

NEPAL

<http://www.operationworld.org/nepa>

Nepal is a landlocked country sandwiched between India and China. The mountainous north has eight of the world's 10 tallest mountains, including Mt. Everest. It has 240 mountains over 20,000' as compared to the continental US which has none over 15,000'. The southern area is fertile and humid.

Nepal is one of the least developed countries in the world and struggles with high levels of hunger and poverty, although it has been making some progress recently.

Hinduism at 81% and Buddhism at 9% are the leading religions with traces of others. About 850,000 evangelical Christians represent 2.8% of the population.

Yesterday a massive 7.8 magnitude earthquake centered less than 50 miles from the capital Katmandu rocked Nepal leaving at least 1457 people dead. This was the most severe earthquake in 80 years. The force was rated from severe to violent by people who contacted the USGS. People who contacted CNN described scenes of chaos, fear, and suffering.

Prayer needs: Clearly the devastation from this earthquake is the primary prayer concern at this time.