

Afghan Mudslide Leaves Over 240 Dead, Traps 200



Kabul, May 3 (RHC), -- Afghan authorities say more than 240 people have died and over 200 others trapped following a massive landslide in Afghanistan's northeastern Badakhshan Province.

According to authorities, Friday's mudslide destroyed almost the entire village of Ab-e-Khoshk in the Argu district. Approximately 200 houses and large areas of farmland were destroyed during the mudslide, which was triggered by heavy rain. Local authorities said that "rescue teams have been dispatched to the area and are trying to evacuate the survivors."

The mudslide was triggered by days of heavy rain and flash floods in Afghanistan's northern regions. Several days of heavy rainfall have hit four provinces in northern Afghanistan, forcing tens of thousands of people to leave their homes.

Nearly 150 people have died as a result of the flood-related incidents over the past week. The international charity, Save the Children, estimates that 40,000 people, 25,000 of whom are children, have been affected by the incident.

Many homes in rural areas of Afghanistan are reportedly built of mud or stones, and are easily washed away by flooding. Landlocked Afghanistan with its rugged terrain is highly vulnerable to various kinds of natural

disasters, which adversely impact the lives of thousands of people every year, according to International aid agencies.

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