

# LET'S TALK ABOUT IT: FLOODING IN PAKISTAN

- THE WORST MONSOON FLOODS IN PAKISTAN'S RECORDED HISTORY

- FLOODING HAS AFFECTED 21 MILLION PEOPLE AND KILLED APPROXIMATELY 1,750 PAKISTANI'S

- U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL BUN KI-MOON DESCRIBES THE FLOOD AS THE WORST DISASTER HE HAS EVER SEEN

- LANDSLIDES AND FLOODS HAVE WASHED AWAY ENTIRE VILLAGES

- 10,000 SCHOOLS DAMAGED, 200 HOSPITALS AND CLINICS DESTROYED

- HAS AFFECTED MORE THAN HAITI EARTHQUAKE, 2004 TSUNAMI IN ASIA, AND 2005 PAKISTAN EARTHQUAKE COMBINED

## COUNTRY INFO

Pakistan has the sixth largest population in the world with 174,578,558 people. 95% of the population is Muslim, and the remaining 5% consists of Christian and Hindu.

## PAKISTAN FLOOD INFO

Pakistan began to experience flooding in July due to monsoon rains that drenched the Indus River Basin. Increased flooding and damage is expected as monsoons are still plaguing the country. Aid and relief efforts are few, but the country is receiving support to some degree. Much criticism has been directed towards the Pakistani government because of their lack of action. The flood has destroyed a large amount of cropland, which many fear will lead to a scarcity of food in the future. In the midst of the flood, many are without food, water, and shelter. Disease is another major concern, which is resulting from poor sanitation and lack of clean drinking water.

## EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT

This is a blog from an unnamed Save the Children worker who undertook a 50 km trek to assist aid distribution programs in the town of Kalam in the Swat Valley. He made the journey on foot after roads in the area were destroyed.

"We reached the first town, Adyan, after crossing two hills. The entire shape of the city had changed – the floods created a river that went straight through the middle of town, completely destroying the main market. Mud and dust was everywhere, as were huge boulders that the flood had carried right into town. We finally reached a city, Bahrain, which used to be a big tourist destination with lots of hotels, restaurants, and beautiful riverside cafes. I was there five years ago on holiday



with my family. "The city is now unrecognizable. It is like something has taken a huge pile of rocks and mud and thrown it all over the city. The main bazaar is completely destroyed. Three-storey hotels have tumbled down and the main road through the town was covered in five feet of mud. In Kalam, 90% of the main market, which provides a livelihood for so many people, was completely destroyed. It was unrecognizable. It looked like it might have 100 years ago: no cars – they had all washed away – no clean water supply, which was previously run by an electric pumping station, now destroyed."

## DISCOVER MORE AT:

- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publication/s/the-world-factbook/geos/pk.html>
- [http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/south\\_asia/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/south_asia/)
- <http://www.islamicreliefusa.org/pakistan-floods>
- <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/south-and-central-asia/roundup>
- <http://www.dailyexpress.co.uk/search/pakistan%20flood/>

## LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

This is a monthly newsletter that is intended to provide information about issues around the world. The Office of World Missions believes it is important to be aware of global issues and begin entering discussions that affect others in our local and global communities.