

Myanmar Earthquake FAQ

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MYANMAR?

On Friday afternoon, March 28, a powerful 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit Myanmar with tremors felt as far as Thailand and south-west China.

The earthquake – which was of a similar magnitude to the 2023 earthquake in Türkiye/Syria – caused the most destruction to the cities of Sagaing and Mandalay, flattening buildings and damaging roads and bridges. Without heavy equipment on hand, search and rescue teams have been digging people out by hand.

According to the latest reports (as of April 1, 2025), over 2,000 people in Myanmar have died, and thousands have been injured.

The impact of the earthquake is compounded by violent conflict that has escalated in Myanmar since the 2021 military coup. The area where the earthquake struck is already host to around 1.5 million people who have been displaced from other parts of the country.

At this stage information is difficult to access, but it's clear that this disaster will add further hardship, and increase the need in a country where over a third of the population already rely on humanitarian aid.

HOW CAN OUR CHURCH HELP?

We're inviting churches to pray and give towards helping people in Myanmar recover from the impact of the earthquake.

Here are some ways you can take part;

- Show our video during your church service
- Pray as a congregation (we've included a prayer you might like to use in the resource folder)
- Encourage your congregation to give our Myanmar Humanitarian Response ([LINK](#))
- And more resources which are available here

WHERE WILL FUNDS TO THE MYANMAR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE GO?

Baptist World Aid is not sending funds to the military junta in Myanmar. To provide emergency funding, we're working through established Christian Partners who are best placed to respond quickly in this time of crisis in Myanmar. These organisations meet our compliance requirements, and comply with Australian government sanctions against Myanmar's military regime.

We can't reveal the names of our Partners for security reasons, but we can confirm that we're working with a trusted Integral Alliance member that has a strong presence in the area most impacted by the earthquake.

We're also continuing to explore longer-term community development and resilience responses to the ongoing crisis across the country more broadly, and continue to advocate for the people of Myanmar to the Australian Government.

ARE YOU WORKING WITH THE BAPTIST CHURCH IN MYANMAR?

Baptist World Aid is supporting the coordination of all Baptist conventions in the area impacted by the earthquake through our membership with the Asia Pacific Baptist Federation (APBF). Once we receive more information about the needs of Convention members on the ground and their capacity, we hope to join their effort (should they choose to respond).

With over 10,000 Christians from various ethnic groups in Myanmar worshipping in the Australian Baptist family today, Myanmar holds a special place in our hearts. Like so many of our supporters, we remain committed to standing alongside our brothers and sisters who are worried about friends and family still in Myanmar.

HOW WILL OUR GIVING HELP PEOPLE IN MYANMAR?

Any donations to the Myanmar Humanitarian Response will help our Partners on the ground respond to this emergency. Your donation can help provide:

- Food and nutrition, particularly for children and vulnerable groups who are at a higher risk of developing malnutrition
- Essentials such as blankets, mosquito nets, hygiene items, and temporary shelter supplies so people displaced from their homes can meet their needs
- Access to healthcare and protection services for those at risk of exploitation, abuse and violence during the aftermath of the earthquake, to ensure their health and wellbeing during this time.