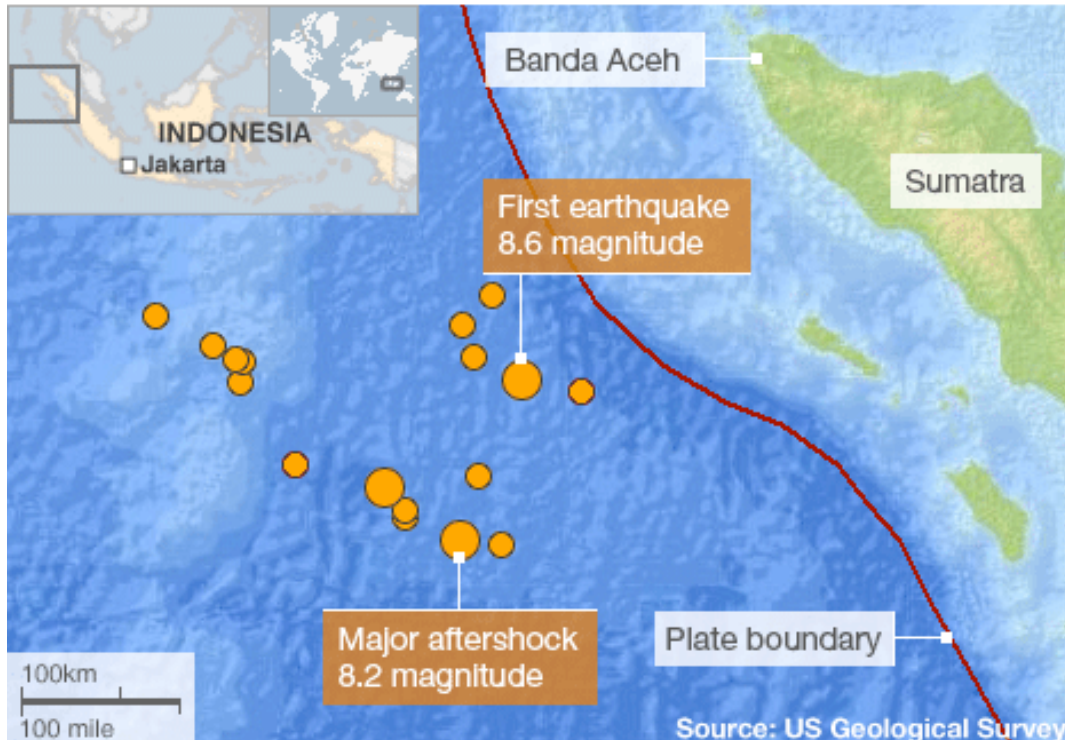


Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers.

Praise the Lord for there was no major disaster occurred yesterday after the powerful earthquakes that struck the Western Coast of Sumatra. U.S. Geological Survey recorded there were two major earthquakes 8,6 magnitudes at 15:38 and 8,2 magnitudes at 17:43, and more than two dozen aftershocks with magnitudes between 4,6 to 5,5 occurred in the western coast of Sumatra in the past 24 hours (see map below).

Earthquakes off Sumatran coast 11 April 2012



Suharjono, the seismologist in charge of the BMKG's (Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency) earthquake and tsunami division, said the agency was monitoring the after effects of the earthquake and its aftershocks on the movement of the tectonic plates under the archipelago. BMKG also reported that the sea level rose by only 80 centimeters in Meulaboh and by 20 centimeters in Sabang, Aceh.

While no destruction was reported after the earthquakes, fears and panic spread throughout the western coast of Sumatra particularly in Aceh Province, as tsunami warning was issued yesterday. A few hours later, the warning was renewed after another powerful earthquake measuring 8.2 struck 16km (10 miles) beneath the ocean floor and 615km from Banda Aceh.

Until this report was prepared, there are no exact data on casualties or damage. "Everything is still in data collection," said Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, head of Public Relations and Information Data Center National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), today.

We have made contacts with the team in Nias and Mentawai this morning, and they confirmed that all were in good condition. No damages on buildings were reported until now. In Mentawai, our team moved back all the office equipments they brought out yesterday due to tsunami warning. All activities both in Nias and Mentawai have been back to normal since this morning.

Church partners near the coastlines (GKLI, GKPA, HKBP, BNKP) have also been contacted for condition in their respective areas. All reported that they felt the quakes and people ran outside soon after the first quake, some were panic, but later they returned to their homes. Rev. Mangisi Simorangkir also confirmed similar information on the situation in Nias. Electricity was turned off for several hours, but now back to normal again.

We have not been approached by anybody for assistance so far. The only thing reported damaged was the airport in Simeulue island. Other than that our field offices and church partners have informed no damages and assistance needed at this time. We will keep our ears open, and also check with BNPB for update on the exact data on casualties or damage.

Sherry Panggabean
CDRM&CDS
12 April 2012