. Most of the deaths and destruction were caused by a 12-foot high tidal wave that formed during the storm. Cyclone Nargis is the worst disaster since the tsunami in 2004.

June 9–18, Ind., Iowa, Ill., Mo. and Wis.: severe flooding from storms cause already swollen rivers and lakes to flood, killing 10 people, breaking three dams, and causing thousands to evacuate their homes. In addition, at least 90 roads are closed. According to the National Weather Service, the Cedar River is 17 feet above flood stage, the worst flooding Cedar Rapids has ever seen.

June 17, southern China: the worst flooding in 50 years kills over 60 people, destroys 5.4 million acres of crops, causes landslides, and leaves 13 people missing in nine southern Chinese provinces.

July 27, southeastern Europe: five days of heavy rain caused major flooding in the Ukraine and Romania, killing 18 people and causing at least \$300 million in damages.

Aug. 1, Pakistan: a large mass of ice broke on K2, the world's second-highest mountain, causing an avalanche that killed 11 climbers and injured several others.

Aug. 25, Chamonix, France: eight climbers died after an avalanche at Mount Blanc buried them under 165 ft of ice.

Aug. 28–Sept. 1, India: flooding from the Kosi River causes the deaths of at least 75 people and the displacement of over 2 million more from their homes in the northern state of Bihar. At least half a million people are left stranded, while half a million others are living in unsanitary relief camps.

Dec. 28, Canada: eleven people on snowmobiles are buried when two avalanches hit Harvey Pass, a popular backcountry snowmobile destination in British Columbia. Three snowmobilers survived, while eight others remained buried.

2009

Jan. 26, Turkey: an avalanche slams into a group of 17 Turkish hikers on Mount Zigana, dragging them more than 1,640 feet and killing 10 of them.

Aug. 7, Philippines: at least 22 tourists on Mount Pinatubo were trapped and killed when heavy rain caused flooding and landslides.

Aug. 10, Taiwan: Typhoon Morakot caused a mudslide that buried schools, homes, and at least 100 people in southern Taiwan.

2010

Feb. 27, Chile: a magnitude 8.8 earthquake triggers tidal waves that wreak havoc along the coast.

May 3, Tenn.: Southeast flooding kills at least 24.

June 11, Ark.: Caddo and Little Missouri Rivers reportedly surge 20 ft. due to flash floods which kill 18.

July 30, Pakistan: massive flooding in Pakistan, following two days of record rainfall, kills over 1,600 people and leaves millions homeless.

Sept. 28, Mexico: a landslide following a period of heavy rain buries hundreds of homes and kills at least 11.

2011

Aug.–Oct., Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos: at least 2,828 people are killed due to record flooding during the 2011 monsoon season.

Dec. 13–19, Philippines: floods caused by Tropical Storm Washi kill 1,268 people.

2012

July, Nigeria: an extreme rainy season causes flash flooding. At least 72 people are killed and thousands are left homeless.

July 7, Russia: five months of rain falls overnight causing massive flooding and killing 172 people. Nearly 13,000 homes are damaged. Most of the damage happens in the city of Krymsk.

March 10, Afghanistan: an avalanche hits the village of Daspai. Fifty-six people are confirmed dead, while another 145 are presumed dead.

April 7, Pakistan: an avalanche hits a Pakistani military base near the Siachen Glacier region. Dozens of soldiers and contractors are buried under snow. It is declared the worst avalanche to ever hit the area as 129 soldiers and 11 civilians are killed.

2013

Sept. 12, Colorado: flash floods around Boulder, Colorado, cause massive damage, cutting off highways, destroying hundreds of homes and killing at least six people. More than 800 people are unaccounted for in Boulder and Larimer Counties. The flooding is due to heavy rains producing record levels of rainfall.

2014

March 22, Washington: a mudslide in Oso, Washington, kills at least 41 people. Two months of heavy rains are considered to be a major cause as well as an 1.1 magnitude earthquake that occurred right behind the mudslide area on March 10, 2014.

April 18, Mount Everest: at least 16 Sherpa guides die in an avalanche. They are fixing ropes for climbers at an elevation of 19,000 feet when the avalanche hit. It is the deadliest avalanche ever recorded on Mount Everest.

May 2, Afghanistan: as many as 2,100 people are killed in a mudslide in Abi Barak, a village in northern Afghanistan. About 300 mud homes are buried in mud that is 200 feet deep in some areas. The tragedy is the worst natural disaster to strike the country in a decade.

May 15, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina: the countries are hit with the heaviest rains and flooding in over a century. At least 44 people are killed in the flooding. Serbia's Prime Minister Aleksander Vucic declares a state of emergency for the whole country. In Bosnia, rivers surpass record levels and army helicopters have to evacuate dozens stranded in their homes in Maglaj.

1991 – 2008 CYCLONES

1991

April 30, southeast Bangladesh: cyclone killed over 131,000 and left up to 9 million homeless. Thousands of survivors died from hunger and water-borne disease.

1999

Oct. 29, Orissa state, India: supercyclone swept in from Bay of Bengal, killing at least 9,573 and leaving over 10 million homeless.

2004

March 8, Antalaha, Madagascar: Cyclone Gafilo, with winds of 160 mph and heavy rains, leaves hundreds of thousands homeless and killed 295 people. More than 100 were on a ferry that sank off the island of Comoros.

2007

November 15, southern Bangladesh: Cyclone Sidr, with winds over 100 miles per hour, kills nearly 3,500 people in southern Bangladesh. The United Nations reports that a million people are left homeless.

2008

May 3, Myanmar: Cyclone Nargis hits the Irrawaddy Delta and the city of Yangon, killing at least 22,500 people - 41,000 more are still missing. Most of the deaths and destruction were caused by a 12-foot high tidal wave that formed during the storm.

1991 – 2013 TYPHOONS

Typhoons are cyclones that occur over the West Pacific Ocean. Hurricanes and typhoons have identical definitions.

1991

Nov. 5, central Philippines: flash floods from tropical storm “Thelma” killed about 3,000 people. City of Ormoc on Leyte was worst hit.

