

Natural Disasters and Divine Punishment



Friday Sermon
18th March 2011



Summary

The news of natural disasters fill believers with fear in case their actions may become source of God's displeasure in the future

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) knew that wind and storms blew to his advantage, as it happened in battles of Badr and Ditch; yet he used to get concerned over these

He feared that the arrogance of people and their misconception of God's power may destroy the whole nation

True believers do not just fear God at the time of their own trouble, rather when affliction falls on others, it instils fear of God in them

The warnings of natural disasters and powerful earthquakes have been given by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

Hudhur (aba) said the Muslims of the sub-continent should pay heed, they are not exempt

May God enable them to understand this and may He enable us to be true Muslims, may we take our message to others with sincere compassion and prayers

The news of natural disasters fill believers with fear in case their actions may become source of God's displeasure in the future

Only true believers think like this as they have the insight and the perception of God

These people do not ascribe partners to God and are not those who only remember God in difficult, turbulent times and forget Him in peaceful times

They turn to God with greater intensity in times when they face difficulties or observe climatic changes

Natural Disasters and believers

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The blessed model of the Holy Prophet
(pbuh) during Climatic disasters



Whenever there was a strong wind, the Holy Prophet (pbuh) used to say: 'O Allah! I ask You for what is good in it, and the good which it contains, and the good of that which it was sent for. I seek refuge with You from what is evil in it, what evil it contains, and the evil of that which it was sent for; and when there was a thunder and lightning in the sky, his colour underwent a change, and he went out and in, backwards and forwards; and when the rain came, he felt relieved.'

Hadhrat 'A'ishah asked him about this and he answered: 'It may be that these clouds are like those that had overcast the people of Ad. When they saw a cloud formation coming to their valley they said: 'It is a cloud which would give us rain'. However, the cloud brought them a calamity.'

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The blessed model of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) during climatic disasters

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) knew that wind and storms blew to his advantage, as it happened in battles of Badr and Ditch.

Hudhur (aba) explained that here believers are enjoined that once they repent, they should follow the Prophet's blessed model

Yet, he would feel concerned. His anxiety was borne out of his immense compassion, as he was 'Mercy for all the worlds'. He feared that the arrogance of people and their misconception of His power may destroy the whole nation

The Holy Prophet's (pbuh) was anxious that stormy clouds and winds could bring calamity because of bad deeds of those who call themselves believers

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True believers do not just fear God at the time of their own trouble, rather when affliction falls on others, it instils fear of God in them

If a true believer fears God through the bad ending of ancient people, how much more should the present disasters make one turn to God and fear Him

The natural disasters are attributed to simply climatic changes and laws of nature. It is correct that natural disasters occur due to the laws of nature

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True Believers

However, it is also noteworthy that the one commissioned by God in the current age foretold earthquakes

Many years ago, one of our missionaries in Ghana Mubasher sahib, was challenged by the local ulema (religious leaders/scholars) that earthquakes were one sign of the coming of the Mahdi. They demanded a sign of earthquake in their country.

The missionary sahib prayed and it so happened that an earthquake occurred in Ghana. This created a lot of restlessness and many came into the fold of Ahmadiyya Islam

Earthquakes are not common in Ghana

This sign became most renowned



Sign of Earthquake in Ghana

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'Addressing me God Almighty said:

'You are a warner on my behalf. I have sent you so that the guilty ones be separated from the righteous,

'I shall bless thee, so much so that kings shall seek blessings from thy garments

'A warner came unto the world but the world accepted him not, yet God will accept him and demonstrate his truthfulness with mighty onslaughts.'

The warnings of natural disasters by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

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' Thus another massive earthquake is bound to occur, but the righteous are safe from it. Be righteous, therefore, and fear God that you may be saved. Fear God today so that you may remain safe from the fear of that Day. It is inevitable for the heaven to show some sign for the earth to do likewise. But those who fear God shall be saved. God's Word informed me that many calamities will occur and many disasters will descend on the earth – some during my life time and some after I have gone. And He will promote and advance this Jama'at to the full. A part of it will happen at my hands, and some after me.'
(The Will, pp. 3 – 5).

God informed me of another impending earthquake which would be of utmost severity and said:

'Again the spring came and again the word of God was fulfilled.



