

# Earthquakes



# The definition:

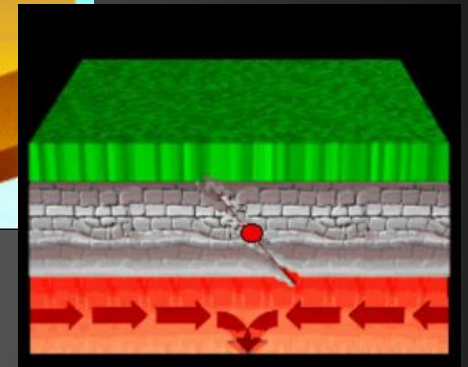
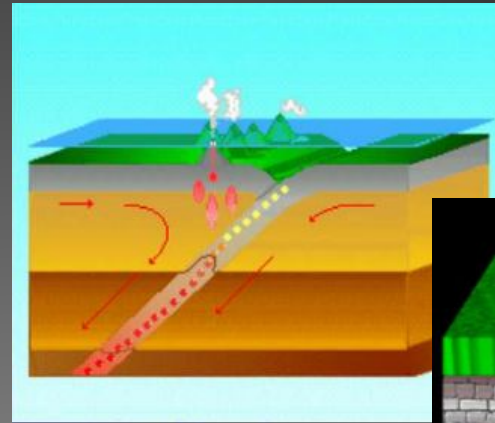
The earthquake is a phenomenon that results from a sudden release of stored energy that radiates seismic waves.



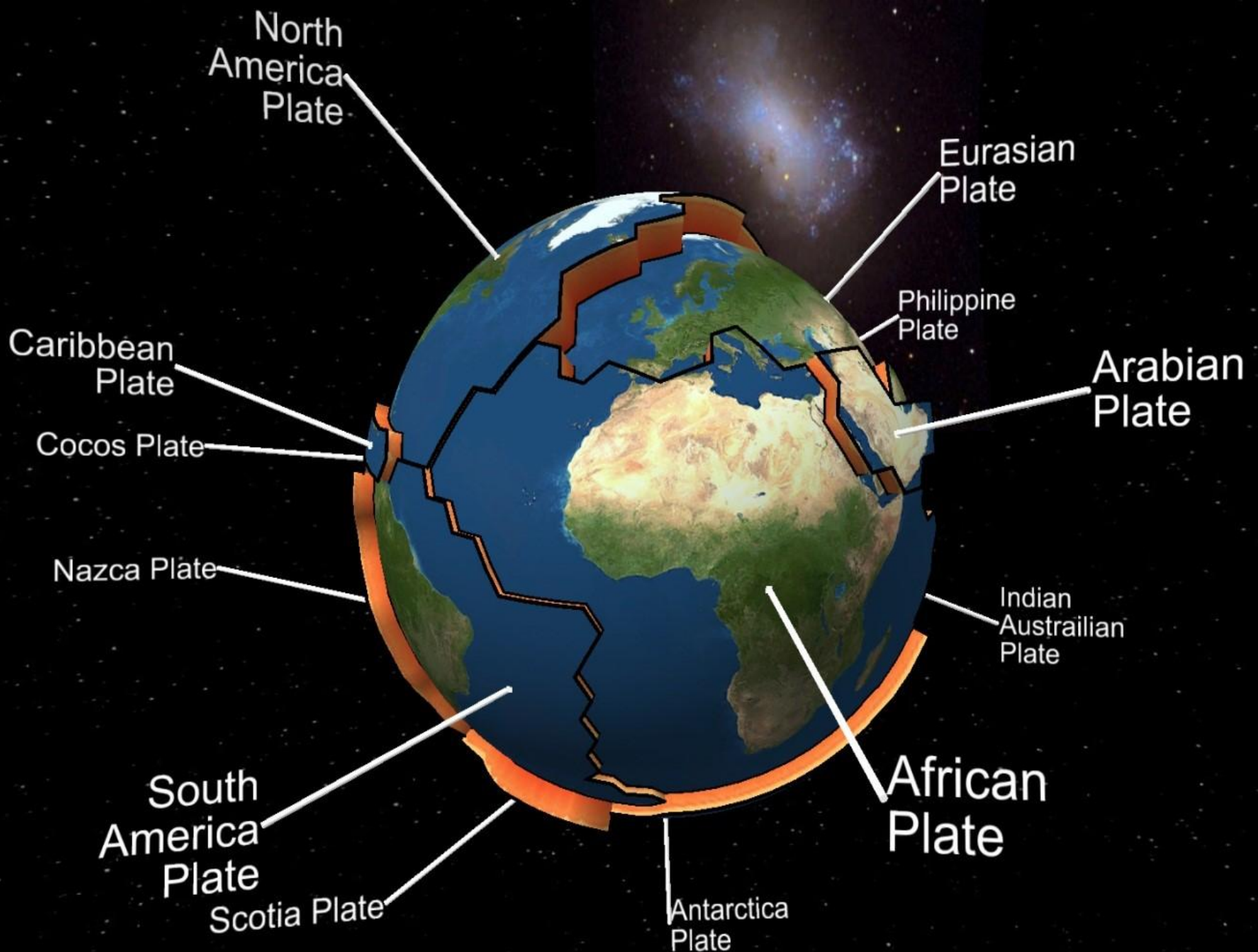
It shows itself by a shaking of the ground. The earthquake causes extensive destruction of buildings.

