

Changes in Religious Belief after Flood Disasters

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Abstract : Flood disasters occur throughout the world including Malaysia. The major flood disaster that hit Malaysia in the 2014-2015 episodes proved the psychosocial and mental health consequences such as vivid images of destruction, upheaval, death and loss of lives. Flood, flood survivors reported that flood has changed one looks at their religious belief. The main objective of this paper is to investigate the changes in religious belief after the 2014-2015 Malaysia flood disaster. The total population of 1300 respondents who experienced the 2014-2015 Malaysia flood were surveyed a month after the disaster. The questionnaires were used to measure religiosity and stress. The results provide compelling evidence that religion played an important role in the lives of Malaysia flood disasters' survivor where more than half of the respondents (>75%) experiencing the strengthening of their religious belief. It was also reported the victims' strengthening of their religious belief proved to be a powerful factor in reducing stress in the aftermath of the flood.

Keywords : religious belief, flood disaster, humanity, society

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