2003

Sept. 12, South Korea: With winds up to 130 mph, Typhoon Maemi, one of the most powerful typhoons to hit South Korea in a century, kills at least 110 people, disrupts electrical power and communications systems, knocks over ships in the port, and forces the evacuation of thousands from their homes.

2004

Oct. 20, Japan: Typhoon Tokage, the deadliest typhoon to hit Japan in more than two decades, kills at least 80 people as heavy rains flood tens of thousands of houses and trigger numerous landslides. The typhoon produces a record (since 1970) 80 ft (24 m) high wave, eight-stories high.

2007

Aug. 18, Taiwan: Typhoon Sepat, hit Taiwan with winds over 120 mph, cutting power supplies to nearly 57,000 homes, killing over 40 people, injuring 12 more, and forcing more than a thousand others to evacuate.

2008

June 21, the Philippines: a ferry, the *Princess of the Stars*, is struck by Typhoon Fengshen, killing most of the 865 passengers and crew. There are 59 known survivors. Almost 500 other people die during the storm.

July 28, Taiwan: Typhoon Fung Wong, hit the east central coast of Taiwan with winds over 105 mph, only a week after a tropical storm killed 19 people.

2013

Nov. 8, the Philippines: Typhoon Haiyan, one of the strongest storms to ever make landfall, hits several islands in the central Philippines. Tacloban, a coastal city with a population of 220,000, is destroyed. According to the Social Welfare and Development Department, Typhoon Haiyan, called Typhoon Yolanda in the Philippines, affects 4.28 million people in at least 270 towns. By November 20, 2013, according to the Philippines National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, the death toll had reached 4,011. Rescue teams continued to search for the 1,602 people who remained missing.

1991 – 2012 U.S. HURRICANES

1991

Oct. 30–Nov. 1, Eastern Atlantic seaboard: an unnamed hurricane labeled the “perfect storm” caused extensive erosion and flooding along the Atlantic seaboard and created 39-foot waves.

1992

Aug. 22–26, Bahamas, southern Fla., and La.: Hurricane “Andrew” left 26 dead and more than 100,000 homes destroyed or damaged. Total U.S. damages estimated at \$26.5 (\$34.9) billion.

1994

Nov. 8–21, Caribbean and southern Fla.: “Gordon” led to an estimated 1,122 deaths in Haiti. Eight died in Fla.

1995

Nov. 29, Fla. Panhandle and Ala.: storm surge during “Opal” caused extensive damage to coastal areas; nine U.S. deaths and damages of \$3 (\$3.5) billion.

1996

Sept. 5, N.C. and Va.: “Fran” took 37 lives and caused more than \$3.2 (\$3.6) billion in damage.

1999

Sept. 14–18, Bahamas to New England: “Floyd” and associated flooding caused at least 57 deaths. Damage estimated at \$4.5 (\$4.6) billion.

2001

June 8–15, Gulf Coast to southern New England: tropical storm “Allison” caused severe flooding, damage estimated at \$5 billion (actual cost); 41 deaths.

2003

Sept. 18, N.C. and Va.: “Isabel” took 50 lives and caused more than \$3.7 billion in damage.

2004

Aug. 13–Sept. 26, Fla., Ala., and southern U.S.: Four major hurricanes hit Fla. in 6 weeks. “Charley,” on Aug. 13, a Category 4 hurricane, killed 34; “Frances,” on Sept. 5, killed 48. “Ivan” swept from Grenada to Ala. and Fla. on Sept. 16, killing 57 in the U.S. and 66 in the Caribbean.

“Jeanne,” on Sept. 26, flooded Fla. again, killing 28. Total U.S. damages from the 4 hurricanes estimated to exceed \$35 billion.

2005

Aug. 25–Aug. 30, Fla., Miss., and La.: “Katrina” hit southern Fla. on Aug. 25th and on Aug. 29th slammed the Gulf Coast with 127 mph winds and major storm surges, destroying hundreds of homes and businesses and causing massive flooding in Miss., Ala., and New Orleans where the levees failed. The death toll was c. 1,800, with 1,464 of those in La. “Katrina” was among the most devastating of U.S. hurricanes with damages estimated at \$100 billion.

Sept. 18–Sept. 30, Tex. and La.: “Rita,” the 2nd Category 5 in the season, made landfall Sept. 24th on the Texas/Louisiana border as a Category 3 storm, with 15-ft storm surges caused estimated damages of \$8 billion. A massive evacuation of the coastal area kept the death toll to 119 storm-related deaths.

Oct. 18–Oct. 24, Caribbean, Mexico, and Fla.: “Wilma” moved through Haiti, killing 11, Jamaica, and on to Mexico where she battered The Yucatan peninsula for more than 24 hours before moving on to Cuba and southern Fla. causing extensive damage; left more than 6 million without power and killed 35 with estimated costs over \$10 billion.

Dec. 30–Jan. 7, 2006, U.S.: “Zeta,” the last hurricane of the most active season in 154 years.

2006

Aug. 25–Sept. 3, U.S.: “Ernesto” hit Florida on Aug. 30th and on Aug. 31st struck North Carolina with 70 mph winds and major storm surges.

2008

Sept. 1–2, Gulf Coast.: “Gustav,” a Category 2 hurricane, hit the Gulf Coast on Sept. 1 with 110 mph winds, killing at least 26 people in three states and leaving more than one million homes without power before moving into central Louisiana as a tropical depression.

Sept. 13–14, southern U.S.: “Ike,” hit Texas and caused at least 30 deaths, thousands more evacuated their homes, and millions lost power in Houston alone. Ike hit the island city of Galveston Bay the hardest, knocking out water, power, and sewer lines. Despite requests to evacuate, at least 15,000 people remained in Galveston amid worsening sanitary conditions.

Sept. 14–16, midwestern U.S.: As Ike traveled inland, the storm weakened to a tropical depression, but torrential rain caused severe flooding and power outages in parts of Louisiana, Kansas, Missouri, and Illinois. At least 17 people died and more than two million homes and businesses lost power.

2011

Aug. 27–29, East Coast.: “Irene,” began as a Category 3 hurricane and was downgraded to a Category 1 before hitting the Outer Banks of North Carolina on Aug. 27. Irene passed through Virginia, New Jersey, and New York City

before transitioning into an extratropical cyclone in Vermont and New Hampshire. Irene caused at least 56 deaths and an estimated \$15.6 billion in damages, making it the sixth costliest hurricane in the United States.

