Sichuan 512 catastrophe: rebuilding libraries after the earthquake

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12 May 2008 14:28 hours
China’s catastrophic 7.9-magnitude earthquake
Earthquake Affected Provinces

Source: United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)
Source: BBC
China Earthquake Administration Report

- Earthquake occurred along the Longmenshan (龍門山) fault
- The rupture lasted close to 120 sec.
- Starting from Wenchuan (汶川), the rupture propagated at an average speed of 3.1 km per sec 49° toward north east, rupturing a total of about 300 km
- Maximum displacement amounted to 9 m
- The focus was deeper than 10 km
Animation of the Wenchuan 512 Earthquake  
(by Chinese Academy of Sciences)

Illustrates how the earthquake in Wenchuan happened and at which direction the shock expanded

http://www.csi.ac.cn/sichuan/sichuan080512_cs2.htm
Catastrophic earthquake destroyed the world famous Wolong (臥龍) panda breeding centre

Source: video.news.sky.com
Basics of 512 Earthquake in Sichuan Province China

Source: Sichuan Earthquake Information http://sichuaneq.googlepages.com/home
Before 512: Wenchuan ABA Teachers College
(汶川阿坝师范专科学校图书馆)
- the only academic institution in Wenchuan
- the only academic institution totally destroyed
Before 512: Wenchuan ABA Teachers College Students’ Residence
After 512: Wenchuan ABA Teachers College
Teachers’ Residence
Sichuan province 119 county libraries
Complete destroyed 4 county-level libraries
Severely damaged 29 county-level libraries
Damaged 25 county-level libraries

Destroyed 670,000 books
Estimated library damages 436,000,000 RMB
Beichuan Library (北川綿陽市)

- Located at Epicenter in Sichuan earthquake
- Completely destroyed by the earthquake
- Director Li Chun (李春) and 5 other staff rescued after 70+ hrs
- Rescue team worked over 2 hrs non-stop with their bare hands
- Rescue team used a small knife to cut through the wood pieces around them
Conditions in Libraries Nearer the Epicenter

Photos taken from Library Family blog:
http://space.sina.com.cn/1232601503
Library Staff's Temporary Quarters

A shared tent
Temporary Reading Room
Students Reading in Temporary Camp
Rescuing Books/Working in the Library

Mianyang Normal University Library
(綿陽師範學院)
Earthquake Relief Program

- Donations of books, collections, etc.
- Relevant training procedures
- Coupling relationship (library in a non-afflicted area helps a library in an affected area on a one-on-one basis)
- Promote public library services & information services
- Long term help plan (majority libraries have a 3-year recovery plan)
Central Broadcasting Group gave 150,000 volumes

China Children’s Press Gift
HKU Dept of Electrical & Electronic Engineering
Primary School Reconstruction Project
Deyang (德陽市) summer 2009

HKU EEE Team members:
• Dr Wilton Fok, Dr YC Wu, Dr Alfred Yu
  & HKU students

The Project:
• To install renewable energy system, multimedia classrooms and a computer laboratory in Deyang Yuanjia Primary School (德陽市袁家小學)
Beichuan Middle School (北川中學)

Co-designed by professors from Harvard, MIT, HKU, Tsinghua & Tongji Universities

- Beichuan government “put as top priority” in the general reconstructive scheme of Beichuan
- 2600 Mill RMB invested
- To accommodate 5000 students
- To be used as stationary shelters of the new town
- Estimated to be finished on 1 Sept 2010
HKU Students’ Union Fund-raising Drive

HKUSU set up donation boxes at:

- Counter near Main Library
- Examination venues
- HKUSU Cooperative Store
- HKUSU Office
- China Scholars & Students Association
HKU Students’ Union & Union Choir
Fundraising Concert for the Reconstruction of Sichuan  (8 July 2008)
HKU Students’ Union Fund-raising Drive
Through Cyber Campus: U Radio

Live on U-Radio: Give Our Hands to Sichuan Earthquake Victims
Schedule: Monday, 19 May 2008 9:30pm to 11:30pm
HKU Students Voluntary Work
Hu Yiming (summer 2008)

Southwestern University of Economics & Finance, Aixin School (西南財經大學災區愛心學校)

• taught high school students from Wenchuan (汶川)
• one of the students awarded “Young Hero of Earthquake Relief Work”
HKU Students Voluntary Work
HKU Student Voluntary Work
Hu Yiming (summer 2008)

Sichuan Agricultural University (四川農業大學)

- Organized volunteers from HKU, Sichuan University, Peking University, New York State University, University of Sydney, Wageningen University, etc. to visit schools in Dujiangyan (都江堰) - heavily damaged city during Sichuan earthquake.
- Shared information about their universities
- Shared experience in studies/learning
- Shared experience in overcoming difficulties
- Encouraged students to recall their passion for life
HKU Students Voluntary Work
HKU Activities

