

Importance of Geologic Evidence to Keep Memories of Tsunami Disasters

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Abstract

Japan and Indian Ocean countries suffered from the 2011 Tohoku-oki tsunami and the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, respectively. Few years after these tsunami events, recoveries on both natural and human communities have continued. On the other hand, memories of these disasters have been gradually forgotten. It is not easy to preserve artificial tsunami monuments since those things have been quickly depleted or weathered over time. Geological or geomorphological evidences of tsunamis such as sandy tsunami deposits in the geologic stratum and huge tsunami boulders may be able to use keeping memories over time instead of man-made monuments as a field museum. It is thus important to communicate with geologists in the tsunami affected countries how can we contribute to the future tsunami reduction. For that, I will introduce recent issues and future directions among the tsunami affected countries, especially lessons learned from Japan and Sri Lanka and discuss about future collaboration.

Keywords: tsunami, geological evidence, Japan, Sri Lanka