

How Did the News Report the Recent Catastrophe Coverage of the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster?

-Considering Over-Reporting and Spreadinf False Rumors-

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In the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster in March 2011, 24,500 people were killed or reported missing, the largest number of victims since after World War II. At evacuation centers, there were many problems among elderly citizens, such as a loss of physical health, and mental depression.

Reports say that there is a 70% chance of an earthquake occurring in the Nankai Trough, or within the Tokyo metropolitan area, within the next 30 years.

There was an accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant caused by the tsunami from the earthquake, resulting in radiation leakage. This caused a bigger stir among foreigners residing in Japan than it did among Japanese people. Having learned from the Chernobyl nuclear accident, the foreign embassies responded quickly, with the embassies of 32 countries closing temporarily. Also, in this year, the number visitors to Japan was 7.14 million, a surprising decrease of 25% from the previous year.

According to a survey conducted among foreigners residing in Japan, the primary issues that caused them problems following the disaster were phone line disruptions, food shortages, aftershocks, nuclear power, and traffic disruptions.

There were unfavorable reports, such as crows picking at corpses, thieves from certain countries looting areas that had been issued a warning, and "contaminated car" being scribbled on the cars of Fukushima citizens, reports that I don't want to hear.

I'd like to think about over-reporting and spreading false rumors in recent catastrophe coverage, focusing on the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster.