

# Living under Threat of Earthquake

International Conference – Humboldt Kolleg on

## Short- and long-term management of earthquake risk and damage prevention in Nepal

Kathmandu / Nepal, February 19 – 22, 2016

### First Circular

The large earthquakes that recently hit central parts of Nepal not only led to huge damage and loss of lives but also brought the country to the limits of successful disaster management. Therefore, it appears necessary and timely to examine closely various earthquake-related topics, ranging from the geological and geophysical background of seismicity in Nepal, to a detailed inventory of damage caused by the recent earthquakes and ways of prevention through earthquake-safe building and settlement, possibilities of restoration of world-heritage buildings and, finally, strategies of technical and medical relief and questions associated with public life and economy in an high-risk seismic zone.

Based on contributions of invited international experts, the conference intends to present the state of the art in all earthquake-related fields and to illustrate future ways of perceiving risk, prevention of damage, and disaster management in all parts of society, administration, and politics in Nepal.

A special volume with contributions to the conference will be published, in order to make data, research results and discussions available to the public.

### Program

#### Plate Tectonics and Earthquakes

- Geology and tectonics of the Himalayan
- Spatial and temporal earthquake distribution and intensity
- Earthquake prediction

#### Speakers

Lok Bijaya **Adhikari** (Nepal)  
Alejandra **Arciniaga-Ceballos** (Mexico)  
Ishtiaq A. K. **Jadoon** (Pakistan)  
Krishna P. **Kaphle** (Nepal)  
Mona **Lisa** (Pakistan)  
Nemalikanti P. **Rao** (India)  
Seth A. **Stein** (USA)  
Prem B. **Thapa** (Nepal)

#### Damage, Prevention, Restoration

- Buildings
- Settlements
- Infrastructure
- World Cultural Heritage

#### Speakers

Bassanta R. **Adhikari** (Nepal)  
M. Jahangir **Alam** (Bangladesh)  
Deepankar **Choudhury** (India)  
Uwe E. **Dorka** (Germany)  
Zeynep **Günay** (Turkey)  
Christian **Manhart** (UNESCO)  
Luigi **Petti** (Italy)  
Erwin W.A. **Schwing** (Germany)

#### Disaster Management and Economics

- Technical and medical relief
- Economy, industry and science in a seismogenic country
- Tourism in high-risk regions

#### Speakers

Monika **Brodmann Maeder** (Switzerland)  
Tanka Nath **Dhamala** (Nepal)  
Chuanzong **Ding** (China)  
Ashabul **Hoque** (Bangladesh)  
Ganesh Raj **Joshi** (Nepal)  
Jörn H. **Kruhl** (Germany)  
Shamsuddin **Shahid** (Malaysia)  
Ning **Wu** (China)

#### Living with Natural Hazards

- The role of science in administrative and political decision making
- Public perception and the role of media
- Preparing for the worst: training for natural hazards

#### Speakers

Ananda M. **Bhattarai** (Nepal)  
Alice **Fothergill** (USA)  
Wei **Gao** (China)  
Aidan **Lyon** (USA)  
Lukas H. **Meyer** (Austria)  
Rabindra **Puri** (Nepal)  
Khan Rubayet **Rahaman** (Canada)  
Volker **Schneider** (Germany)

# Conference schedule:

## Fri, 2016-02-19:

- 08:00 – 09:00 Registration  
09:00 – 09:40 Opening Ceremony  
09:40 – 18:00 Scientific Session: Plate Tectonics and Earthquakes  
Scientific Session: Damage, Prevention, Restoration  
Poster Session: Plate Tectonics and Earthquakes & Damage, Prevention, Restoration  
19:30 Reception (Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Kathmandu)

## Sat, 2016-02-20:

- 09:00 – 10:50 Scientific Session: Damage, Prevention, Restoration  
10:50 – 12:20 Round Table / Auditorium Discussion: Plate Tectonics and Earthquakes – Damage, Prevention, Restoration  
14:00 – 19:00 Mid-Conference Excursion: Visit to Destroyed World Heritage Sites and other Earthquake Damage in and around Kathmandu

## Sun, 2016-02-21:

- 09:00 – 16:20 Scientific Session: Disaster Management and Economics  
Poster Session: Disaster Management and Economics & Living with Natural Hazards  
16:20 – 17:50 Round Table / Auditorium Discussion: Disaster Management and Economics  
19:30 Conference Dinner

## Mon, 2016-02-22:

- 09:00 – 12:30 Scientific Session: Living with Natural Hazards  
14:00 – 15:30 Round Table / Auditorium Discussion: Living with Natural Hazards  
16:00 Concluding discussion of conference results  
17:00 Closing Ceremony

### Important dates:

January 25, 2016	Deadline for registration and abstract submission for poster presentation
February 05, 2016	Notification of abstract acceptance
February 19 – 22, 2016	Conference

**Venue:** Hotel Annapurna, Durbar Marg, Kathmandu / Nepal, [www.annapurna-hotel.com](http://www.annapurna-hotel.com)

### Scientific Committee:

Prof. Dr. Rameshwar Adhikari (Tribhuvan University, Nepal)  
Prof. Dr. Uwe E. Dorka (Universität Kassel, Germany)  
Prof. Dr. Jörn H. Kruhl (Technische Universität München, Germany)

### Organizing Committee:

Prof. Dr. Jörn H. Kruhl (Technische Universität München, Germany)  
Prof. Dr. Rameshwar Adhikari (Tribhuvan University, Nepal)  
Prof. Dr. Tribikram Bhattarai (Tribhuvan University, Nepal)  
Prof. Dr. Novel Kishore Rai (Tribhuvan University, Nepal)

### Supporting organizations:

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation  
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Kathmandu  
Humboldt Club Nepal  
Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) Nepal  
Tribhuvan University (TU), Nepal  
Kathmandu University (KU), Nepal  
Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST),  
Nepal Geological Society  
Nepal Polymer Institute, Kathmandu  
Action Research Consultancy-Nepal

### Conference Office:

Jyoti Giri (Tribhuvan University, Nepal)

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