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Hudhur (aba) said he has explained it before that the natural disasters that have occurred in the last 100 years have exceeded all previous records



God is repeatedly demonstrating these signs in different part of the world



Therefore, we should keep this warning in view and strengthen our faith



And we should take this message to the world

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The warnings of natural disasters by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

In this most frightening situation, we should follow in the blessed model of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and pray



Last week an extremely powerful earthquake hit Japan



It was followed by a tsunami which obliterated many towns

May God enable these people to recognize the truth so that they may be saved from disasters

May God enlighten their hearts

For this, we too have to take the message to them

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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) had a particularly good intuition about the Japanese people

Our Jama'at in Japan is small, but it should try its very best to take this message to people

In the current situation, discretion should be used in taking this message to them alongside service to humanity

Hadhrat Musleh Maud (may Allah be pleased with him) had a vision in 1945 about which he said that the Japanese were spiritually dead at the time, but God will incline them towards Ahmadiyyat and they will hearken at his voice just as birds responded to the voice of Hadhrat Ibrahim (on whom be peace).

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Hudhur said the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) wished for Tabligh in Japan and said that there should be a comprehensive book on Islam to draw the attention of the Japanese.

Hudhur (aba) said this lays a huge responsibility on us to have such a book written in Japanese

The warnings of natural disasters by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

In Japan buildings are built to withstand earthquakes of 7 to 8 Richter scale. The current earthquake measured 9 on the Richter scale and was followed by a tsunami

- It is being said that there has not been such a powerful earthquake for the past 1000 years



Hudhur (aba) said may God bless and save from further destruction

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However, the recent earthquake has damaged a few nuclear reactors and as a result radiation is spreading

The effects of radiation are long-lasting; continue for generations and often result in disabled children born



May God have mercy



homoeopathic remedy for radiation exposure should be taken by relief workers in Japan; It should also be given out to others

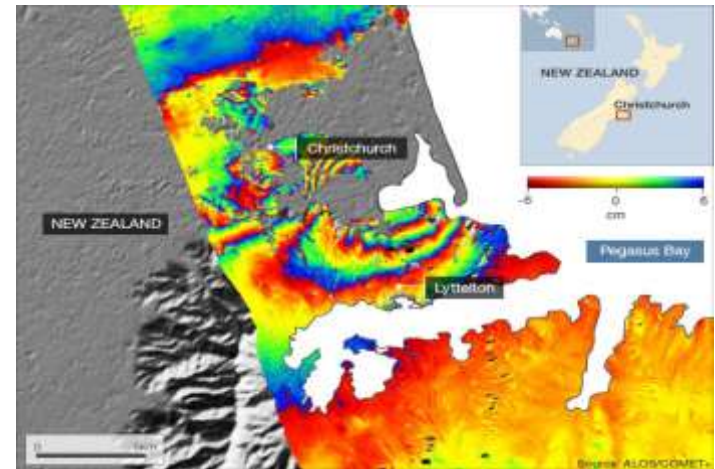
Japan; impending nuclear Disaster

The nations that think they are safe are not safe according to the prophecy of the Imam of the age. If they do not pay heed, these calamities can engulf everyone.

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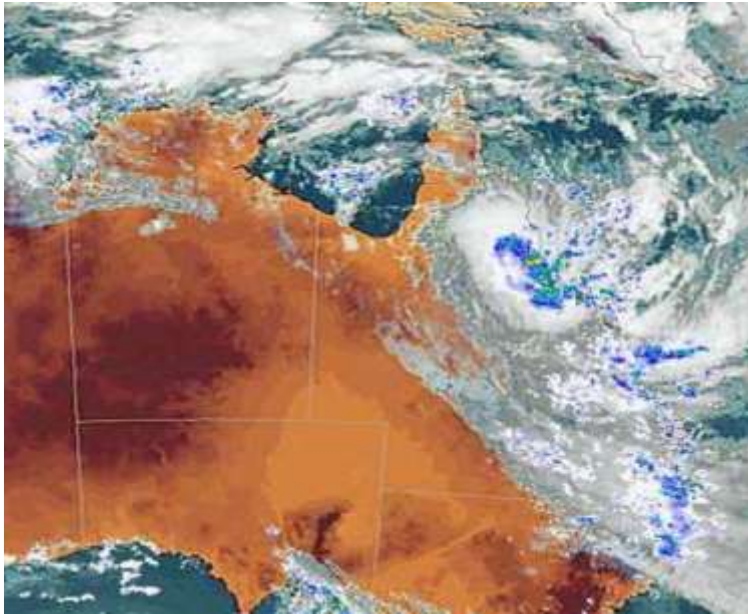
This year three different countries in the far eastern region and beyond have been affected by natural disasters.

