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aftershocks felt in Lebanon*



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Beirut, February 21 (RHC)-- Two earthquakes of magnitude 6.4 and 5.3 shook the Turkish-Syrian border area on Monday and their aftershocks reached the Lebanese coast.

Residents of the capital city and northern Lebanon took to the streets again in fear of the quakes, two weeks after the devastating earthquakes that hit southeastern Turkey and northern Syria.

According to the pan-Arab channel Al Mayadeen, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck the Turkish-Syrian border area and was followed by a 5.3 magnitude quake in the same areas.

For its part, Turkey's Department of Emergency and Disaster Management confirmed the two telluric movements in Antakya. According to SANA agency, in Aleppo six people were hospitalized for injuries from falling stones as a result of tonight's quake.

A cracked building collapsed in Latakia and residents came out of their homes into the streets and squares for fear of aftershocks; meanwhile, ambulances are scouring areas of the city.

In Turkey, Al Mayadeen's special envoy reported that the epicenter was located in the Samandag region of Antakya and some cracked buildings collapsed.

Turkey's Department of Emergency and Disaster Management asked citizens to stay away from the areas of the earlier disaster.

In the early hours of February 6, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck southern Turkey and northern Syria, followed by another one hours later with a magnitude of 7.6 and thousands of aftershocks, leaving heavy loss of life and property in both countries.

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