

『The Nankai Trough Earthquake』

Last August, an earthquake occurred in southern Miyazaki Prefecture, its epicenter in the Hyuga-nada sea, with a magnitude of 7.1 and a maximum intensity of Lower 6. This led to a “Temporary Nankai Trough Earthquake Warning” being issued. So for this month’s issue, here’s what you need to know about the Nankai Trough Earthquake.



The Nankai Trough earthquake refers to a large-scale earthquake that occurs along the plate junction that runs from the Suruga Bay in Shizuoka Prefecture, all the way to Hyuga-nada, off the coast of Oita and Miyazaki Prefectures, around every 100-150 years. If the earthquake occurs, it is predicted that Miyazaki will experience tremors with a maximum intensity of 7 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale. This will be followed by a tsunami of up to 17m in height, which will reach the eastern coastline in as little as 14 minutes. This will cause widespread flooding across the coastal areas.

If an earthquake does occur, always protect yourself first!

- If you are inside your house, protect your head by getting under a desk or other sturdy structure.
- If you are outside, stay away from objects at risk of collapsing, like cinderblock walls, electricity poles and vending machines.
- If you are near the coast, prepare for a tsunami and quickly evacuate to a safe place at higher ground.



Useful multilingual references:

From the Cabinet Office Disaster Management in Japan website:

1. Leaflet about the Nankai Trough Earthquake and how to be prepared:

<https://www.bousai.go.jp/jishin/nankai/leaflet.html>

※Languages available (14): English, Chinese (Simplified), Chinese (Traditional), Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Thai, Indonesian, Tagalog, Nepalese, Khmer, Burmese, Mongolian



2. Video

Video resources explaining potential damage caused by Nankai Trough Megaquake, Tokyo Metropolitan Near-Field Earthquake, and Megaquakes along the Japan Trench and Kuril-Kamchatka Trench, as well as protective measures.

https://www.bousai.go.jp/jishin/nankai/nankai_syuto.html



If you have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding this column, please contact the Miyazaki International Foundation (MIF):

TEL : 0985-32-8457 FAX : 0985-32-8512 Email : miyainfo@mif.or.jp

Also, if you ever have any questions or concerns about daily life in Miyazaki, please feel free to get in touch with the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents:

TEL : 0985-41-5901 FAX : 0985-41-5902 Email support@mif.or.jp