



Christian Conference of Asia

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To the Members of:

*Gereja Kristen Sulawesi Tengah (GKST), Huria Kristen Batak Protestan (HKBP),
Gereja Kristen Indonesia (GKI), Gereja Toraja, Communion of Churches in Indonesia (PGI)*

Dear brothers and sisters,

It was with profound grief that we received the news of the devastating earthquake and tsunami, which have befallen the people of Central Sulawesi in Indonesia. With immense sadness the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) expresses its sincere condolences to the families and friends of all who have lost their lives and are experiencing untold suffering from the dreadful earthquake that levelled large parts of the capital city of Palu and the districts around on 28 September 2018.

As we learn of the extent of this disaster, our thoughts and prayers are with the people and communities in the Central Sulawesi region. We pray to the All-Merciful Lord for the quick recovery of the wounded, for bestowing spiritual accompaniment and aid for all those who have lost their livelihood and shelter. We pray for the strengthening of those who are involved in the rescue operations. As we pray for and sympathise with the people of Central Sulawesi in their struggles, we urge all members of CCA and the churches around the world to pray for the people of Central Sulawesi.

On behalf of CCA once again I express solidarity with the entire people and communities of Central Sulawesi in this hour of immense pain and grief, and pray for their fortitude and endurance.

"God, the violence of nature shocks us.

We don't understand why these things happen,

but in the midst of our confusion we turn towards you, not away from you.

We ask for your mercy to be with the victims of the earthquake in Indonesia.

Comfort those who have lost family. Protect and preserve those still in danger.

Give rescue workers courage and wisdom and direction to stem the suffering.

God, have mercy! Heal and save. We need your hand to work in this case, now. In Jesus..."

(Source: Prayer Plain & Simple / Mark and Jill Herringshaw).

Yours along the journey

*Mathews George Chunakara
General Secretary, CCA*