

# OUR SHAKING PLANET

## FREQUENCY OF RICHTER SCALE MAGNITUDES

| <b>Magnitude</b> | <b>Description</b> | <b>Average frequency per year</b> |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>8 or more</b> | <b>Great</b>       | <b>1</b>                          |
| <b>7-7.9</b>     | <b>Major</b>       | <b>18</b>                         |
| <b>6-6.9</b>     | <b>Strong</b>      | <b>120</b>                        |
| <b>5-5.9</b>     | <b>Moderate</b>    | <b>800</b>                        |
| <b>4-4.9</b>     | <b>Light</b>       | <b>6200</b>                       |
| <b>3-3.9</b>     | <b>Minor</b>       | <b>49,000</b>                     |
| <b>2-2.9</b>     | <b>Very minor</b>  | <b>52,000</b>                     |
| <b>1-1.9</b>     | <b>Very minor</b>  | <b>416,000</b>                    |

- Source: US Geological Survey

## SUPER "9+" EARTHQUAKES

### IN THE LAST 100 YEARS

|             |                  |            |
|-------------|------------------|------------|
| <b>1908</b> | <b>Italy</b>     | <b>9.0</b> |
| <b>1952</b> | <b>Russia</b>    | <b>9.0</b> |
| <b>1957</b> | <b>Alaska</b>    | <b>9.1</b> |
| <b>1960</b> | <b>Chile</b>     | <b>9.5</b> |
| <b>1964</b> | <b>Alaska</b>    | <b>9.2</b> |
| <b>2004</b> | <b>Indonesia</b> | <b>9.0</b> |

## SOME OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST QUAKES

|      |                          |                |
|------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 856  | GREECE                   | killed 45,000  |
| 1556 | CHINA                    | killed 830,000 |
| 1737 | CALCUTTA                 | killed 300,000 |
| 1755 | LISBON                   | killed 60,000  |
| 1819 | GUJARAT 8.0              | killed 2,000   |
| 1883 | DUTCH INDIES             | killed 36,000  |
| 1897 | SHILLONG Plateau 8.7     | killed 542     |
| 1902 | MARTINIQUE               | killed 40,000  |
| 1905 | HIMALAYAS 8.0            | killed 20,000  |
| 1906 | SAN FRANCISCO 8.3        | killed 3000?   |
| 1908 | ITALY 9.0                | killed 100,000 |
| 1915 | ITALY                    | killed 29,900  |
| 1920 | CHINA                    | killed 180,000 |
| 1922 | JAPAN 7.9                | killed 143,000 |
| 1923 | JAPAN 8.3                | killed 140,000 |
| 1927 | CHINA                    | killed 200,000 |
| 1932 | CHINA                    | killed 70,000  |
| 1933 | JAPAN 8.1                | killed 3,064   |
| 1934 | INDO-NEPAL 8.3           | killed 10,000  |
| 1935 | QUETTA, India 7.5        | killed 50,000  |
| 1939 | CHILE 8.3                | killed 28,000  |
| 1939 | TURKEY 7.9               | killed 33,000  |
| 1950 | ASSAM 8.5                | killed 532     |
| 1952 | RUSSIA 9.0               | killed ???     |
| 1957 | ALASKA 9.1               | killed ???     |
| 1960 | MOROCCO 5.7              | killed 12,000  |
| 1960 | CHILE 9.5 (30ft tsunami) | killed 5,700   |
| 1962 | IRAN                     | killed 10,000  |
| 1963 | MACEDONIA 6.9            | killed 1,000   |
| 1964 | ALASKA 9.2               | killed 114     |
| 1968 | IRAN                     | killed 11,500  |
| 1970 | PERU                     | killed 66,700  |
| 1972 | IRAN 7.9                 | killed 5,000   |
| 1972 | NICARAGUA 6.5            | killed 10,000  |
| 1976 | GUATEMALA 7.5            | killed 22,778  |
| 1976 | Tangshan, CHINA 8.2      | killed 240,000 |
| 1978 | IRAN 7.7                 | killed 25,000  |
| 1980 | ALGERIA 7.5              | killed 20,000  |
| 1985 | MEXICO 8.1               | killed 9,500   |
| 1988 | ARMENIA 6.9              | killed 25,000  |
| 1990 | IRAN 7.7                 | killed 50,000  |
| 1993 | LATUR, India 6.4         | killed 10,000  |
| 1995 | KOBE, Japan 7.2          | killed 6,000   |
| 1995 | SAKHALIN, E. RUSSIA 7.5  | killed 2,000   |
| 1998 | AFGHAN & TAJIK 6.9       | killed 5,000   |

|      |                      |                 |
|------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1999 | COLOMBIA 6.0         | killed 1,171    |
| 1999 | TURKEY 7.4           | killed 17,000   |
| 1999 | TAIWAN 7.6           | killed 2400     |
| 2001 | GUJARAT 7.9          | killed 30,000   |
| 2002 | AFGHANISTAN 5.8      | killed 1000     |
| 2003 | ALGERIA 6.8          | killed 2300     |
| 2003 | BAM, IRAN 6.5        | killed 41,000   |
| 2003 | JAPAN 8.3            | killed ???      |
| 2004 | INDONESIA 9.0        | killed 150,000+ |
| 2005 | PAKISTAN/KASHMIR 7.6 | killed 74,000   |