2012

Oct. 29–30, East Coast.: “Sandy,” started in the Caribbean as a tropical storm and gained intensity—becoming a Category 2 hurricane—as it tore through Jamaica, Haiti, and Cuba, killing 44 people. It was downgraded to a Category 1 as it neared Florida. Although it was downgraded, the storm actually picked up energy when it collided with a midlatitude trough (a storm system that causes severe winter weather). The storm system grew as it barreled up the East Coast, spreading to some 1,000 miles wide. Sandy made landfall on Oct. 29 in Atlantic City, N.J., and was re-classified as a post-tropical cyclone. New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut were hardest hit by Sandy, and about 8 million people lost power as a result of the storm. So far Sandy has caused at least 100 deaths and an estimated \$30 billion in damages, making it the second costliest hurricane in the United States, behind Katrina.

1997 – 2008 OTHER HURRICANES

1997

Oct. 8–10, southern Mexico: “Pauline” devastated resort city of Acapulco and villages along the coast in states of

Oaxaca and Guerrero, leaving 217 dead and 20,000 homeless.

1998

Sept. 20–29, Caribbean, Fla. Keys, and Gulf Coast: “George” killed about 600 people, mostly in Dominican Republic. Damage estimated to be \$5 billion, including \$2 billion in Puerto Rico.

Oct. 26–Nov. 4, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala: “Mitch” killed more than 14,500 people, becoming the deadliest Atlantic storm in 200 years. Two to three million people were left homeless; damages were more than \$5 billion.

2004

Sept. 18, Haiti: Floods from tropical storm “Jeanne” killed more than 2,400 in Haiti and left 300,000 homeless.

2007

Aug. 13–23, Caribbean and Mexico: “Dean,” a category 5 hurricane with winds reaching 150 mph, took 32 lives and caused more than \$200 million in damage.

Aug. 31–Sept. 5, Caribbean, Nicaragua, and Honduras: “Felix,” a category 5 hurricane with winds reaching 150 mph, took at least 130 lives and left 70 others missing.

2008

Aug. 28–Sept. 2, Caribbean and Gulf Coast: "Gustav" killed at least 137 people and injured many more when it made landfall in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Thousands were left homeless and without food and water. In the U.S., "Gustav" forced the entire city of New Orleans to evacuate and left 26 people dead in three states.

Sept. 7–8, Haiti, Cuba, Turks and Caicos islands: "Ike," a category 2 hurricane with winds reaching 120 mph, took at least 61 lives in Haiti, left more than 80% of homes destroyed on Turks and Caicos islands, and caused four deaths and 800,000 people to evacuate their homes in Cuba

Nov. 8, Cuba: "Paloma," a category 3 hurricane with winds reaching 120 mph, forced more than 300,000 people in Cuba to evacuate their homes and caused about \$9.4 billion in damages.

1998 – 2012 DROUGHTS AND HEAT WAVES

1988

Summer, central and eastern U.S.: a severe drought and heat wave killed an estimated 5,000–10,000 people, including heat stress-related deaths. Damages reached \$40 billion.

1995

July 12–17, Chicago: 739 people died in record heat wave.

1996

Fall 1995–summer 1996, Tex. and Okla.: severe drought in southern plains region caused \$4 billion in agricultural losses; no deaths.

1998

Summer, southern U.S.: severe heat and drought spread across Tex. and Okla., all the way to N.C. and S.C, killing at least 200. Estimated damages of \$6–\$9 billion.

1999

Summer, eastern U.S.: rainfall shortages resulted in worst drought on record for Md., Del., N.J., and R.I. The state of W.Va. was declared a disaster area. 3.81 million acres were consumed by fire as of mid-Aug. Record heat throughout the country resulted in 502 deaths.

2000

Spring–summer, southern U.S.: severe drought and heat killed an estimated 140 people. Damages were estimated at \$4 billion.

2003

May–June, southern India: a monthlong intense heat wave claimed more than 1,500 lives.

Aug., Europe: drought conditions and a heat wave, one of the worst in 150 years, broke temperature records from London to Portugal, fueled forest fires, ruined crops, and caused thousands of deaths. (French fatalities estimated at more than 14,000.)

2006

July 16–25, California: a two-week heat wave killed at least 140 people.

2007

August, southeastern U.S.: more than 50 deaths and innumerable cases of heat-related illnesses have been attributed to the excessive heat. Drinking water sources, such as Atlanta's Lake Lanier, have also been severely depleted.

2008

June 4, California: With reservoir levels well below average and the state experiencing its driest spring in 88 years, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger officially declares that California is in a drought and warns of potential rationing. It is the first such declaration in 17 years.

2012

Spring, several states: A national drought begins in the spring of 2012 due to the lack of snow the U.S. received during the previous winter. The drought causes 123 deaths and over \$40 billion in damages.

1989 – 2013 FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS

1989

June 3, Ural Mountains: liquefied petroleum gas leaking from a pipeline alongside the Trans-Siberian railway near Uta, 72 mi east of Moscow, exploded and destroyed 2 passing passenger trains, killing 575 and injuring 723 of an estimated 1,200 passengers on both trains.

Oct. 23, Pasadena, Tex.: an explosion followed by a series of others and a fire at a Phillips Petroleum Co. plastics manufacturing plant killed 23 and injured 132 people. A large leak of ethylene was presumed to be the cause.

1990

March 25, New York City: arson fire in the illegal Happy Land Social Club, in the Bronx, killed 87 people.

1993

May 10, nr. Bangkok, Thailand: fire in doll factory killed at least 187 people and injured 500 others. World's deadliest factory fire.

1999

March 24, Chamonix, France: fire in Belgian truck carrying margarine and flour in the Mont Blanc tunnel trapped dozens of cars. Death toll was at least 42.

2000

Oct. 12, Aden, Yemen: U.S. Navy destroyer USS *Cole* was heavily damaged when a small boat loaded with explosives blew up alongside it. Seventeen sailors were killed in what was apparently a deliberate terrorist attack.