In New Zealand a large part of a city [Christchurch] was badly damaged by an earthquake. 70,000 people had to leave the city.



The warnings of natural disasters
by the Promised Messiah (on
whom be peace)

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85% of Queensland coal mines have suffered loss and the floods have cost billions to the economy

In Australia, heavy rain and floods affected 70 towns and cities in the state of Queensland



The storm that hit the state of Victoria in Australia was the worst ever

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Other countries should not assume that they are safe

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USA has also seen storms recently. How many could they save?

God wills that the entire world is gathered on one hand and for this He has sent the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).

The truth of Islam will now be established through him

We should reflect and ponder over the practice of the Holy Prophet (pbuh); how strong winds and rains used to make him anxious. Do we practice that?

Truth of Islam will establish

God does not need anyone. He is with one who truly honours the due of being His servant

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'Bear in mind that God has informed me time and again about the coming of earthquakes. So be sure that just as there have been earthquakes in America and in Europe, in keeping with the prophecies, so will they occur in different parts of Asia, and some of them will be as terrifying as doomsday.

There will be death on such a large scale that rivers will run with blood, and even birds and animals will not escape it. Such destruction will overtake the earth as had not happened since man was born



The warnings of natural disasters by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

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Most places will be turned upside down as if they had never been inhabited.

There will also be other terrible afflictions, both in heaven and earth, and every sensible person will realize that they are no ordinary phenomena, and no trace of them will be found in books of astronomy or philosophy.

Then people will be seized by anxiety and they will wonder what is going to happen? Many will be saved, and many will perish. Those days are near, indeed they are at the door, when the world shall witness a spectacle of doomsday.

Not only will there be earthquakes, but other terrible calamities will also appear, some from heaven and some from the earth



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This will happen because men have given up the worship of their God, and all their thoughts and their designs and their resolves are diverted towards the world.

Had I not come, these calamities might have been delayed for a while, but with my coming the secret designs of God's wrath, that had long been hidden, have been manifested.

As God said: **'We never punish until We have sent a Messenger.'** [17:16]



1835-1908

The warnings of natural disasters by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

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Those who repent shall find security and those who fear before the calamity overtakes them will be shown mercy.

Do you think that you will be safe from these earthquakes, or that you can save yourselves by your own designs?

No, you cannot. All human designs will come to naught that day



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Do not imagine that only America has been shaken by the earthquake and that you are safe, for you may experience even greater calamities.

O Europe! you are not secure, O Asia! You are not secure, O you who dwell in the Islands, no artificial god will come to your aid.

I see the cities falling and I see the habitations in ruin. The One and the Unique has long remained silent. Abominations were committed before His eyes and yet He remained silent.

But now He shall reveal His countenance in a dreadful manner



The warnings of natural disasters by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace

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He who has ears to hear, let him hear! The hour is not far. I tried to bring everyone under the security of God, but the decrees of destiny had to be fulfilled. Assuredly, I say that this country's turn is also drawing near.

The days of Noah shall appear before your eyes, and you will see with your own eyes what happened to the land of Lot. But God is slow to wrath, repent so that you are shown mercy.

He who abandons God is a worm, not a man, and he who does not fear Him is dead, not alive'



The warnings of natural disasters by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace

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Hudhur (aba) said the Muslims of the sub-continent should pay heed, they are not exempt

Recently, many Muslim countries are facing the crisis of conflict between the masses and the government. Muslim is killing Muslim

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has repeatedly and very strongly warned against this and the strength of his warning is borne out of compassion

If only they understood that the one who was to be sent for the good of the *Ummah* has come

It is our duty to draw attention to it that the detractors of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan have witnessed calamities at close range

Warning

May God enable them to understand this and may He enable us to be true Muslims, may we take our message to others with sincere compassion and prayers

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A local Qaid and finance secretary, was shot by two unknown motorbike riders

- He was on his way home from a Jama'at programme when he was attacked. He passed away as he was being rushed to a hospital

**Rana
Zafrullah
sahib**

He leaves behind a widow and two daughters

- Hudhur said this is the fifth martyrdom in Sangher in the past few years

Martyrs of Ahmadiyyat

May God be the Protector and Helper of the bereaved family. Hudhur said he would lead funeral Prayer in absentia of the *shaheed* (martyr) after Friday Prayer

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