

News

More Heartbreak in Nepal, Six Stories (Updated)

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Just days after a devastating earthquake claimed thousands of lives in Nepal, another tremor today rocked survivors – and created renewed panic.

The fear was particularly unsettling for KPMG's Nepalese in America, a group already deeply concerned about the survival of families on the other side of the world. Based in New York, Houston, Silicon Valley and Vancouver, these young professionals have been unwitting witness to a series of disasters triggered by the 7.8 earthquake of April 25th. The death toll for the initial event now stands at more than 8,000, with countless others hurt, hungry and homeless.

KPMG Today and KVN have collected the stories of those so far from their homes, and we have shared them in words and video.

As you read, please consider giving to the [KPMG Disaster Relief Fund](#) – which will match donations from U.S. employees – to help the roughly eight million people impacted by widespread devastation and crippled infrastructure.

Saurav D. Joshi, Advisory associate, Silicon Valley
Originally from Kathmandu



Being born and brought up in a country known for its rich cultural heritage, it breaks my heart to see this destruction occur in a matter of seconds.

My own family was fortunate enough to survive. But there are many others mourning the loss of loved ones or desperately waiting to hear from them. Major and minor aftershocks have forced people to camp outside in severe weather. The scenario is even worse outside the Kathmandu valley, where basic necessities and rescue efforts are still missing on a big scale. I've heard that a small town west of Kathmandu Valley, completely flattened by the tremor, is now a ghost town, silent and empty.

A very close friend who is currently in the US Army and was born in a small village in Nuwakot lost the family home. His relatives have taken refuge in their stable with their cattle. I've asked my family to contact relief agencies to send help to Nuwakot. We can only pray it reaches the village on time.

Biswas Pant, Tax staff accounting, Global Mobility, Calgary
Originally from Baglung in western Nepal



My parents (and many friends and relatives) were in Kathmandu and are safe now, but they are horrified by all that has happened. The many aftershocks forced them to spend day and night in a homemade camp, where they feared running out of basic supplies like clean water and food.

Many people I know lost love ones or lost their homes. And while many international and local organizations are providing help, with nearly one-quarter of the country affected its very hard to reach all those in need. There are still many missing or trapped in collapsed buildings.

Prabhu Shrestha, Audit senior associate, Silicon Valley
Originally from Kathmandu, close to the Basantapur Durbar (palace) Square



The temples and ancient palaces near my family home were built around the 16th century and they, along with historical sites like Patan Durbar Square, Bhaktapur Durbar square, Dharahara were all destroyed or badly damaged. I fear that the death toll could increase dramatically, as help hasn't reached the rural areas, many of were already difficult places to reach with limited roads.

My family and friends have been living in open areas or under tents provided by local rescue teams. They are still too scared to go back to their homes. So many people were injured that hospitals are falling short of space. A lot of countries (including India, China, and Pakistan and the US, Japan, UK, Canada, and Norway) have offered help but I worry about the lack of coordinated plans to effectively utilize this help.

Nepal is already facing many difficulties due to economic instability and lack of infrastructure. This massive earthquake hit a country ill-prepared to deal with it.

Written by Sue Treiman



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