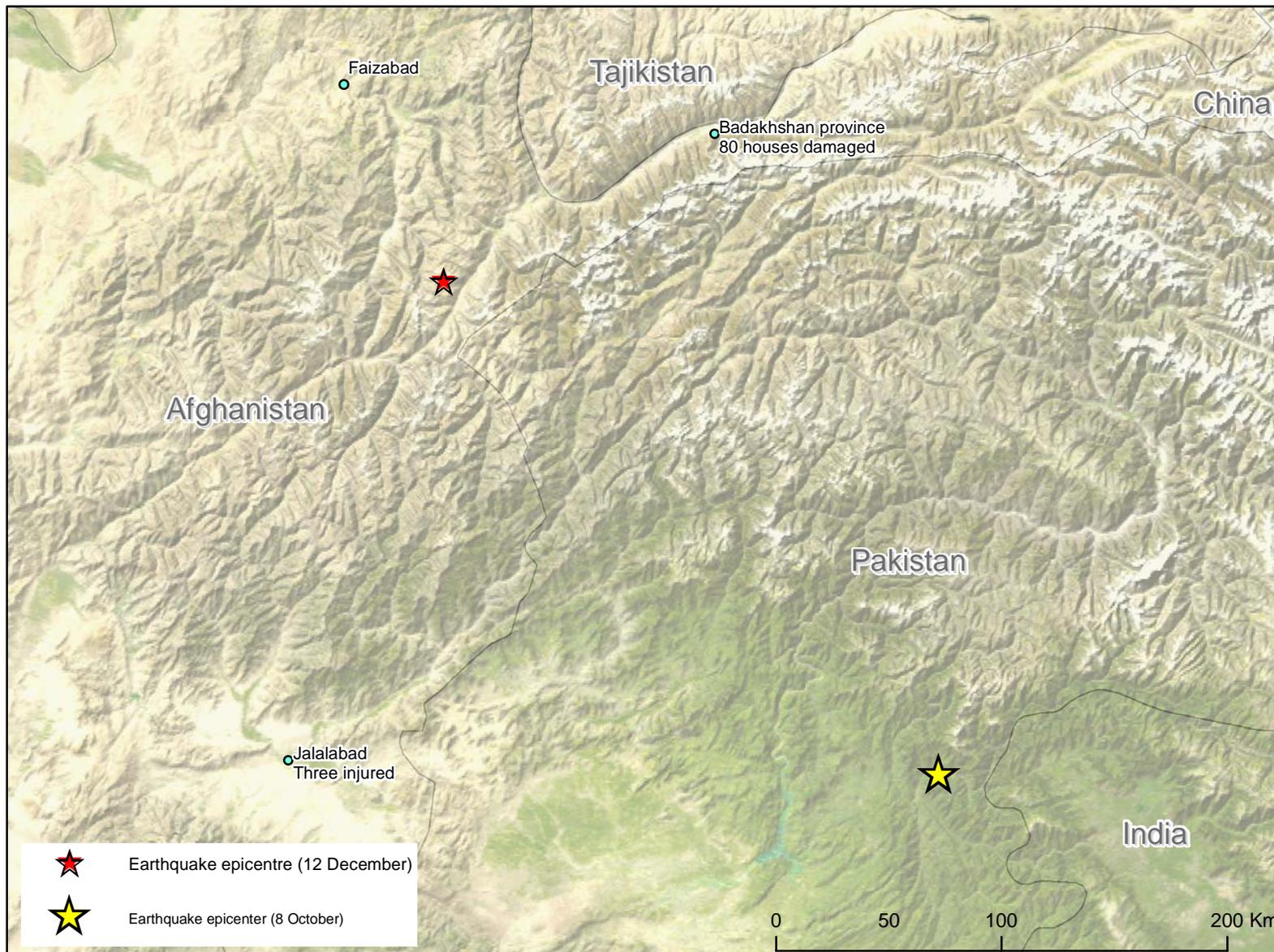




## Afghanistan: Earthquake



An earthquake of magnitude 6.7 on the Richter scale struck in the north-eastern Afghanistan province of Badakhshan at 0217 local time on 13 December, 2005 (21:47 12 December GMT). The epicentre was located in the mountainous Hindu Kush region, 95 kilometres south east of Faizabad, in an area which is sparsely populated and to date there have been no confirmed deaths.

The Afghanistan Federation delegation has received reports of 80 houses being damaged in Badakhshan province but there are no casualty figures available. There are reports of three injuries in Jalalabad city, approximately 230 kilometres to the south.

The quake was felt across Pakistan and as far away as New Delhi, India. In neighbouring North West Frontier Province in Pakistan, which is recovering from the devastating 8 October earthquake, Pakistan Red Crescent/Federation relief teams operating in the border areas of Besham, Kohistan and the Allai Valley, have no reports of casualties or damage, as yet.

The Afghanistan Red Crescent Society and Afghanistan country delegation are monitoring the situation and liaising with various government and UN agencies and the ICRC which is operational in Badakhshan province. Due to the remote nature of the affected area, detailed assessments of the damage have yet to be received.

The Pakistan Red Crescent Society and Pakistan country delegation likewise are gathering information from a variety of sources, including relief teams in the field.