2000

Nov. 11, nr. Kaprun, Austria: cable car transporting skiers to the Kitzsteinhorn glacier broke into flames in a

mountain tunnel, killing 156. It was Austria's worst Alpine disaster.

Dec. 25, Luoyang, China: at least 309 people were killed in fire at shopping center. Most of the victims had been attending Christmas party at unlicensed disco in building.

2002

Jan. 27, Lagos, Nigeria: explosions at military depot triggered a stampede from the surrounding neighborhoods. More than 1,000 killed; many of the victims drowned in two muddy canals as they tried to flee.

June 20, Jixi, Heilongjian province, China: gas explosion at a coal mine killed 111 people. China's mining industry is one of the deadliest; it is estimated that more than 5,000 mining-related deaths occurred in 2001.

2003

Feb. 18, Daegu, South Korea: subway fire, started by an arsonist, raced through two trains, killing 189 people and injuring more than 140.

Feb. 20, West Warwick, R.I.: fire, caused by a pyrotechnics display at a rock concert, engulfed a nightclub, The Station, killing 100 and injuring more than 150.

July and August, Portugal: fifteen people died during forest fires, intensified by unusually hot, dry air and strong winds, burned more than 350,000 hectares of land, and

caused soil erosion that affected water supplies and agriculture. Fire damage costs added up to approximately one billion euros.

2004

July 16, southern India: thatched roof of a school caught fire, killing 94 children.

Aug. 1, Asunción, Paraguay: fire, caused by a gas leak, in a supermarket killed at least 400 people.

Nov. 27, Shaanxi province, China: gas explosion at Chenjiashan Coal Mine in northwest China killed 166 miners. In October, another blast killed 148.

Dec. 30, Buenos Aires, Argentina: a lit flare started a fire at a nightclub, killing 175 people.

2005

Feb. 14, Liaoning province, China: a gas explosion killed 209 miners at the Sujiawan mine. It was the deadliest reported mine disaster in China since 1949.

2006

Jan. 1, Sago mine, W. Va.: thirteen mine workers were trapped underground for more than 40 hours after a methane explosion. Only one emerged alive. Subsequent investigation revealed that lightning was the most likely ignition source of the explosion.

2007

March 19, Ulyanovskaya, Russia: a methane explosion in a coal mine killed 110 people, making it the worst mine disaster in recent Russian history.

May 24, Novokuznetsk, Russia: two months after the Ulyanovskaya explosion, another methane blast killed 38 in the nearby Yubileninaya coal mine.

June 18, Charleston, S.C.: Nine firefighters were killed when the roof collapsed during a fire in a furniture warehouse.

August 25–27, Greece: over 220 separate fires ravage the Greek countryside and endanger ancient Olympic sites around Athens. At least 59 people die in the blazes.

Oct. 21–25, southern, Calif.: 16 wildfires from Simi Valley to the Mexican border are fanned by 50 to 60 mph winds burning 500,000 acres. Three people die, 25 firefighters and civilians are injured, and nearly 1,300 homes are destroyed. Over 500,000 people evacuate their homes while nearly 1,000 firefighters fight the flames.

2008

Feb. 7, Georgia, U.S.: an explosion at an Imperial Sugar Refinery near Savannah, Georgia kills 14 people and injures many more.

May 15, Nigeria: at least 100 people die and many more are injured when a construction vehicle strikes an oil pipeline, causing it to explode in Lagos, Nigeria.

Aug. 10, Toronto, Canada: explosions at the Sunrise Propane Industrial Gasses facility force thousands of people in Toronto to evacuate their homes. Some residents suffer injuries and one firefighter dies.

Oct. 14, California, U.S.: at least two people die and 10,000 acres of land burn when two wildfires hit the San Fernando Valley in California fanned by the Santa Ana winds.

Oct. 30, India: a series of explosions in the northeastern region of Assam kill at least 55 people and wound more than 200 more.

Nov. 15–18, California, U.S.: fueled by hurricane strength Santa Ana winds, three fires burn for several days consuming 40,000 acres of land and hundreds of homes. A state of emergency is called in five counties.

Dec. 11, Russia: an explosion during routine blasts for tunneling at a mine in the Murmansk region of northern Russia kills 12 people and injures 3 others.

2009

June 16, western Indonesia: an explosion at a coal mine in the West Sumatra province kills six people and traps at least 24 more in the 300-foot mine.

2013

Jan. 27, Brazil: A fire breaks out in a nightclub in Santa Maria. The cause of the fire is a flare from pyrotechnics used by a band performing on stage at the club. At the time

of the fire, the club is packed with hundreds of students from nearby universities. According to officials, at least 233 people are killed.

1985 – 2014 AIRCRAFT CRASHES

1985

June 23, Atlantic Ocean: Air India 747 exploded over the ocean killing 329. The probable cause was a Sikh terrorist bomb.

Aug. 12, Japan: Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 crashed into a mountain, killing 520 of the 524 aboard. Highest death toll in a single-plane crash in aviation history.

Dec. 12, Gander, Newfoundland: a chartered Arrow Air DC-8 bringing American soldiers home for Christmas crashed on takeoff. All 256 aboard died.

1987

May 9, Poland: Polish airliner Ilyushin 62M, on charter flight to N.Y., crashed after takeoff from Warsaw, killing 183.

Aug. 16, Romulus, Mich.: Northwest Airlines McDonnell Douglas MD-80 crashed into a highway shortly after takeoff from Detroit Metropolitan Airport, killing 156 (including 2 on the ground). Girl, 4, only survivor.

Nov. 26, south of Mauritius: South African Airways Boeing 747 went down in rough seas; 160 died.

Nov. 29, Burma: Korean Air Boeing 747 jetliner exploded from bomb planted by North Korean agents and crashed into sea, killing all 115 aboard.

1988

July 3, Persian Gulf: U.S. Navy cruiser *Vincennes* shot down Iran Air Airbus A-300 after mistaking it for an attacking jet fighter; 290 killed.

Aug. 28, Ramstein Air Force Base, West Germany: 3 jets from Italian Air Force acrobatic team collided in midair during air show and crashed, killing 70 people, including the pilots and spectators on the ground.

