

Quake Lifts Solomons Island Out Of The Sea

http://fe60.news.sp1.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070407/sc_afp/solomonsquakeisland

by Neil Sands *Sat Apr 7, 7:19 PM ET*

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea follows this article.

RANONGGA, Solomon Islands (AFP) - The seismic jolt that unleashed the deadly Solomons tsunami this week lifted an entire island metres out of the sea, destroying some of the world's most pristine coral reefs.



Man looks at an exposed coral reef on the remote island of Ranongga. The seismic jolt that unleashed the deadly Solomons tsunami this week lifted an entire island metres out of the sea, destroying some of the world's most pristine coral reefs. (AFP/William West)

In an instant, the grinding of the Earth's tectonic plates in the 8.0 magnitude earthquake Monday forced the island of Ranongga up three metres (10 foot).

Submerged reefs that once attracted scuba divers from around the globe lie

exposed and dying after the quake raised the mountainous landmass, which is 32-kilometres (20-miles) long and 8-kilometres (5-miles) wide.

Corals that used to form an underwater wonderland of iridescent blues, greens and reds now bleach under the sun, transforming into a barren moonscape surrounding the island.

The stench of rotting fish and other marine life stranded on the reefs when the seas receded is overwhelming and the once vibrant coral is dry and crunches underfoot.

Dazed villagers stand on the shoreline, still coming to terms with the cataclysmic shift that changed the geography of their island forever, pushing the shoreline out to sea by up to 70 metres.

Aid agencies have yet to reach Ranongga after the quake and tsunami that killed at least 34 people in the Pacific archipelago but an AFP reporter and photographer on a chartered boat witnessed the destruction first hand.

At Pienuna, on Ranongga's east coast, locals said much of their harbour had disappeared, leaving only a narrow inlet lined by jagged exposed coral reefs either side.

Villager Harison Gago said there were huge earthquake fissures which had almost split the island in half, gesturing with his hands that some of the cracks were 50 centimetres (20 inches) wide.

Further north at Niu Barae, fisherman Hendrik Kegala had just finished exploring the new underwater landscape of the island with a snorkel when contacted by the AFP team.

He said a huge submerged chasm had opened up, running at least 500 metres (550 yards) parallel to the coast.

On the beach at Niu Barae, the earthquake has revealed a sunken vessel that locals believe is a Japanese patrol boat, a remnant of the fierce fighting between Allied forces and the Japanese in WWII.

Kegala said that from the perspective of those on the island, the sea appeared to recede and villagers still feared it would come back again as a tsunami, making them reluctant to return from higher ground where they fled.

"Plenty big noise," he told AFP, describing the disaster in the local pidgin dialect.

"Water go back and not come back again," he added, saying the whooshing sound of the receding water and the shaking from the quake occurred simultaneously.

Danny Kennedy, a dive operator in the provincial capital Gizo, said the earthquake had damaged coral reefs throughout the Solomon Islands' western province.

He said dive sites once ranked among the best in the world were dying because the tremors had upset the fragile natural ecosystem.

"Some of the most beautiful corals are the most delicate and those are the

ones that have been affected," he told AFP.

"The more robust corals are still there but it's the ones that people want to photograph, the sea fans and the colourful corals, that are dying."

Kennedy said the damage to the coral reefs could dry up the region's major source of overseas money.

"Diving is huge here, it employs so many local people," he said. "The fear is that people are going to come here and see the reefs are damaged then tell people not to come back for a few years until they recover."

Jackie Thomas, acting manager for Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) in the Solomons, said the loss of the reefs was a huge blow for the fishing communities that are dotted along Ranongga's coast.

"The fish from the reefs are the major source of protein for the villagers," she told AFP from Gizo.

"They use shells for tools and rely on the sea for many of their basic needs.

"It just shows the incredible force of the earthquake, to move a whole island."

She said the reefs around Ranongga were a protected marine environment and locals had worked hard with WWF in recent years to ensure that they were managed sustainably.

"Now it's another marine environment that has been destroyed," she said.

"Who knows if the coral reefs will recover and the fish will come back? Villagers will have to travel further to find the same sort of food and nutrition they've relied on -- the whole food chain has been disrupted."

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: Scientists with a uniformitarian/evolutionary mindset say that plate subduction can explain why this island rose ten feet. However, this is just their knee-jerk fairy tale explanation, since they don't really know or understand the origin of the forces that are causing earthquakes or permanent land upheavals.

If, as they say, the earth has been around for billions of years, forming as a result of swirling gas coming together to form a solid earth, then there should be no earthquakes today because the earth would not be in the imbalanced distribution of mass (and therefore force) that is causing earthquakes today.

Evolutionists ignore the fact that their theory of earth's formation should have zero forces that would cause crustal movement and then propose that billions of tons of ocean floor are moving against billions of tons of frictional forces at the crust/floor interface to cause the floor to dive toward the center of the earth (requiring it to displace billions of tons of inner earth material in order to make room) without ever explaining (using sound physics - because they can't) where the energy comes from to make this happen.

If their fairy tale were true, we would never be able to drive on a highway with comfort that the ground it was built on would not decide to break and dive 30 miles downward under crust it just broke away from. Every geotec engineer in the world would say that it is impossible for the earth's crust to do such a thing, but evolutionists (and those promoting Catastrophic Plate Tectonics (CPT) – the Answers in Genesis (AiG) and the Institute for Creation Research (ICR) fairy tale) get away with this deception every time they say “subduction caused this earthquake.”

So where did the imbalance which causes earthquakes and mass shifts in the earth come from? Dr. Walt Brown (MIT Mechanical Engineering Doctorate) has written a book answering this question. His book can be read on line at www.creationscience.com. In his chapter on the origin of Ocean Trenches, he gives fifteen reasons (based on gravity and physics) why subduction did not and cannot occur [Table 5. Subduction: Possible or Impossible?](#)

Dr. Brown's Hydroplate Theory explanation of plate motion and earth's geology is consistent with the laws of physics and explains why there are places on earth that are rising and falling during major earthquakes.

The Bible indicates that we haven't seen anything yet, as a future global earthquake will result in a rapid and further sinking of the mountains into the mantle with resultant lifting of ocean floors and low areas of the earth. Dr. Brown's theory also explains why this rapid redistribution of earth's crust is both possible and likely in the future.

*Rev 16:18 And there --- was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. --
----- 20 Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. (NKJ)*

Isa 24:19 The earth is violently broken, the earth is split open, the

earth is shaken exceedingly. 20 The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall totter like a hut; its transgression shall be heavy upon it, and it will fall, and not rise again. (NKJ)

In summary, the largely discredited CPT theory supported by AiG and ICR as well as the similar evolutionist/uniformitarian belief about earth's origins cannot explain some of the current phenomena observed during massive earthquakes, nor do their models predict that a global earthquake of the type described in bible prophecy can occur in the future. However, Dr. Brown's Hydroplate Theory does, and I would encourage those interested in creation research and scientifically sound answers in Genesis to study Dr. Brown's theory at his web site. I have, and doing so has equipped me to have sound and defensible answers for many of the barbs thrown by evolutionary critics.