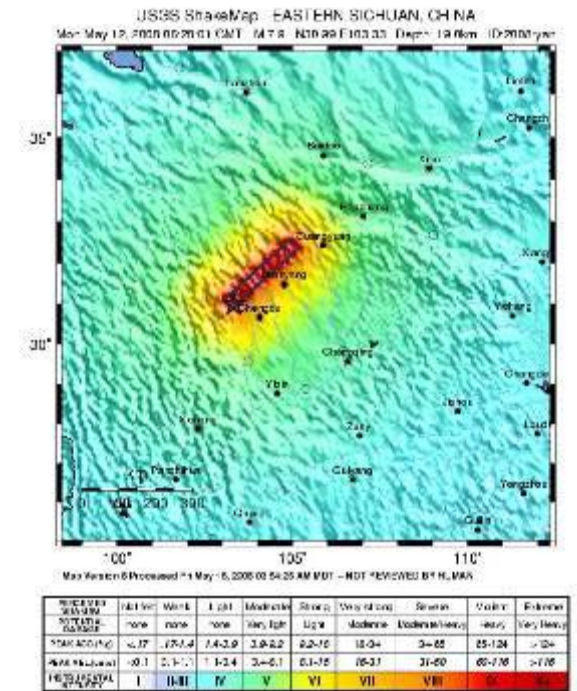
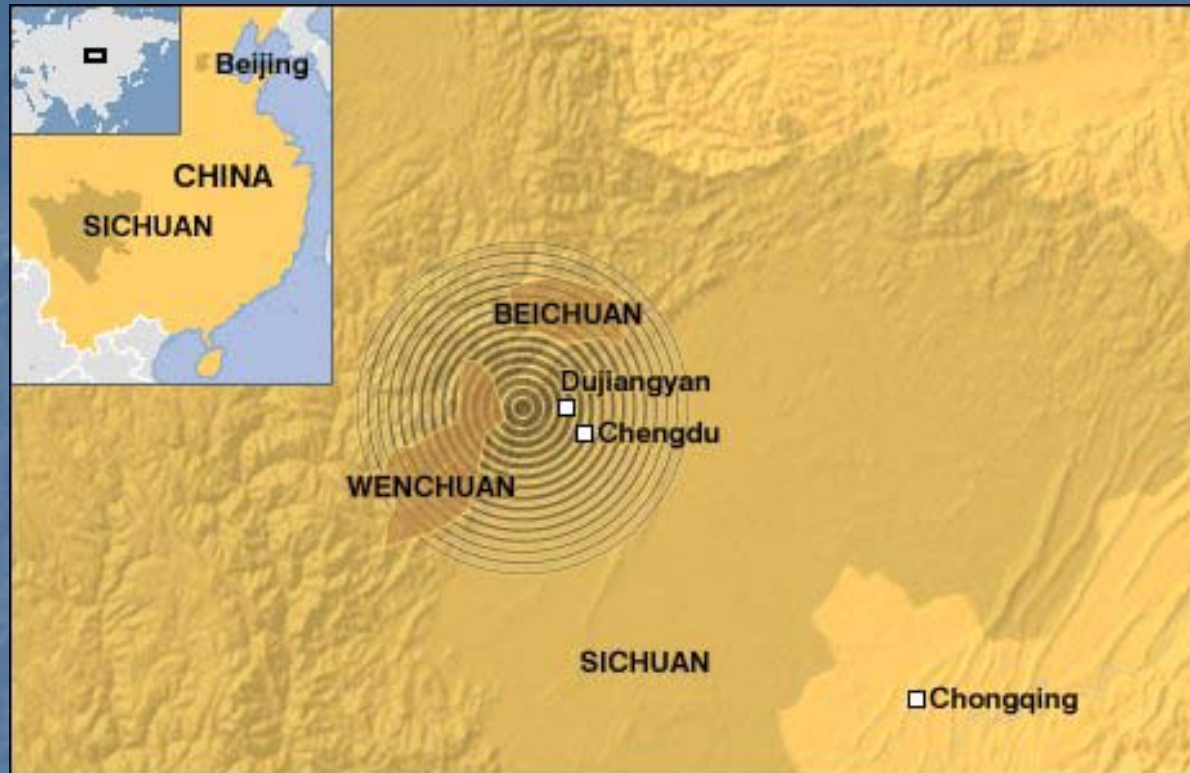