Dec. 21, Lockerbie, Scotland: N.Y.-bound Pan-Am Boeing 747 exploded in flight from a terrorist bomb and crashed into Scottish village, killing all 259 aboard and 11 on the ground.

1989

June 7, Paramaribo, Suriname: a Surinam Airways DC-8 carrying 174 passengers crashed into the jungle while making a third attempt to land in a thick fog, killing 168 aboard.

July 19, Sioux City, Iowa: United Airlines DC-10 crashed during an emergency landing. Out of a total of 296 aboard, 111 were killed, 172 were injured, and 13 escaped unharmed.

1991

May 26, nr. Bangkok, Thailand: Austrian Lauda Air Boeing 767, en route to Vienna, crashed into jungle hilltop shortly after takeoff from Bangkok airport, killing all 223 aboard. Thailand's worst air disaster.

July 11, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia: Canadian-chartered DC-8 carrying pilgrims returning to Nigeria crashed after takeoff, killing 261 people.

1994

Jan. 3, Irkutsk, Russia: Russian Tupolev-154 crashes after taking off, killing all 124 people.

April 14, northern Iraq: two American F-15C fighter aircraft mistook two U.S. Army blackhawk helicopters for Russian-made Iraqi MI-24 helicopters and shot them down over no-fly zone, killing all 26 on board.

April 26, Nagoya, Japan: China Airlines Airbus A-300 from Taiwan crash-landed and exploded on the tarmac. Only 7 of the 271 passengers aboard survived.

June 6, Xian, China: China Northwest Airlines Tupolev-154 crashed 10 minutes after takeoff, killing all 160 aboard.

Sept. 8, nr. Aliquippa, Pa.: USAir Boeing 737 crashed into a ravine shortly before it was supposed to land at Pittsburgh International Airport. All 132 were killed.

1995

Dec. 20, nr. Cali, Colombia: 160 people killed when American Airlines Boeing 757 crashed in Andean Mountains.

1996

Jan. 8, Kinshasa, Zaire: Russian-built Antonov-32 cargo plane crashed after takeoff from Kinshasa into the center of the city, killing over 350 people and injuring at least 470.

Feb. 6, off coast of Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic: a Birgenair Boeing 757 en route to Germany, chartered by Dominican Alas Nacionales. crashed into Atlantic Ocean after takeoff, killing 189.

Feb. 29, near Arequipa, Peru: Faucett Airline Boeing 737 crashed into mountain as it prepared to land. All 117 passengers and crew were killed.

May 11, Everglades, Fla.: ValuJet DC-9 went down in swamp, killing 110. Cargo fire caused by oxygen generators missing safety caps.

July 17, off coast of Long Island, N.Y.: TWA Boeing 747-100, Flight 800, bound for Paris from N.Y., exploded over waters of eastern L.I. and crashed into Atlantic Ocean, killing all 230 aboard.

Aug. 29, Svalbard, Norway: A Tu-154, taking miners and their families to a Russian mining settlement on Spitsbergen, crashed into a mountaintop, killing a 141 on board, including 29 children.

Nov. 12, nr. New Delhi, India: shortly after takeoff, Saudi Arabian Airlines Boeing 747 collided in midair with Kazak Airlines Ilyushin 76 approaching the New Delhi airport. All

349 passengers and crew were killed; the world's worst midair collision.

1997

Aug. 6, Guam: Korean Air Boeing 747-300 from Seoul crashed into jungle near Agana International Airport, killing 228 people; 26 survived.

Sept. 26, nr. northern Indonesia: Indonesian Garuda Airlines A-300 Airbus jetliner crashed while approaching Medan Airport, Sumatra, killing all 234 people aboard.

1998

Feb. 2, Mindanao, Philippines: Cebu Pacific Air DC-9 crashed into a mountain; 104 dead.

Feb. 3, Mt. Cermis, Italy: low-flying U.S. Marine surveillance jet on training flight accidentally cut ski-lift cable-car line, causing all 20 people aboard to fall some 260 ft to their deaths.

Feb. 16, Taipei, Taiwan: China Airlines Airbus A-300 jumbo jet crashed while trying to land in fog at Chiang Kai-shek International Airport, killing all 196 aboard and at least 6 people on the ground.

Sept. 2, off Nova Scotia, Canada: Swissair flight from N.Y. to Geneva crashed off Canadian coast, killing all 229 aboard. 136 Americans were on the McDonnell Douglas MD-11.

1999

Oct. 31, southeast of Nantucket Island: EgyptAir Boeing 767-300 on flight from N.Y. to Cairo crashed into the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 217 aboard.

2000

Jan. 30, off the Ivory Coast: Kenya Airways Airbus A-310, carrying 179 people, crashed into the Atlantic Ocean after takeoff from Abidjan. Ten people survived.

July 25, Gonesse, France: Air France Concorde jet en route to N.Y. crashed into a hotel after taking off from Charles de Gaulle airport near Paris; all 109 aboard and 4 on the ground were killed; first Concorde jet to crash since the plane went into commercial service in 1976.

Aug. 23, off Bahrain: Gulf Air Airbus A-320 on a flight from Cairo crashed into the Persian Gulf, killing all 143 aboard.

2001

July 4, Irkutsk, Russia: Russian Tupolev-154 crashed on its third approach to the runway for a refueling stop, killing all 145 people.

Sept. 11, New York City, Arlington, Va., and Shanksville, Pa.: For the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon

Oct. 8, Milan, Italy: Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) MD-87 jet bound for Copenhagen hit a Cessna aircraft during takeoff in a heavy fog at Milan's Linate airport. All

104 passengers and 6 crew aboard the airliner, as well as the four people in the smaller plane and four airport workers, were killed in what is one of Italy's worst air disasters

Nov. 12, Queens, N.Y.: American Airlines Airbus A-300, bound for the Dominican Republic, crashed into residential neighborhood minutes after taking off from JFK International Airport. All 260 people aboard and 5 on the ground were killed.

2002

Feb. 12, western Iran: Iranian airliner en route from Teheran to Khorramabad crashed into a mountain while trying to land, killing all 118 aboard. Overcast or foggy conditions may have contributed to the crash.

