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Information bulletin Iran: earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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Date of disaster: November 12, 2017

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Host National Society: Iranian Red Crescent Society

*This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details that are currently available. The **Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS)**, with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that at this stage external assistance is not required.*

The situation

A magnitude 7.3 earthquake hit the western part of Iran along the northern border with Iraq on Sunday 12 November 2017 at 21:48 hours, local time, killing at least 328 people and injuring more than 3,950 up to the publication of this information bulletin.

According to the official reports, Power is cut off in the cities of Qasre-Shirin, Gilane-Garb, Kermanshah, Sare-Pule-Zahab in Kermanshah and houses in some western Iranian villages have been severely damaged to various degrees. The quake also shook the Iranian provinces of Kurdistan, Ilam, Khuzestan, Markazi, West Azerbaijan, East Azerbaijan, Lorestan, Qazvin, Zanzan, Qom and Tehran.



Source: IRCS

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Following the quake, the Relief and Rescue Organisation of the Iranian Red Crescent Society, as part of their first phase of its response operation, deployed 16 response teams, 31 sniffer dog teams, 41 debris removing teams, 48 emergency sheltering teams and 9 emergency treatment teams to the affected cities of Qasre-Shirin, Gilane-Garb, Kermanshah, Sare-Pule-Zahab, Salase-Babajani, Dalahoo, Islamabad- E- Gharb, and Javanrood.



Source: AFP

In addition, some 40 ambulances, 55 4WD vehicles, nine rescue vehicles, and five helicopters have been dispatched for assistance by the Relief and Rescue Organisation of the IRCS as of the first hours of the next morning.

The Red Crescent Relief and Rescue teams from Kurdistan and Markazi provincial branches continue to provide relief and rescue services in the city of Salase-Babajani, teams from Lorestan to Qasre-Shirin and teams from Hamedan to Sare-Pule-Zahab.

So far, rescue operation and assessment is being conducted on the ground and relief items including tents, ground sheets, blankets, kitchen sets, and food items such as canned food and rice are being distributed to the affected people.

As per the latest statistics, a total of 114 aftershocks have occurred so far in the different cities and villages of north western Iran.

IRCS teams are currently assessing the situation and will communicate accordingly the initial needs and response.



Source: REUTERS

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.