- Fundraising
- Book donations
- Local forums
- International conferences
- Collaborations on disaster management
  - with Mainland higher education
  - with charitable institutions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr 12, 2009</td>
<td>Sichuan Hong Kong Engineering Technology and Reconstruction Academic Interflow Conference in Chengdu</td>
<td>Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 10, 2009</td>
<td>Meeting with the Sichuan Devang Education Bureau for the preparation of a primary school reconstruction in summer 2009</td>
<td>Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 16, 2008</td>
<td>My Voluntary Work in Sichuan</td>
<td>A sharing from Hu Yiming (Undergraduate of Economics and Finance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting from</td>
<td>HKU and Beijing Normal University collaborate in pioneering Catastrophe Management Initiative</td>
<td>The University of Hong Kong and the Beijing Normal University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18, 2008</td>
<td>你曾經想過去四川甘肅的災區援助救災或重建嗎？你是否已經成行？</td>
<td>香港大學心理系</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 14, 2008</td>
<td>四川地震救援賽課及災後重建公眾講座</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13, 2008</td>
<td>以心理測試篩選災區援助人員</td>
<td>心理學系</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 25, 2008</td>
<td>同心援川曙光晚會</td>
<td>香港青年學生救災援川大行動，包括香港大學在內的青年學生領袖聯合發起</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 24, 2008</td>
<td>Sichuan Donations – MEICOM</td>
<td>HKU MSc in E-Commerce &amp; Internet Computing (MEICOM) Alumni Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22, 2008</td>
<td>Call for Action to Staff in LKS Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>LKS Faculty of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19, 2008</td>
<td>Calling Chinese trained in I/O psychology to help fight the earthquake aftermath</td>
<td>Department of Psychology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Library Specific Aid Program

Library Family (圖書館家園)

Program Conductor

• Cheng Huanwen (程煥文), Director of Sun Yat-Sen University Libraries (中山大學圖書館)

Program of Earthquake Aid for Librarians

• 400 volunteers
• visited 17 higher education libraries
Visits by Cheng Huan-wen (程煥文) / Library Family to Sichuan librarians
Library Specific Aid Program

Library Family (圖書館家園) objectives:

- Help library workers who were victims (economic, emotional, physical)
- Provide support to families of librarians who were killed. Lump sum payment was given to those who lost family members or homes
- Help affected library science students to finish their studies. Arrange free training opportunities for unemployed librarians
- Bring in experts to offer advice and assistance
- As of June 2008, distributed US$163,000
Library Specific Aid Program

Shanghai Library

- Organize donation days through Sichuan Quake Relief Program
- Arrange book donation drop-off points
- Provide books & libraries for elementary schools/ orphanages as they are rebuilt or repaired through 2008 Earthquake Program
- Adopt specific Sichuan counties to help their libraries
HKU Libraries Book Donation Program

- University Librarian (Dr A.W. Ferguson) & Assistant Fung Ping Shan Librarian (Ms Angela Ko) visited Sichuan University Library, Chengdu in Oct 2008
- Explored ways to assist the libraries
- Worked with Hong Kong University Press & Dr Priscilla Roberts (History Dept) to donate books
HKU Libraries Book Donation (Oct/Nov 2008)

Library of Mianyang Normal University
(绵阳师范学院图书馆)

• Book donation – 600 volumes
• Stamp on books:
  “大爱无疆  抗震救灾
  香港大学图书馆  援助图书”
HKU Libraries Book Donation (Oct/Nov 2008)

Sichuan University Library
(四川大學圖書館)

• Book donations – 5,000 books
• Sichuan University Library will help to distribute donated books to needy libraries in the earthquake areas
Medical Library staff preparing books for shipment to Sichuan
Lessons Learned

- The need for comprehensive disaster plans
- The need for regular fire and evacuation drills
- The need to analyze all existing buildings & new buildings for their ability to withstand stresses produced by major earthquakes
- The need for an emergency classification system that everyone can quickly grasp the severity of the disaster confronting the populace and those involved in relief efforts
- The need to quickly gather experts together to share experiences with each other and the librarians affected by the disaster
5.12 earthquake video

Source:
北川羌族自治县文化旅游局
(Beichuan Qiang Autonomous County Culture & Tourism Authority)
How Can You Help?

Write to: Cheng Huanwen (程煥文)
Chair, Library Family (圖書館家園)
Sichuan Earthquake Aid Program

cheng@mail.sysu.edu.cn
http://blog.sina.com.cn/huanwen
Objective: Provide books & libraries for elementary schools & orphanages as they are rebuilt or repaired

How Can You Help?

The Library Project, Inc.
2008 Earthquake Program
4362 East Gatewood Road
Phoenix, AZ, 85050, USA
How Can You Help?

International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies
http://donate.ifrc.org/
Latest Earthquakes in the World - Past 7 days

Worldwide earthquakes with M4.5+ located by USGS and Contributing Agencies.
(Earthquakes with M2.5+ within the United States and adjacent areas.)

Fri Aug 21 06:00:02 UTC 2009  285 earthquakes on this map
Suggestions?
Thank you
謝謝