April 15, nr. Pusan, South Korea: Air China Boeing 767 en route from Beijing crashed into a forested hillside near airport, killing at least 115 people. Miraculously, 38 passengers survived. Poor weather conditions were blamed for the crash.

May 4, Kano, Nigeria: EAS Airline BAC 1-11 bound for Lagos plowed into a poor, densely populated suburb of Kano shortly after takeoff, killing 148. Dead included all 76 aboard and dozens on the ground.

May 7, Dalian Bay, northeast China: China Northern Airlines MD-82 jet crashed into the bay shortly after

captain reported a fire in the cabin. Out of 103 passengers and 9 crew aboard, none survived.

May 25, nr. Pescadores off western Taiwan: China Airlines Boeing 747, bound for Hong Kong with 225 people aboard, broke apart in midair and plunged into sea 20 minutes after takeoff from Taipei. There were no survivors.

July 27, nr. Lviv, Ukraine: Russian-built Sukhoi-27 fighter jet crashed while performing an acrobatic maneuver during an air show. 83 people were killed, including 23 children; the 2 pilots ejected to safety. It is the worst air show disaster in history.

2003

Feb. 19, nr. Shahdad, Iran: Iranian military airplane, Ilyushin Il-76MD, carrying members of Iran's Revolutionary Guards, crashed in the Sirach Mountains, killing all 276 on board, making this Iran's worst air disaster.

March 6, Tamanrasset, Algeria: An Algerian Boeing 737 crashed after takeoff from Tamanrasset, killing 102 people.

July 8, Port Sudan, Sudan: a Sudan Airways airplane, a Boeing 737, experienced technical difficulties shortly after takeoff and crashed while attempting to return to the Port Sudan airport. One child survived and 116 passengers and crew perished.

Dec. 25, Cotonou, Benin: a chartered Boeing 727 jet bound for Beirut, Lebanon, crashed after hitting a building on takeoff, killing at least 140 people.

2004

Aug. 24, Moscow, Russia: two Russian planes, both departing from Moscow's airport, crashed within minutes of each other, killing a total of 89 people. Explosives were found on both flights.

2005

Feb. 3, Kabul, Afghanistan: Afghan Kam Air, Boeing 737, bound to Kabul crashed in the mountains, killing 105.

Aug. 14, Athens, Greece: a Helios Airways, Boeing 737, en route from Cyprus to Athens lost cabin pressure and crashed when it ran out of fuel, killing all 121 on board.

Aug. 16, western Venezuela: a chartered West Caribbean Airways, MD-82, en route from Panama to Martinique, crashed in remote western Venezuela, killing all 160 on board.

Sept. 5, Medan, Indonesia: Mandala Airlines, Boeing 737, crashed soon after takeoff, killing 102 on board and 47 on the ground; 13 passengers survived.

Oct. 22, Lagos, Nigeria: after take-off from Lagos, a Nigerian Bellview Airlines Boeing 737-200 enroute to Abuja crashed, killing all 117.

Dec. 6, Tehran, Iran: Iranian military plane, a Lockheed C-130, crashed during an emergency landing the Tehran airport, hit an apartment building, and killed at least 115.

Dec. 10, Port Harcourt, Nigeria: Nigerian Sosoliso Airlines plane carrying 110 crashed during landing, killing 106.

Dec. 19, Miami, Fla.: Chalk's Ocean Airways, Grumman G73 seaplane, headed to the Bahamas, crashed into the ocean off Miami, killing all 20 on-board.

2006

May 3, Sochi, Russia: an Armavia (Armenian airline), Airbus A-320, crashed in the Black Sea en route to Sochi, killing all 113 aboard.

July 9, Siberia, Russia: a Russian airline S7 Airbus A-310 slid off the end of the runway just after landing in Irkutsk, killing 122 people.

July 10, Multan, Pakistan: a Pakistan International Airlines Fokker F-27 turboprop crashed minutes after take off, killing all 45 on board.

Aug. 22, Donetsk, Ukraine: a Pulkovo (Russian) airliner, TU 154, flying from the Black Sea resort town of Anapa to St. Petersburg , reported a fire on board and crashed in stormy weather, killing all 170, including 45 children, on board.

Aug. 27, Lexington, Ky.: Comair Flight 5191, a Bombardier commuter jet, crashed after attempting to take off on the wrong runway, killing 49.

2007

Jan. 1, Indonesia: Adam Air Flight KI-574, flying from Java to Manado, crashed in stormy weather and strong winds, killing all of the 102 people on board.

March 7, Yogyakarta, Indonesia: A Garuda Indonesia Airlines plane overshot the runway and crashed, killing 22 of the 140 people on board.

May 5, Doula, Cameroon: A Kenya-bound Kenya Airways plane took off in stormy weather and crashed moments later, killing all 114 people on board.

July 17, Sao Paulo, Brazil: An Airbus skidded off the runway at Congonhas Airport in rainy weather and crashed, killing at least 176 people. It was the worst aviation accident in Brazil, and the second in less than 10 months.

Sept. 16, Phuket, Bangkok: A McDonnell Douglas MD-82 plane, which took off from Bangkok, skids off the runway and bursts into flames during heavy rain in Phuket. At least 88 people are killed.

Nov. 30, western Turkey: A passenger jet, the *McDonnell Douglas MD-83*, crashed seven miles from its destination airport in Isparta, killing all 56 passengers.

2008

June 10, Khartoum, Sudan: A Sudan Airways airbus, flying from Amman to Khartoum, burst into flames when it skidded off the runway while landing in stormy weather, killing 32 passengers.

Aug. 20, Madrid, Spain: At least 153 people died when a 160-person passenger plane, flying from Barajas airport in Madrid to Las Palmas in the Canary Islands, skidded off the runway during take-off and burst into flames.

Aug. 22, Utah: All 10 passengers of a twin-engine plane died when the Beech King Air A-100 crashed and caught fire near Canyonlands Field airport in southeastern Utah.

Aug. 25, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan: An Itek Air Boeing 737 bound for Iran crashed and caught fire about 10 minutes after take-off, killing 68 out of the 90 passengers.