# When does the earthquake occurs?

An earthquake occurs when earth releases energy suddenly in the form seismic waves.



The tectonic plates in the earth's crust which are almost hundred kilometers in thickness get dislocated because of seismic waves.



# An earthquake is a natural phenomenon.

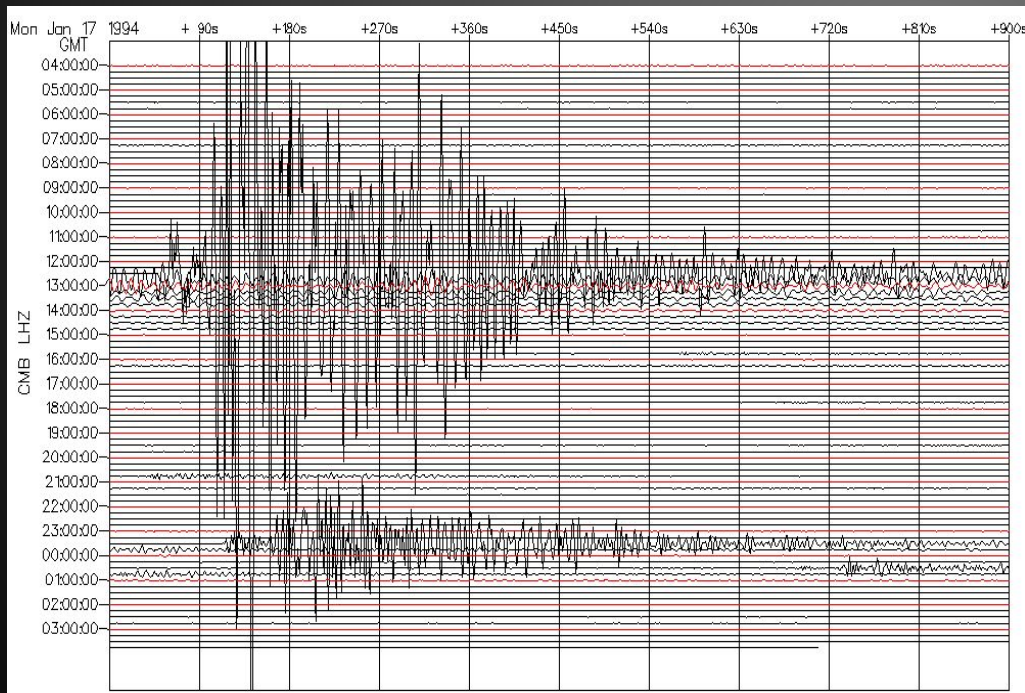
An earthquake is a natural phenomenon.

But sometimes activities like oil drilling, coal mining, and construction of big dams also add up to the seismic activity.



# The Richter scale.

Earthquake intensity is measured with the help of seismometers. It is also known as Richter scale.



Value Potential Hazard

10	Extraordinary
9	Outstanding
8	Far-reaching
7	High
6	Noteworthy
5	Intermediate
4	Moderate
3	Minor
2	Low
1	Insignificant

The first seismograph, which had scientific value, was built in 1879 in Japan.

