

## JEN'S AUTUMN NEWS LETTER

Countries: Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Sri Lanka, Jordan, Tohoku

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Pakistan

### 26<sup>th</sup> October earthquake



*The aftermath of the earthquake in Shangla district in Pakistan*

**12<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2015**

26th October 2015, a powerful earthquake of magnitude 7.5 hit Afghanistan and Pakistan. In Pakistan, the earthquake caused 280 deaths, 1,982 were injured and it damaged 103,268 houses. The majority of damages occurred in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where 232 died, 1,577 were injured and 89,102 houses were damaged (National Disaster Management Authority, 9th Nov. 2015). This earthquake reminded us of the 8th October 2005 earthquake of Kashmir and the northern areas of Pakistan. The same types

of vulnerabilities are now being reported and the needs are very similar to those in the previous earthquake. Although the scale of damages is not as large as it was in 2005, the most affected areas still gives the same picture as in 2005.

JEN has worked for 3 years in Kashmir to support earthquake victims and survivors. JEN supported people with emergency relief necessities and provided support in the education sector throughout that period.

Autumn, 2015

The affected people of the latest earthquake are in an extremely vulnerable position. The winter season has already started and many people do not have a roof over their heads. This issue needs to be addressed quickly; to minimize the adverse effects of disaster and harsh weather. The most urgent needs of the people are warm clothing, shelter and safety.

The government and other humanitarian organizations have just started to support the people; however, there is a long journey ahead to improve the lives of the affected people and to build a system of disaster risk reduction.

Afghanistan

## JEN provides emergency assistance affected by the earthquake in Afghanistan and Pakistan

27<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2015

On the 27th October, one day after the earthquake that hit northern Afghanistan and Pakistan, more than 300 casualties were already confirmed in the affected area. The affected area in Afghanistan is controlled by armed groups, and as a result there is limited access to information regarding the situation there. JEN is currently trying to get a whole picture of damages in the area. As the damages in Pakistan have become clear, we assume that the situation and the number of victims in Afghanistan will prove to be worse than initially presented.

JEN has already been working in the area around the epicentre. Since the affected area is located in a mountainous area, there is a high possibility that assistance does not reach those who are affected. Considering these facts, we have concluded that emergency assistance is urgently needed.

Iraq

## The Refugee's diseases



*Settling down the refugees in a space outside of the camp*

1st Nov.2015

In the random aggregates (\*) of displaced people and the camps in three locations, epidemic diseases spread because of the rough hot weather in the summer and cold weather in the winter, consumption of expired medicines, and drinking of water directly from lakes. There are no regular visits by hygienic teams to the camps or to the random aggregates. In the summer there are different types of diseases like diarrhoea, lice, and pectoral diseases.

It is difficult to treat these diseases because of shortage in medicine and limited visits of hygienic teams from the ministry of health. Also, there are insects such as snakes and scorpions underneath and the insects easily get into the refugees' shelters.

Most of the displaced people do not have chances to get private treatment for diseases and injuries caused by the insects in the camps, more than half a million babies and children from the displaced population need hygienic caring.

\*Random aggregates: Displaced Persons become groups settled in any place wherever there is space.

Sri Lanka

## Meaning of wells

9th Sep. 2015

Speaking of JEN's assistance to regain livelihood; can you imagine how wells affect it?

Returnees that JEN is supporting are living in areas where agriculture is the main source of income. Before the conflict back in the 80s, most of the households were engaged in agriculture. However, during the last three decades when people were evacuating; lands were devastated and farming equipment and water supply facilities were stolen. After the people came back to their homeland, they managed to engage in farming on a small scale during the rainy season. In the dry season, they have no choice but to do day labour jobs, where they are at risk of losing their jobs at any time. JEN is supporting these returnees, so they will be able to engage in farming throughout the year and be allowed to make a steady income.

One of the main support activities of JEN is to repair and construct agricultural wells. As long as the returnees are supplied with well water regularly, they can continue farming even during the dry season; when it never rains.



*A new well is constructed by JEN*

Jordan

## One Goal



*Yazan is the best scorer*

15th Oct. 2015

It was JEN staffs' idea to hold a football tournament that could be organised a sport event as a hygiene promotion opportunity where both the local community and NGOs operating at Za'atari Syrian Refugee Camp could participate.

The participants rarely have a chance to meet each other, although they all live in Mafraq governorate. After the tournament, the participants became friend each other. At 9:30am, the first match started and approximately 200 people came to watch. Around 10:30am; 50 kids from the age of 4-5 years old, who had already been invited by JEN hygiene promotion specialists, came with their teachers from Za'atari Charitable Association to join the event. At the end of the event, all kids were given personal hygiene kits

A guy named Yazan was the top scorer of the tournament and showed pride in his accomplishment. Also, he was one of the main factors for his team to get to 1st place and win the tournament.

During the different events of the day, the level of enthusiasm and joy was increasing rapidly and all participants expressed gratitude for the event.

Tohoku

## 54 Months on: Ishinomaki still in Transition



*A council house for people whose lives were affected by the disaster*

**24th Sep. 2015**

Four years and four months have passed since the Great East Japan earthquake, and efforts to restore crumbled infrastructure, including roads and dikes, continues in disaster-hit areas. Landscapes have changed along with signs of damage caused by the earthquake and the tsunami; leaving less and less traces that reveal the ravage of the disaster.

In the city of Ishinomaki, the worst hit area, as many as 3,453 people lost their lives either directly or indirectly by the disaster, and 428 are still missing. Even now, search activities for the missing people are carried out on the 11th every month. The areas of the district that is situated at the mouth of the Kitakami River were inundated due to land sinking subsequent to the earthquake. While the Self-Defence Forces searched the district with boats right after the earthquake, no search activities have been conducted since then.

The completion of the dike restoration work accelerated the pace of draining the district, and made it possible to conduct full-scale search activities.

The tsunami destroyed dikes and submerged the right section of the Kitakami River's downstream areas, including not only the Nagatsura district, but also the Okawa district; where a total of 2,489 people of 712 households used to live. 382 people were killed, including 84 pupils and teachers of Okawa elementary school, and 36 people went missing, including four pupils.

Disaster restoration housing is now ready to receive victims living in temporary quarters; signalling that post-quake restoration is moving forward. JEN continues to help disaster victims to find their way back to normal life as soon as they can.



*A school was finished restoration work*

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**Visit: [www.jen-npo.org](http://www.jen-npo.org)**

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