Sept. 1, eastern Congo: A Beechcraft plane carrying 15 passengers and 2 crew members crashed on a ridge in the eastern Congo, killing everyone on board.

Oct. 8, Nepal: A Yeti Airlines passenger plane, flying from Kathmandu to Lukla in eastern Nepal, burst into flames on the runway while landing in heavy cloud, killing 18 of the 19 people on board—only the Nepalese pilot survived.

Nov. 4, Mexico: All nine passengers and five people on the ground died when a Learjet crashed in Mexico City during afternoon rush hour. Turbulence from flying too close to a large passenger plane caused the Learjet to crash.

Nov. 16, Canada: Seven passengers died when a Grumman Goose amphibious aircraft crashed off the coast of Vancouver, British Columbia.

Dec. 8, California, U.S.: Three civilians died when a military fighter jet crashed into a house in San Diego about two miles from its airfield destination. The pilot, who survived the crash, had lost power in one engine and tried to reach the airfield on a single working engine.

2009

Jan. 15, New York City, U.S.: All 155 passengers and crew onboard US Airways Flight 1549 survived after their plane lost power in both engines and made an emergency landing in the Hudson River.

Feb. 7, Brazil: A twin turboprop plane, flying from Coari to Manaus, crashed into a river in the Amazon, killing 24 passengers. Four people survived and were able to swim clear of the wreckage.

Feb. 12, New York, U.S.: All 45 passengers and 4 crew members died when a Continental flight from Newark to Buffalo crashed five minutes outside Buffalo airport, damaging homes and killing one person on the ground.

Feb. 25, Amsterdam, Netherlands: Nine people died and at least 50 more were injured when a Turkish plane crashed during the landing at Amsterdam's Schiphol international airport. The plane carrying 134 passengers en route from Istanbul broke into three pieces, luckily- no fire.

June 1, Brazil: In the worst aviation disaster since 2001, Air France Airbus A330 disappeared somewhere off the northeast coast of Brazil with 228 passengers on board, en route from Rio de Janeiro to Paris. No mayday signals were sent before crashing.

June 30, Indian Ocean: A Yemenia Jet, on its way to Comoros, crashed into the Indian Ocean in an attempt to land. There were 153 people on board, with only one survivor, a 14-year-old girl. Severe weather and turbulence are believed to have caused the crash.

July 15, Iran: A Caspian Airlines plane crashed en route from Tehran to Yerevan, Armenia, killing all 168 passengers on impact.

July 24, Iran: At least 16 people died when an Aria Air flight skidded off the runway and caught fire in Mashhad, Iran.

August 8, New York: A helicopter and plane collided over the Hudson River, killing all nine people on the private plane.

2010

April 10, Smolensk, Russia: All 96 passengers and crew onboard Polish Air Force Tu-154 were killed, including Polish president Lech Kaczynski and his wife, former president Ryszard Kaczorowski, other government officials and military officers. Also, on the plane were relatives of victims from the Katyn massacre. The plane was en route

to Warsaw where passengers were going to attend an event for the 70th anniversary of the Katyn massacre.

2011

Jan. 9, Urmia Airport, Iran: Iran Air Flight 277 crashed at Urmia Airport while doing a go-around. Out of the 105 people on board, 77 were killed.

July 8, Democratic Republic of the Congo: Hewa Bora Airways Flight 952 crashed while attempting to land at Bangoka International Airport. Of the 118 people on board, 74 were killed.

Sept. 7, Yaroslavl, Russia: Yak-Service Flight 9634 crashed right after takeoff at Tunoshna Airport. The crash was due to a pilot error. Of the 45 people on board, 44 were killed. Many of the victims were members of the Lokomotiv Yaroslavl ice hockey team. The team was on its way to Minsk, Belarus for a game.

2012

April 2, Tyumen, Russia: UTair Flight 120 crashed shortly after takeoff. Of the 43 people on board, 31 were killed.

April 20, Punjab, Pakistan: Bhoja Air Flight 213 crashed near Chaklala airbase due to bad weather. All of the 127 passengers and crew on board were killed.

May 9, Mount Salak, Indonesia: Sukhoi Superjet 100 crashed into Mount Salak during an exhibition flight. All 45 passengers and crew were killed.

2013

Feb. 13, Donetsk, Ukraine: South Airlines Flight 8971 crashed at the Donetsk International Airport due to dense fog. Five of the 52 people on board were killed.

Oct. 16, Pakse, Laos: Lao Airlines Flight 301 crashed into the Mekong River in Pakse, Laos. All 49 people on board were killed.

Nov. 17, Kazan, Tatarstan, Russia: All 44 passengers and 6 crew members onboard Tatarstan Airlines Flight 363 were killed after the plane crashes while attempting to land.

2014

March 8, Malaysia: Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370, carrying 239 people, lost contact with ground controllers en route to Beijing, China. The plane disappeared between Malaysia and Vietnam. For days, rescue crews searched for the plane and investigators hunted for clues about what happened. Finally, on March 24, Malaysia's Prime Minister Najib Razak announced that satellite data confirmed that the plane went down in the southern Indian Ocean, a remote location far off course. Many questions remained unanswered, including why the plane ended up where it did and why it went down.

Source for all the above information:

<http://www.infoplease.com>

COMPREHENDING THE MAGNITUDE OF THE ABOVE LISTED DISASTERS

In order to comprehend the magnitude of the above listed disasters, examples are hereby given of the human and material losses incurred in five of them. The examples were compiled from the information contained on the following Websites:- **www.geocities.com** under the heading “rumours of wars” and **www.boston.com** under the heading “world deadliest disasters”

1. On 26 January, 2001, there was an earthquake in India that had the magnitude of 7.7 on the Richter scale. Over 19,000 people lost their lives and over 600,000 lost their homes. Properties worth over \$1.3 billion were lost.
2. On 28 January, 2002, there was a fire disaster in Lagos, Nigeria as a result of petroleum pipeline vandalisation. Over 1,000 people lost their lives and properties worth hundreds of millions of Dollars were lost.
3. On 26 December, 2003, there was an earthquake in Iran that had the magnitude of 6.3 on the Richter scale. Over 45,000 people lost their lives and the whole ancient city of Bam was reduced to rubble.
4. In December 2004, many countries on the banks of the Indian Ocean experienced the deadly rainstorm called

“Tsunami”. Over 230,000 people lost their lives and over one million injured. Properties worth billions of Dollars were lost.

