

## **Donation to Sichuan Earthquake**

I like many people in Hong Kong and all around the world have been overwhelmed at the devastation the people of Sichuan has suffered from biggest earthquake to hit China in over a quotes of a century.

This was the deadliest and strongest earthquake to hit China since the 1976 Tangshan earthquake. According to the State Seismological Bureau of China, the earthquake had a magnitude of 8.0 on the Mercalli Scale. The epicenter was in Wenchuan, 80 km northwest of Chengdu, with the main tremor occurring at 2:28 p.m., on Monday 12 May 2008. The earthquake was felt as far away as Beijing (1,500 km) and Shanghai (1,700 km), where office buildings swayed with the tremor. The earthquake was also felt in nearby countries such as Thailand and Vietnam.

Official figures (as of 30 May, 12:00 noon) state that 68,858 are confirmed dead, including 68,349 in Sichuan province, and 366,586 injured, with 18,618 listed as missing. The earthquake left about 4.8 million people homeless, though the number could be as high as 11 million. There have been over fifty aftershocks recorded within 72 hours of the main quake ranging in magnitude from 4.4 to 6.0. On 25 May, a major aftershock of magnitude 6.0 hit northeast of the original earthquake's epicenter, in Qingchuan County, causing a further eight deaths, 927 injuries, and the additional collapse of thousands more buildings.

The disaster prompted many offers of monetary donations and other forms of aid from across the globe, which has exceeded a collective total of US\$100 million in cash contributions from sources outside mainland China. In Hong Kong, there are a number of charitable institutions such as Red Cross, UNICEF, The Salvation Army, OXFAM, World Vision, Liaison Office of the CPG in HKSAR to name but a few organizations that have eagerly called for donations to help the Sichuan victims. A great number of Hong Kong people, regardless of background have generously responded to these calls for disaster relief.

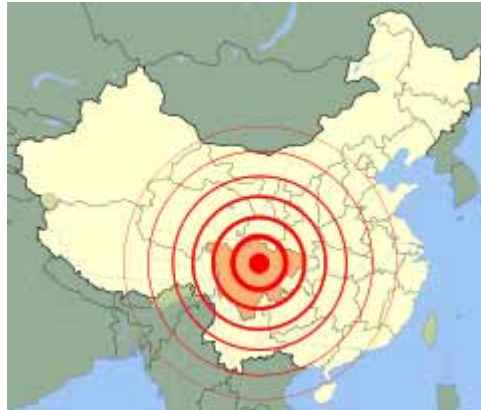
The management and staff members of K.C. Ho & Fong offer their concern sympathy to the victims in the earthquake and support to the rescue services. In response to The Law Society's appeal for donations from the legal profession on 16 May 2008, our partners have donated a sum of HK\$100,000 towards the Disaster Relief Fund. Thereafter, our staff took the initiative to collect donations from colleagues totaling HK\$3,800 which has been deposited with the Hong Kong Red Cross on 17 May 2008.

Though no amount of donation is able to make up for what the Sichuan people have lost. We do hope that with our donations amongst the many others, we can accelerate the rebuilding and healing process of those victims in Sichuan!

Serena Chan

31.5.2008

**2008 Sichuan earthquake**



<b>Date</b>	<a href="#">May 12, 2008</a>
<b>Magnitude</b>	8.0 <a href="#">M<sub>s</sub><sup>[1]</sup></a> / 7.9 <a href="#">M<sub>w</sub><sup>[2]</sup></a>
<b>Depth:</b>	19 kilometres (12 mi)
<b>Epicenter location:</b>	<a href="#">31°01'16"N 103°22'01"E31.021, 103.367Sichuan earthquake</a> ( <a href="#">Wenchuan County</a> in <a href="#">Sichuan province</a> )
<b>Countries/ regions affected</b>	 <a href="#">China</a>
<b>Aftershocks:</b>	96 major aftershocks so far (see <a href="#">list</a> ) over 7,000 total aftershocks <sup>[3]</sup>
<b>Casualties:</b>	68,858 (dead, <a href="#">19th deadliest earthquake of all time</a> ) 366,586 (injured) 18,618 (missing) (as of May 30, 2008 12:00 <a href="#">CST</a> ) <sup>[4]</sup>

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2008\\_Sichuan\\_earthquake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2008_Sichuan_earthquake)