

Friday, 15. May 2015

It's after midnight in Nepal when I received an email which explained, that dogs detect the earthquakes before than humans through their instincts. Dogs are supposed to bark when an earthquake heralds. Since I could not fall asleep anyway due to the barking of 100 of street dogs, so I decided to write today on this topic. In Internet there were many funny stories being circulated such as, during earthquakes, although many people die no animals are killed because they supposedly have a sixth sense. For the earthquake in Nepal I can not quite confirm this. There were even a lot of pigeons, which was surprising, since they could fly away in seconds from collapsing building. Therefore I could not believe on the sixth sense of animals.



While writing the barking of dogs are getting louder. Does that mean that another great earthquake is coming?

An application on Kritan's phone could detect vibration and warn about earthquakes with an alarm. While not as early as it was supposed the dogs could, but at least at the moment when, for example, a house starts to swing. The mobile phone is currently night with him in continuous use. Currently, the display shows unsuspecting earthquake intensities of 2 to 3 and makes it clear that here the earth shakes under us just constantly and that is possibly what the dogs feel and thus they only react sensitively to small quakes.



A famous Nepali astrologer had predicted a super earthquake the day before yesterday, for 2 O'clock in the afternoon and so many people were terrified, they were in front of their homes and virtually waiting for the disaster. By 3 o'clock in I heard that he has been arrested for spreading such baseless news and for scaring people. As a partial dog lover, in order to stop this false alarm I think these dogs should be taken far out from the town. Then here would finally be little calmer and we would get our sleep that we so desperately need.

When I tired sipping my coffee shortly after 7 O'clock, interestingly close barking of dogs dragged my attention. I'm doing something funny about it and say that we indeed currently are safe because for a long time we did not hear the dogs barking. Good 20 minutes later, however we felt the shaking of the house without any prior warning by the dogs, the shaking was very noticeable. Although this was an earthquake of magnitude

5.5, elsewhere in the world it would already be great news for the press and media.

What happened with the many earthquake sniffer dogs? Why they did not warned us of this earthquake?

Fact is that often, but not always, before larger earthquakes small earthquakes precede. It happens seldom that the small earthquakes are followed by great earthquake. This could be either the vibrations of the plates underneath the ground, or rather the release of various gases. It is very difficult to say if a measurable magnitude of earthquake make many or all animals nervous.

As a scientist one should not be biased and must always wait for the end of an experiment in a neutrally. Lost in thought, and still tired, after the breakfast we went to a construction site where a new well was being drilled. Here I clicked the pictures of some dogs. As this black dog is lying on the ground all spreaded, may be this sensitive



super dog would recognize the earthquake early bark and would warn before the next earthquakes, or may be he's one of the culprit that stole my valuable 2 hours sleep.

The next dog could be a little clairvoyant because it has at least bright fur. Why the dogs barking all night? This has very trivial reasons, the dogs bark when people or other dogs pass on their territory. Currently may be they are afraid of new earthquakes and because they no longer feel safe in their homes are running around people, they seem to be very excited especially during

the night. In addition to this, dogs are very sensitive animals. One should also notice that, looking at its master in panic and fear it gets nervous too.

Many people currently sleep in tents on the roadside or on the few small free available space. This is new for the dogs and they see something unusual here. So the permanent barking does not directly have anything to do with the earthquake, but indirectly by the earthquake of course.

However, the reason for my walk were not the dogs. Kritan and his uncle showed me a place where a new well was being drilled. Fearing from the earthquake early this morning, the workers discontinued to drill.



The Kathmandu Valley was once a large lake, which was drained by drainage. Due to the many such drilling processes, the water table has dropped by as much as 60 meters in recent years. What at first looks like a big disaster for the water supply of the metropolis Kathmandu and in the future at risk by further lowering of the water table, the water supply of the capital, good for the population until now. The earthquakes usually increases the level of groundwater at considerable amount and can soften the ground and the building would then sink in it.

We take a taxi to the meeting point at the edge of the city to meet up with our friends of Ganesh. The taxi driver complains us about his sorrow, that his mother died in the quake. We expressed our sincere condolences and said goodbye. So many shocking news, it is not easy.



We wanted to go to Noikandi for a health camp; after half an hour of our trip stopped.

The driver who drives a relatively comfortable minibus was scared to drive his bus and with a total of 11 passengers, in the steep roads and paths. After leaving this vehicle in the middle of one of the hills in Farping we organized another four wheeler vehicle suited for such situation. The whole process took about an hour while we enjoyed the magnificent scenery around.



The beautiful scenery is in strong contrast to so the misery that has been done here by the earthquakes. About 70 people come to our Health Camp, Kritan did the registration of the patients and Clarissa measures them blood pressure. They were then examined extensively by our three empathetic doctors. You see it in the people, how good it one feels when he/she knows that someone cares about them.



We ended the day on a very nice place. It was opposite to a shelter for leprosy patients. New infections in Nepal was no longer a problem, but in the past, leprosy has greatly disfigured many people.



The chef prepares delicious meals on a simple fire oven. He cooked varieties of vegetables, mainly from Savithris garden. We enjoyed the food cooked by him. We all were together and rejoiced the cohesion among ourselves.

Translator: Kritan

More information: [www.gesinas.net](http://www.gesinas.net)