Heroes

Dedicated to the brave people in
Sichuan Earthquake 2008



An earthquake, magnitude 8.0, struck Sichuan province of China at 2:28PM, May 12, 2008. The epicenter of the earthquake, Wenchuan, is about 90 miles from Chengdu. The earthquake released more energy than 500 atomic bombs, 30 times more than the Kobe earthquake in Japan, 1995. By May 19, there were more than 32,000 confirmed dead, more than 20,000 still missing, and more than 4.7 million houses collapsed or heavily damaged.



Cities close to the epicenter
were flattened and whole
mountains collapsed.



Devastation



Millions of people lost their loved ones, their homes and their belongings. Yet there were no complaints- just people helping each other ([CNN](#))

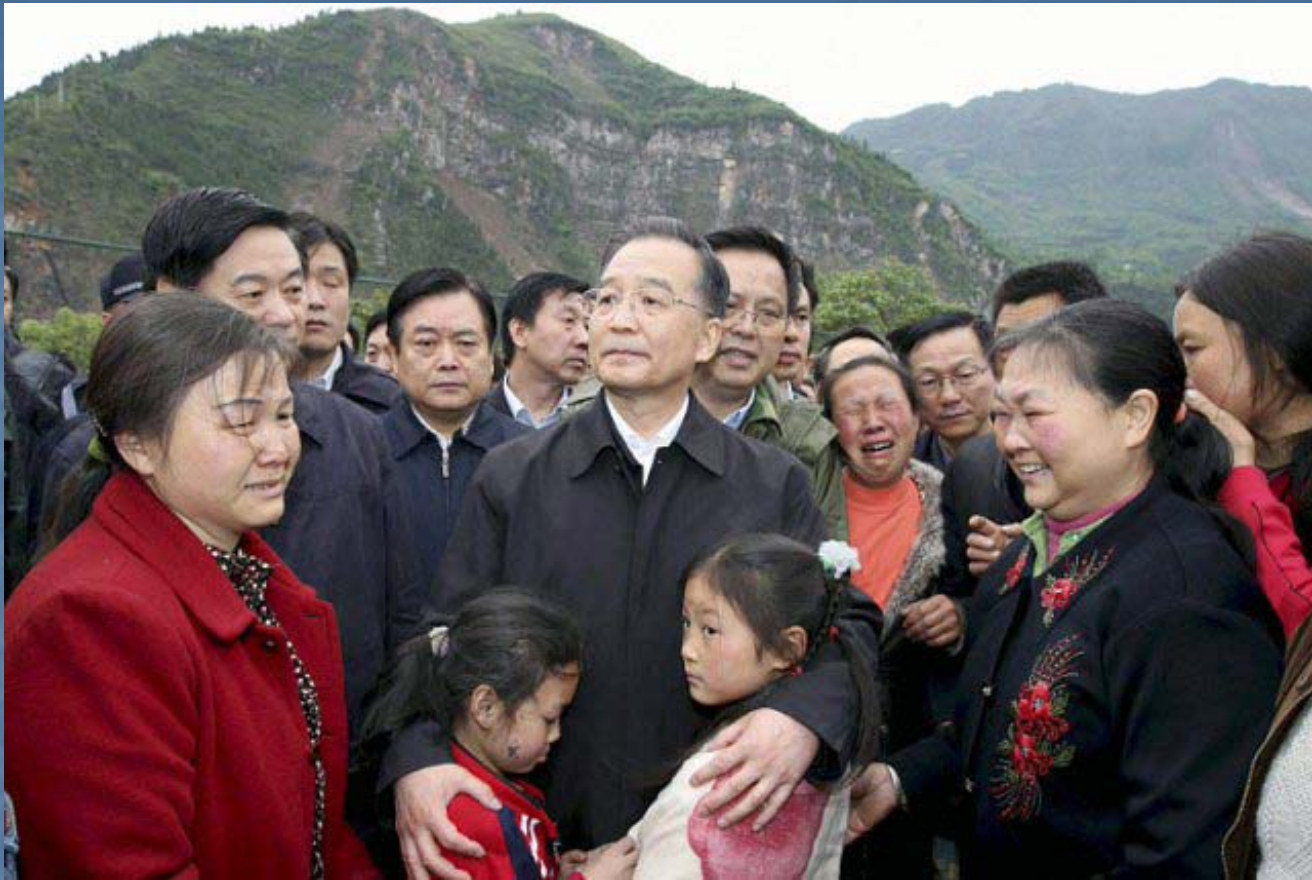


Within hours, people rushed to the rescue. Blood donation lines ran for 100 yards, and people waited hours to donate blood. Within 24 hours, all major blood banks ran out of storage space. The highway to the earthquake struck city Dujianyang (20 mile from Chengdu) was almost jammed one hour after the earthquake, not by people fleeing the aftershocks, but by volunteers going to help- led by over 1,000 taxi drivers from Chengdu.

Chen Guangbiao(陈光标), owner of a big construction company 1,500 miles from the disaster area, just 2 hour 30 minutes after the earthquake, started transporting 60 construction machineries and led 120 volunteers to the rescue. They arrived at the disaster area 24 hours later, almost the same time as Army Engineering Corp.



Medical workers provided care under extreme conditions. Many new born babies were delivered on the parking lot.



Wen Jiabao(温家宝), 66, Chinese Prime Minister, boarded a plane 30 minutes after the earthquake, and arrived in the disaster area within 2 hours. He has been the chief of the rescue operation since then, working almost around clock at the frontline with rescue workers.



