

Global Disaster Updates

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While we have taken off on a new year, many of the recent issues have moved with us. New developments such as the earthquakes in Japan or volcanic eruptions in Iceland have hit many records and caused plenty of damage. These disasters have caused many casualties and are bypassing previous records in damage. They are making the issue of climate change that much more upfront and visible to the normal eye.

On December 18th, a volcano erupted in Sundhuksgigar, Iceland that not only caused many of the people living nearby to have to evacuate for safety, but the volcano caused a series of other earthquakes throughout the southwestern coast. There have been a total of over 320 earthquakes, some even measuring up to a 4.1 in magnitude. Many people who have been affected by the volcano have been forced to evacuate. Nearly 3,700 people in Grindavik, a town near the volcano, were evacuated in preparation for the eruption. Currently, the volcano is no longer erupting, but many are still suffering from the damage that both the volcano and the earthquakes have caused.

While on the topic of earthquakes, at the start of the year in Japan, a series of earthquakes hit Western Japan. These earthquakes have hit high records in magnitude, nearly a 7.6. Water, cell service, and power had been unavailable for the first few days after the wreck. First responders have been working incredibly hard to rescue any people under the rubble and with at least 62 dead, the number is likely to go up, as people fear that there may still be people stuck under the rubble.

There has been speculation of the cause of all these earthquakes that have occurred. Earthquakes are caused by pressure released in seismic waves from fault lines. It can also be caused by fractures in the earth's crust. With current earthquakes happening in New York, some scientists believed that climate change may be a cause of climate change.

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