

**News and Current Events :: Tsunami Death Toll Soars to 145,000****Tsunami Death Toll Soars to 145,000 - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2005/1/7 13:30**

[Image: https://www.sermonindex.net/images/forum/2004/may/featured_news.gif]

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan described the devastation on Indonesia's tsunami-battered island of Sumatra (search) Friday as the worst he's ever seen, while authorities there pulled 4,000 new bodies from the rubble, bringing the confirmed overall death toll to nearly 145,000.

Twelve days after the tsunami hit, Annan and World Bank President James Wolfensohn (search) flew over the island's west coast and then drove to the shattered coastal town of Meulaboh, where families picked through piles of rubble six feet high.

"I have never seen such utter destruction mile after mile," a shaken Annan told reporters afterward. "You wonder where are the people? What has happened to them?"

With tens of thousands still missing and threatened by disease from the Dec. 26 earthquake and killer waves that hit 11 nations, the United Nations said the death toll would keep climbing.

"I think we have to be aware that very, very many of the victims have been swept away and many, many will not reappear," U.N. humanitarian chief Jan Egeland (search) said in New York. "The 150,000 dead figure is a very low figure. It will be much bigger."

Re: Tsunami Death Toll Soars to 145,000 - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2005/1/7 13:35

[Image: http://www.gfa.org/uploads/images/7526/tsunami_webvideo.jpg]

01/06/05

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K.P. Yohannan

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