1,100 paratroopers boarded airplanes 2 hours after the earthquake. Despite heavy rain, high winds and thick cloud, they jumped from over 20,000 feet to remote mountain areas where they did not even know if there would be a place for them to land. The first person to jump off plane was Senior Colonel **Li Zhenbo**(李振波), 51.



With roads buried by landslide and bad weather hammering airborne operations, a group of 600 soldiers and medical teams, led by Major General **Xia Guofu**(夏国富), 57, Commander in Chief of Sichuan Military District, walked 21 hours on foot to the mountain area, carrying heavy relief supplies, risking landslide and falling rocks. They were the first group to arrive at the epicenter of the earthquake.



Soldiers and rescue workers worked around the clock to rescue people still buried. Unable to transport heavy machinery to the remote areas since roads were buried by landslides, they often had to use their hands to move tons of concrete.



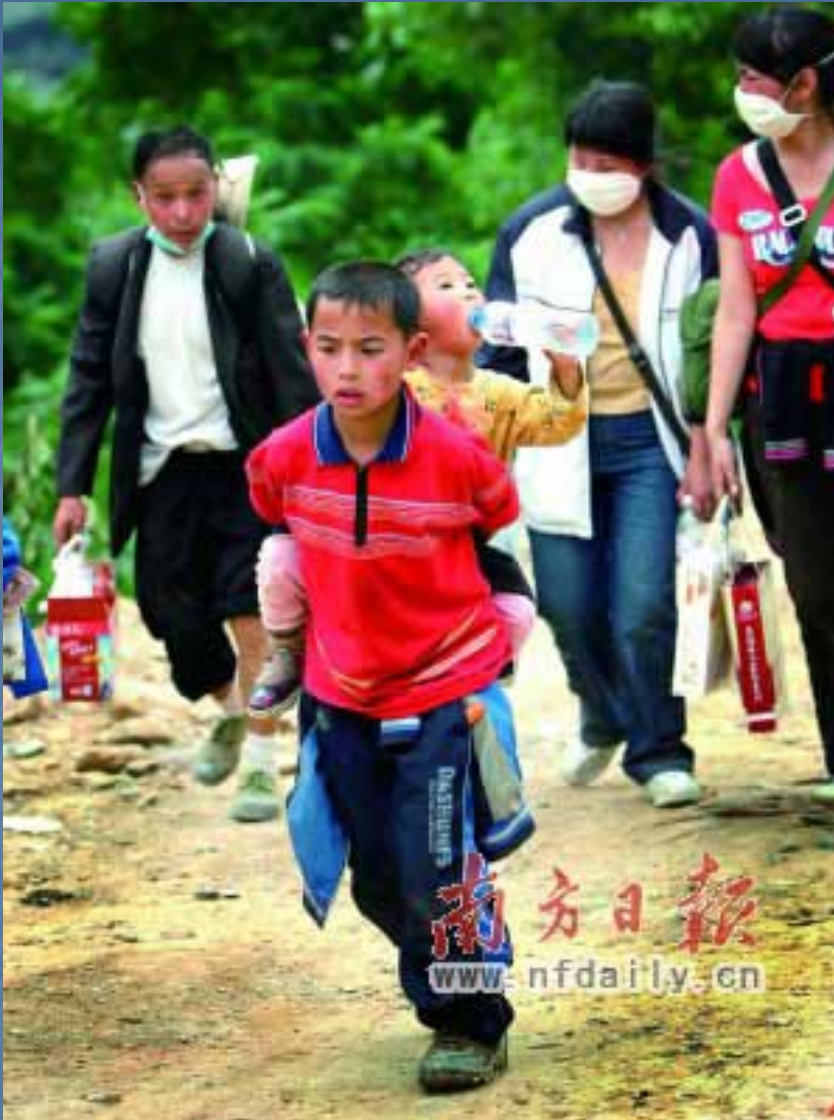
People were rushing to donate money. Many rich people donated in millions, but no one can match Xu Chao(徐超), 60, on the right. He is a homeless in Nanjing, 1000 miles from the disaster area. He saw the news and went to donate 5 Yuan in the morning. He said people in the disaster area were worse off than him because their lives were threatened. He came back in the afternoon, donated a further 100 Yuan. He explained that all that he had was small change and that he didn't want to waste volunteer workers' time by counting it, so he went to the bank to change everything he had into one note. This was from a man without money to buy food for himself.



