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More than 1,000 dead after strong Morocco earthquake

9 September 2023



Summary

More than 1,000 people have died after a powerful earthquake struck central Morocco, according to the country's interior ministry

The quake - measuring magnitude 6.8 - sent people rushing into the streets in Marrakesh and other cities

Many of the deaths were said to be in hard-to-reach mountain areas

Three days of national mourning have been declared in the country, the royal palace said

The quake struck just after 23:00 local time, at a relatively shallow depth of 71km (44 miles) south-west of Marrakesh, according to the US Geological Survey

Dramatic video footage shows damaged buildings and rubble-strewn streets

Live Reporting

Edited by Emily McGarvey

 **Get involved**

20:20 9 Sep 2023

Search for survivors continues



Alexandra Fouché
Live reporter



We will be pausing our live coverage of events momentarily, thank you for joining us.

Before we go, let's take a look at what's happened over the last few hours:

- The **death toll** from the quake has gone up to 1,037, with some 1,200 injured in the 6.8-magnitude earthquake which struck overnight, officials say
- The quake was felt throughout the country, but most severely in **Marrakesh**, with many victims believed to be in remote villages in the nearby **High Atlas Mountains**, near the quake's epicentre
- Many people are **still on the streets**, waiting to be sure their houses are safe before going back in
- Along with many countries offering **help**, Algeria has said it was ready to open its airspace in support of Morocco, despite breaking off ties with its neighbour two years ago

Today's coverage was brought to you by our writers Ece Göksedef, Laurence Peter, Maria Zaccaro and Matteo Bubalo. We were also joined by our colleague Megan Fisher on the video desk. The page was edited by James FitzGerald, Henri Astier, Emily McGarvey and me.

You can keep up to date with the latest news from Morocco with our news story [here](#).





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20:12 9 Sep 2023

United Nations offers help to Morocco survivors

More than 300,000 people in Marrakesh and its outskirts have been affected by the powerful earthquake that hit Morocco, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) says.

It said  OCHA was "closely monitoring the situation and stands ready to support".

In an earlier **statement** , the UN said it was ready to "assist the government of Morocco in its efforts to assist the impacted population".



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20:05 9 Sep 2023

Streets sealed off and families fearful to return home



Nick Beake
Reporting from Marrakesh



