



# Earth



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## Hurricane Patricia hits Mexico

Eastern quadrant of Hurricane Patricia over Mexico and the storm's pinhole eye on October 23, 2015.

Source: NOAA

Hurricane Patricia was a tropical cyclone that formed in the eastern Pacific and rapidly intensified into a Category 5 hurricane. It initially formed on October 20, 2015 and dissipated on October 24, 2015. On October 23, Patricia became the most powerful tropical cyclone ever measured in the Western Hemisphere as its maximum sustained winds reached an unprecedented 200 miles per hour (320 kilometers per hour) and its central pressure fell to 879 millibars (25.96 inches of mercury).

The eye of Hurricane Patricia made landfall on October 23 at 6:15 p.m. CDT near Cuixmala in Jalisco state of southwest Mexico with wind speed 165 miles per hour (265 kilometers per hour).

Despite the high wind speed, major damage was averted as Patricia missed tourist centers like Puerto Vallarta and the major cargo port of Manzanillo. However, the storm carved through small rural villages, ripping corrugated metal roofing off modest brick homes and uprooting trees. According to initial estimates from AIR Worldwide insured losses should not exceed USD 200 million; while Kinetic Analysis Corporation put an insurance industry loss estimate of under USD 500 million.

Source: Reuters, artemis.bm



Damaged Road sign board by Hurricane Patricia

Source: news.yahoo.com



## Cyclone Chapala and Megh hit Yemen

Tropical Cyclone "Chapala" over Yemen, November 3, 2015.

Source: NASA

Tropical Cyclone "Chapala" made landfall southwest of Al Mukalla town, Yemen on November 3 at 03:00 UTC, as a very severe cyclonic storm. The system thus became the first hurricane on record to hit Yemen and the second strongest cyclone reported in the Arabian Sea after Cyclone Gonu that hit Oman in June 2007.

A strike on the Arabian coast by a major tropical cyclone is rare due to great amount of dry air that is drawn in from the Arabian Peninsula well ahead of the storm. The Al Mukalla town received 48 in (1220 mm) of rain in 17 hours which is exceptionally rare as Yemen typically gets around 100 millimeters (4 inches) of rain per year. The rains flooded streets and inundated vehicles, devastated homes and numerous evacuations due to high risk of rockslides. The cyclone battered the remote Yemeni island of Socotra.



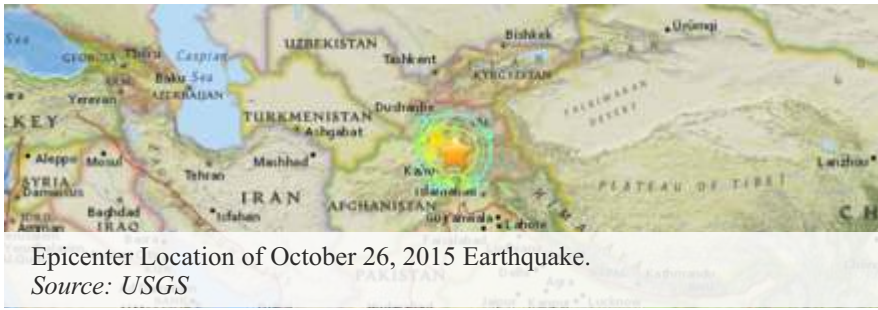
Flooding in Al Mukalla Source due to Cyclone Chapala

Source: Twitter

Within a week of cyclone Chapala, Yemen was hit by another Tropical Cyclone "Megh" which made landfall about 20 km (12.4 miles) northeast of Aden on the night of November 9 to 10.

6 people were reported dead and numerous injured on Socotra after Megh's passage. Significant infrastructural damage was reported across the area, including devastation of homes, fisheries and livestock. However, as the country is ravaged by months of war, loss amount is still not known.

Source: Accuweather, BBC, Yemen Post



## Massive Earthquake in South Asia

Epicenter Location of October 26, 2015 Earthquake.

Source: USGS

A magnitude 7.5 earthquake occurred on October 26, 2015 at 09:09 UTC. Its epicenter was in the province of Badakhshan in the Hindu Kush mountain range in Afghanistan's far north and its focal depth was 130 miles (210km). This earthquake was one of the largest earthquakes occurred in Hindukush region. The table shows historic earthquakes of magnitude 5.5 or more occurred in the Indian subcontinent.

Tremors were felt in Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and Kyrgyzstan. In Afghanistan, damage was reported in areas closer to epicenter of earthquake. The earthquake also triggered landslides. In Pakistan, building shook for more than 2 minutes in Islamabad. People in other cities had similar experiences. In India, earthquake was felt in north Indian states including New Delhi. More than 300 people died. Economic and insured loss values are not known yet.

Date of Occurrence	Location	Magnitude	Date of Occurrence	Location	Magnitude
8/15/1950	Great Assam, India	8.6	4/5/2004	Hindukush Region, Afghanistan	6.6
6/16/1819	Great Kutch, India	8.3	4/25/2015	Nepal	6.6
6/12/1897	Great Shillong, India	8.3	1/19/1975	Kinnaur, India	6.5
1/15/1934	Great Bihar-Nepal	8.1	12/12/2005	Hindukush Region, Afghanistan	6.5
6/26/1941	Great Andaman, India	8.1	10/20/1991	Uttarkashi, India	6.4
27/11/1945	Makran Coast, Pakistan	8.0	10/28/2008	Pakistan	6.4
3/14/1965	Hindukush Region, Afghanistan	7.8	12/28/1958	Kapkot, India	6.3
4/25/2015	Nepal	7.8	12/11/1967	Koyna, India	6.3
1/26/2001	Bhuj, India	7.7	28/12/1974	Northern Pakistan	6.2
4/4/1905	Great Kangra, India	7.5	9/30/1993	Latur, India	6.2
30/05/1935	Quetta, Pakistan	7.5	10/29/2009	Hindukush Region, Afghanistan	6.2
8/10/2009	Andaman Islands, India	7.5	7/21/1956	Anjar, India	6.1
10/26/2015	Hindukush Region, Afghanistan	7.5	3/25/2002	Hindukush Region, Afghanistan	6.1
3/3/2002	Hindukush Region, Afghanistan	7.4	9/21/2009	Bhutan	6.1
10/8/2005	Pakistan/Kashmir	7.4	2/8/1900	Coimbatore	6.0
7/24/2005	Nicobar Islands, India	7.3	9/14/2002	Diglipur, A & N Islands	6.0
1/18/2011	Pakistan	7.2	2/4/1998	Afghanistan-Tajikistan Border Region	5.9
7/29/1980	Pithoragarh, India	6.8	5/22/1997	Jabalpur, India	5.8
10/10/1956	Bulandshahar, India	6.7	2/14/2006	Sikkim, India	5.7
8/21/1988	Bihar-Nepal	6.6	12/31/1984	Silchar, India	5.6
5/30/1998	Afghanistan-Tajikistan Border Region	6.6	9/2/1963	Badgam, India	5.5
3/29/1999	Chamoli, India	6.6	4/26/1986	Dharamshala, India	5.5

Source: *The Guardian*, USGS

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