# Classification Depending on the cause and location of earthquakes are divided into:

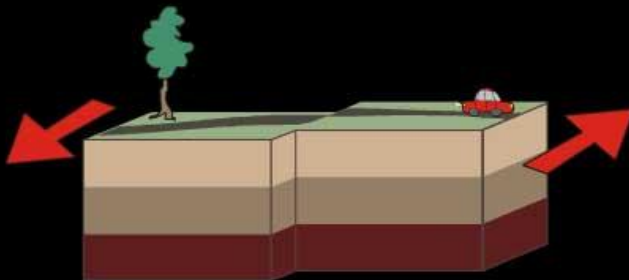
## Tectonic



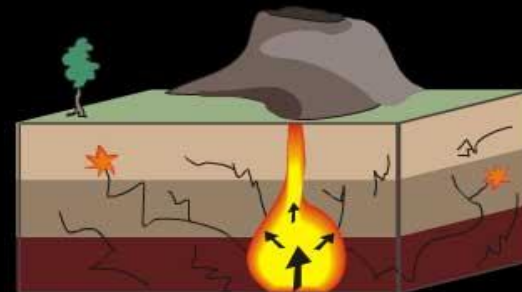
## Volcanic



## Tectonic Quake

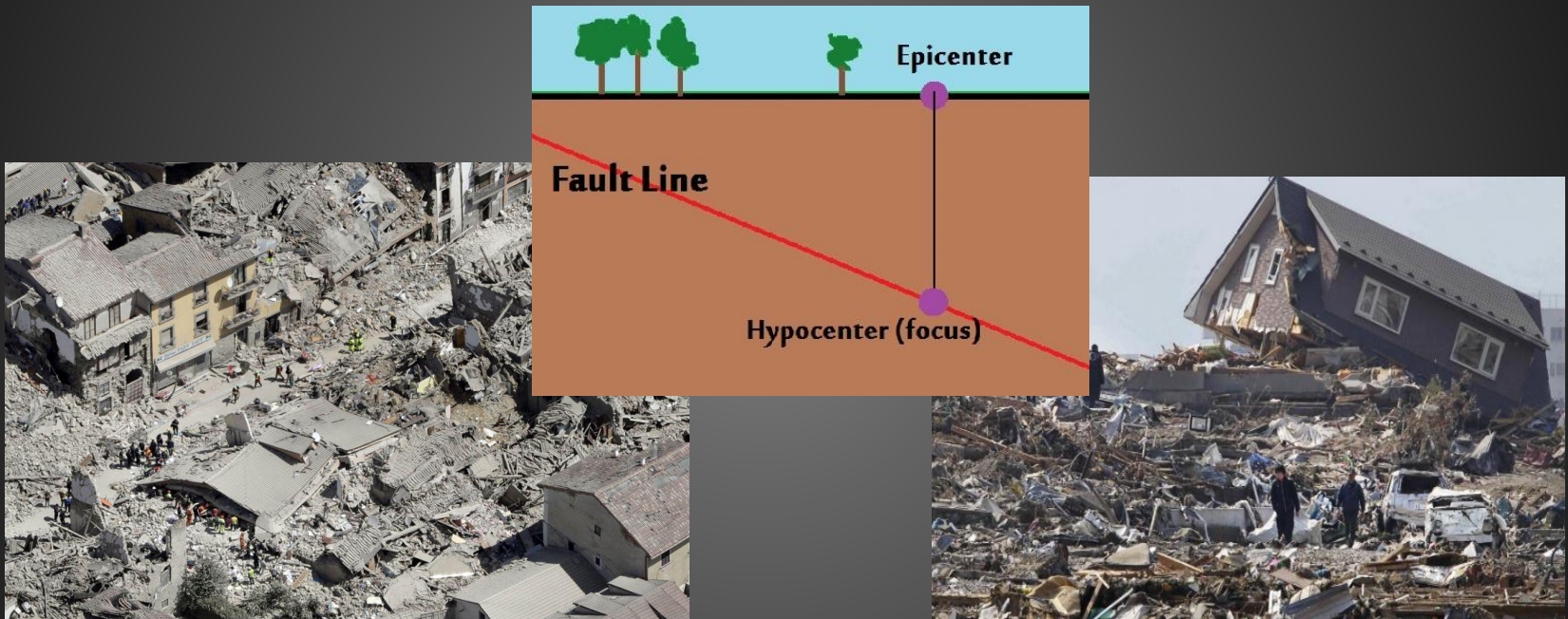


## Volcanic Quake



# The damage

The damage caused due to an earthquake depends on the location of the epicenter of the earthquake



Major destruction occurs near the epicenter of the earthquake because maximum intensity locates at the center.

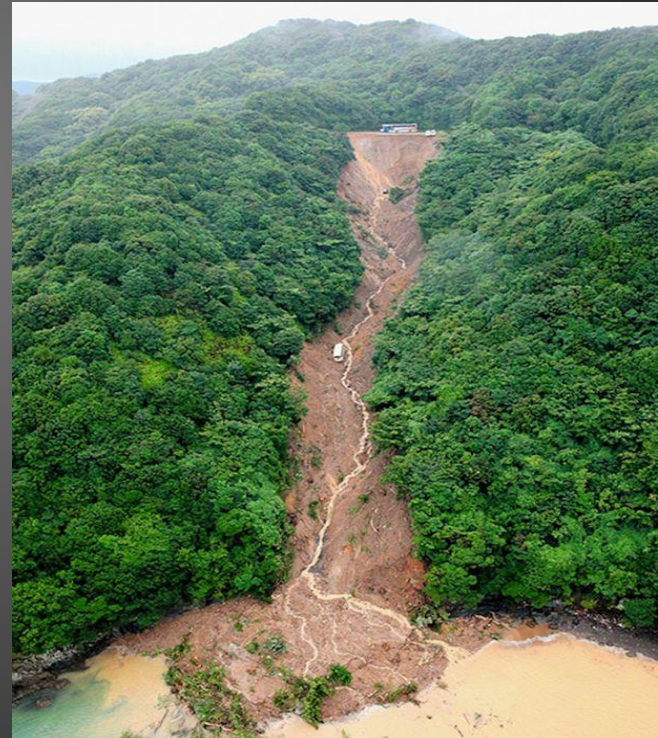


Sometimes because of earthquakes  
there may be:

volcanic eruptions

and

landslides



# Some of the greatest earthquakes :

Valdivia, Chile

October, 1960



# Shaanxi, China

January , 1556



# Sumatra, Indonesia

December, 2004



# Tangshan, China

July , 1976



# Kanto, Japan

September , 1923



From earthquakes no one is safe. Governments of different countries are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to measure seismic activity and prevent earthquakes, but so far that is the nature of humanity by surprise. Victims may be less affected if people know how to behave during an earthquake.

