

# NATURAL PHENOMENA

## The Cause of Which is Supernatural

**AN ARTICLE RECALLING A CATASTROPHIC EVENT THAT TOOK PLACE ON DECEMBER 26, 2004, IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND WHICH IT HAD BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO PUBLISH AT THAT TIME.**

The day after Christmas we were all greatly stunned by a calamity that affected all peoples. An earthquake set off a tidal wave that inundated the shores of Asia. Sweeping away everything in its passage, it left only ruins, death, the germs of epidemics, and lamentations, the melancholy pictures of which were transmitted by all the communications media of the planet. Pope John Paul II reacted immediately.

*"The feast of Christmas has been clouded by the sad news coming from the southeast of Asia where there was a powerful earthquake in Indonesia followed by a tidal wave that had disastrous consequences for the neighboring countries, Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and the Maldives.*

*"We pray for the victims of this enormous tragedy, and to all those who suffer, we assure them of our solidarity, while trusting that the international community will organize itself in order to bring help to the affected populations."*<sup>1</sup>

International solidarity was not long in manifesting itself. The generosity in relief and aid in a variety of forms has been made known by the media. This tragic situation impels us to reflect.

We know that such situations can engender not only varying degrees of solidarity, but also indifference, fatalism, even revolt against God. We know also that acts of love are not wanting. If it is a time of material action, it is also a time of prayer and introspection.

Father Raymond Joffre was the parish priest of a little village in France, bordering on Provence. This village was called Mirmande, and some months before his death Father Joffre received the Army of Mary on the occasion of its national feast day. Now, if this little village had a pastor renowned as another "Don Camillo", but with a strong southern French accent, the mayor of the village was no less known.

His name was Haroun Tazieff. An internationally renowned volcanologist and a minister in the Socialist government of that period, he scarcely ever went to church. Nevertheless, he had the reputation of being an honest, straightforward and sincere man. He, likewise, is no longer of this world.

His works on volcanos are fascinating and rich with the experience he acquired in his speciality. A thought in one of his works is not a little astonishing. Here it is:

*"A specialist in certain of these 'major hazards', knowing what I am talking about and to what extent this commits me, I once again affirm that the worst catastrophes are not destructive earthquakes nor colossal eruptions nor immense inundations, nor Bhopals,<sup>2</sup> but perhaps genetic manip-*

*ulations, and definitely pollutions, all pollutions, beginning with that of the mind."*<sup>3</sup>

Was Haroun Tazieff aware of the full significance of what he said? I don't know!

Can the pollution of minds provoke calamities? While those accustomed to deride will shrug their shoulders, souls turned towards God will give humble attention to that question.

Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich saw the life of nature as being closely bound to the life of souls.<sup>4</sup> Now, what is the state of life of souls at the dawn of the year 2005? In what state is the spiritual health of man today who continues to live and organize himself as if God did not exist? At the time of the French Revolution, Joseph de Maistre wrote:

*"... one can, and one ought to, assert that, in general, all physical harm is a chastisement, and thus all of what we call scourges from heaven are necessarily the consequence of a great national crime or of the accumulation of individual crimes, and that, consequently, each of these scourges could have been prevented by, first of all, a better life and then by prayer."*<sup>5</sup>

During her apparitions at La Salette, the Blessed Virgin confided a secret<sup>6</sup> to the seeress, Melanie, in which She foretold the evils that were going to beat down upon humanity.

*"At the first stroke of His lightning sword, the mountains and the whole of nature will tremble with terror, because the disorders and the crimes of men pierce the vault of the heavens."*<sup>7</sup>

*"Nature is asking for vengeance on men, and it shudders with terror in waiting for that which must come upon the earth soiled with crimes."*<sup>8</sup>

We well know that men have not listened and that already the consequences have been tragic. Now, there are degrees in the offense given God. What is and what will be the consequences of the offenses committed against the Mother of God, in a direct manner or indirectly in attacking the Foundress of the Army of Mary? This latter has not ceased warning us.

Mother Paul-Marie, in 1976:

*"When, in a family, the mother has exhausted all the means of gentleness and persuasion to make her recalcitrant child see reason, it is the father who must administer, however reluctantly, a severe reprimand in order to spare his son greater misfortunes.*

*"Mary has forewarned her children, but, in his stupidity and his cupidity, man has pillaged everywhere and is unquestionably rushing to his doom. So God has no other alternative than to intervene before man puts an end to life on earth.*

*"God, so good and so paternal, who, out of love, placed our first parents in the Terrestrial Paradise, is today forced to strike hardened man in order to bring him to his senses.*

*"So, to the calamities that he himself, in his obstinacy, has prepared, there are added all manner of epidemics, strange illnesses, earthquakes, droughts, floods, destroyed crops, volcanic eruptions, toxic gases or other disasters, the explanations for which, given a little too hastily, would seem to lie solely in natural causes..."*

*"Now, God is the author and master of creation. The Gospel, through Saint Matthew (10:30), goes so far as to tell us, 'As for you, every hair of your head has been counted' – and that may seem an exaggeration to humans accustomed to sometimes haughty reasoning or to conclusions too hastily arrived at and without scarcely any reference to a superior Power that governs all things.*

*"Is not the fresh outbreak of earthquakes, of disasters of all sorts, bound in with 'THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY THAT IS CONSUMMATING ITSELF IN THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION'?"...*

*"Will we have the audacity to blame God for the evils covering the earth, when we alone are responsible for them? It seems that all human means have been tried. There remains only one solution: the Prayer untiringly asked for by Mary, the Lady of All Peoples."*<sup>9</sup>

January 3, 2005

On the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus

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### References:

1. VIS (Vatican Information Service) of December 26, 2004.
2. During the night of December 2-3, 1984, 40 tons of methyl isocyanate, hydrogen cyanide, amino monomethyl and other deadly gases escaped from the pesticide factory of Union Carbide at Bhopal in India. It was history's worst chemical disaster. It is estimated that 8,000 persons died from direct exposure to the gases during the first days, while hundreds of thousands of others were eventually adversely affected.
3. Haroun Tazieff, *La Terre va-t-elle cesser de tourner?*, Presse Pocket, no. 3906, November 1991, pp. 154-155.
4. M. De Cazales, *Vie d'Anne-Catherine Emmerich*, tome III, 1872, p. 145.
5. Joseph de Maistre, *Les Spirées de Saint-Petersbourg*, tome I, Editions de la Maisnie, Guy Trédaniel, 1991, p. 237.
6. September 19, 1846.
7. Raoul Auclair, *Le Secret de la Salette*, Quebec, Editions Stella, 1981, p. 52.
8. *Id.*, p. 69.
9. Mother Paul-Marie, *"La corruption, les calamités et la guerre"*, the paper *Marie*, vol. 1, no. 2, October 1976, p. 3.

Earthquake that provoked a tidal wave (tsunami) in Asia, leaving nothing in its wake but devastation and lost lives.