5. In October 2005, there was an earthquake in Pakistan that had the magnitude of 7.6 on the Richter scale. Over 78,000 people lost their lives

The Prophet of Islam, Muhammad (SAW), clearly stated that as long as those issues he mentioned in the Prophecy are manifest in peoples’ lives, disasters shall be “*falling one after the other like the necklace of a lady that had its thread cut and the necklace-balls falling one after the other*”.

Below are quotations from three International Organisations confirming that disasters are increasingly befalling humanity world-wide!

1. The internationally acclaimed website titled, “worldwatch.org” of 18 May, 2008 quoted page 113 of a report by “World Watch Institute” dated 10th January, 2007, that says, “*The number of people affected by natural disasters jumped from 177 million a year on average in the 1980s, to 270 million annually since 2001*”.
2. Another internationally acclaimed website titled, “usatoday.com” of 18 May, 2008 quoted a World Bank report that says, “*According to the World Bank, natural*

disasters have increased four-fold over the last 30 years”.

3. The same “usatoday.com” website of 18 May, 2008 quoted a report by the World Food Programme of the United Nations that says, *“Some 18,000 children die every day because of hunger and malnutrition and 850 million people go to bed every night with empty stomachs, a terrible indictment of the World in 2007. The actual number of hungry people is growing by about 5 million people a year”.*

ANY SOLUTIONS ?

The solutions to these disaster problems lie in the human resolve to **repent** and obey Allah’s rules and regulations governing life in this temporary abode (the World). People should **avoid those bad habits** listed in the earlier quoted *Hadith* of the Prophet (SAW) and avoid all other bad habits. The human race should **change from the habit of tyranny and injustice to that of fairness and justice**. People should not profess to have faith in God alone, but should equally work towards changing their precarious conditions for the better.

For the Muslims, Allah says,

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّىٰ يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ ۖ

Verily, Allah will not change the condition of a people as long as they do not change their state themselves. (Qur'an 13:11).

For the Christians, God says,

"...Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (Bible - James 2:17).

It is a common phenomenon for people to rush to their places of worship and pray for succour when they are in difficulty. For example, Muslims normally rush to the Mosques to beseech Allah to give them good health, peace, security, good government, progress and prosperity in this World and salvation in the Hereafter. Christians do the same by rushing to the Churches to beseech God for help. However, for God to answer peoples' prayers, they must be God fearing, love one another, change their bad habits and above all work hard! For example, in addition to prayers,

1. If people want good health, they must take care of their bodies and environments and avoid harmful foods and other deadly materials.
2. If they want peace and security, they must unite and live as brothers and sisters and avoid anything that will disturb their peace.
3. If they want good government, they must elect good leaders.

4. If they want progress and prosperity, they must seek for knowledge and work hard.
5. If they want salvation in the Hereafter, they must worship Allah as He ordained it.

Many verses of the Glorious Qur'an and the *Hadith* (sayings of Prophet Muhammad - SAW) and many verses of the Holy Bible and the teachings of Jesus Christ (AS) support the above assertions.

How can it then be expected that God, the Creator and Supreme Master of all, to do to people what they want, while they refuse to satisfy the conditions He set out for them? Let a simple local Nigerian example be narrated of someone who goes to the office of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to collect forms for contesting a Governorship election in his State. The first condition such a prospective contestant has to fulfil is that he must belong to a political party. Supposing he tells INEC officials that he does not belong to any political party and he does not intend to join any, would they give him the forms? Certainly not!

Therefore if one does not fulfil a condition set out by a fellow human being, his request will not be granted. How then do Muslims, Christians, Jews and all those who believe in the oneness and powers of God, expect Him to oblige to their requests for the goodies of this World and

the Hereafter while they refuse to satisfy the conditions He set out for them? What a wishful thinking!

Again, let another local Nigerian example be given. Have Nigerians ever bothered to ask why things continue to go from bad to worse in a country that is daily in prayers? Are Nigerian leaders not reputed to be in the forefront in sending "**prayer warriors**" to Mecca and Jerusalem and still God refused to make things better for the nation? Prayers are so important in Nigeria that all public and private functions have Muslim and Christian (or a combination of both) "opening" and "closing" prayers in their programme of activities. Prayers, prayers and prayers but they are yet to be answered!

God does not change the bad condition of a people for the better, unless they change their bad ways. Repentance and prayers, working hard, changing badly for good habits, doing righteous deeds, and obeying God's decrees and commands, lead to the attainment of the goodies of life!

For the Muslims, Allah (SWT) says,

مَنْ عَمِلَ صَالِحًا مِّنْ ذَكَرٍ أَوْ أُنْثَىٰ وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَلَنُحْيِيَنَّهٗ
حَيٰوةً طَيِّبَةً ۖ وَلَنَجْزِيَنَّهُمْ أَجْرَهُم بِأَحْسَنِ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ

"And whoever does righteous deeds, whether male or female, and is a believer. We shall surely give him a goodly

life in this World, and We shall reward such according to the best of their deeds". (Qur'an 16:97)

Allah (SWT) also says:

فَقُلْتُ اسْتَغْفِرُوا رَبَّكُمْ إِنَّهُ كَانَ غَفَّارًا ﴿١٠﴾ يُرْسِلِ السَّمَاءَ
عَلَيْكُمْ مِدْرَارًا ﴿١١﴾ وَيُمْدِدْكُمْ بِأَمْوَالٍ وَبَنِينَ وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ
جَنَّاتٍ وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ أَنْهَارًا ﴿١٢﴾

"...Ask for forgiveness from your Lord; for He is Oft-Forgiving; He will send rain to you in abundance; give you increase in wealth and children; and bestow on you gardens and bestow on you rivers (of flowing water)". (Qur'an 71:10-12).

For the Christians, God says,

"If you follow My decrees and are careful to obey My commands, I will send you rains in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit. Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat all the food you want and live in safety in your land. I will grant peace in the land, and you will lie down and no one will make you afraid". (Bible- Leviticus 26:3-6)