Song Xinying (宋馨懿), 3, pulled out from rubble after being buried for 2 days. She was in a critical condition and lost a leg, but survived. Her parents held each other's hands and shoulders face to face to make an arch to shield her from the falling building. Her parents did not make it out.



A 5 year old boy was rescued after being buried under rubble for 24 hours. His left hand was broken, but he smiled and saluted his rescuers. His smile made everybody cry.



Zhang Jiwan(张吉万), 11, carrying his sister **Zhang Han**(张韩), 3, walked for 12 hours from the disaster area.



Yuan Wentin(袁文婷), 26, first grade teacher. When the earthquake struck, she rushed to carry her stunned students from a classroom on the 3rd floor to the ground. She managed to pull out most of her students, but the building collapsed when she was trying to pull out the last few. Until the last moment of her life, she was trying to use her body to shield the students from falling concrete.

Many teachers did the same thing. They are 谭千秋、张米亚、苟晓超、吴忠洪、杜正香.....



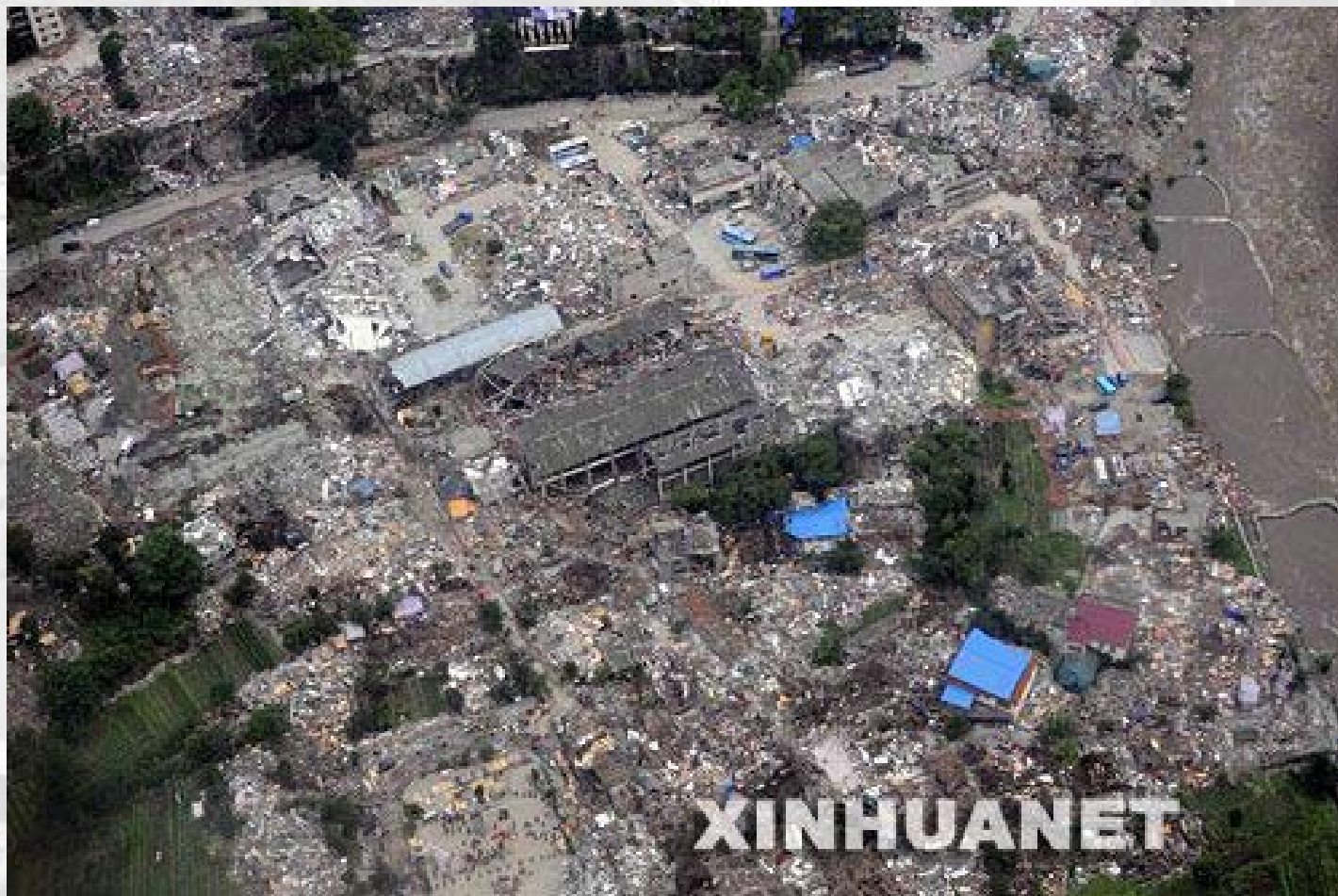
This high school student was rescued from a collapsed building. She lost both legs, and both hands were broken. The rescue workers were in tears when they saw this. She smiled to them: "Be Brave!"



This baby, after being buried for over 24 hours, miraculously, was rescued unscratched. He is about 3-4 months old, and his mother knelt down, pinned her head and hands on the ground to shield him from the falling concrete. His mother did not make it out. A rescue worker found his mother's cell phone in his blanket. It had a text message left by his mother: "Dear child, if you survive, please remember, Mum loves you forever..."



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Yingxiu Township



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collapsing





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landslide





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death





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Injury & rescue



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2. Project progress

- Amity instantly launched the emergency response. Set up a special work group, release CNY 1 million yuan of emergency fund to Sichuan disaster area. Amity staff arrived in Sichuan in the afternoon of May 12.





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- Up to now, a total of 20160 bottles of water, 28800 bags of instant noodle, 27200 sausage, 352000 of cooking oil, 13800 quilts, 374 tons of rice and 23000 sheets of tarpaulins were purchased and distributed to counties including Beichuan, Wenchuan, Mianzhu, Shifang, Pengzhou, Dujiangyan and Maoxian in Sichuan, as well as Hanyang and Ningqiang in Shaanxi, and Wenxian in Gansu.
- Other 2453 boxes of different emergency materials supported by different NGOs, companies and individuals, including tents, medicine, women sanitation necessities, etc. were also distributed to counties of Qinchun, Youxian, Mianzhu, etc.



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Pictures of Amity's work



Assessment





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Purchasing & Transportation





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Distribution





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Social workers team





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3. Next plan

For the Next step, Amity will focus on rehabilitation and reconstruction work in affected areas. Activities will include reconstruction of houses, drinking water systems, village clinics and primary schools. And to help people resume their production, agricultural tools and materials, as well as relevant training will also be provided.





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