

## Children **trickle** back to school in Indonesia quake city to find friends

The 7.5 **magnitude** quake on Sept.28 brought down many buildings in the small city on Sulawesi island, 1500km northeast of Jakarta, while **tsunami** waves **smashed into** its **beachfront**.

trickle 缓慢而零星的出现

magnitude 震级; 大小

tsunami 海啸 (津波)

beachfront 海滨区

smash into 撞击

The tears trickled down her cheeks.

But the biggest killer was probably **soil liquefaction**, which happens when a powerful quake turns the ground into a liquid **mire** and which **obliterated** several Palu neighborhoods.

mire 沼泽

obliterate 消去; 忘记

soil liquefaction 土壤液化

The missile strike could obliterate the whole world.

She gets drunk to obliterate painful memories.

The official **death toll** rose to 1948 but bodies are still being recovered. No one knows how many people are missing, especially in the areas hit by liquefaction, but it could be as high as 5000, the national disaster agency said.

death toll 死亡人数

Six bodies were recovered from the wreckage. 找回丢失的人或物

As the SMP Negeri 15 Palu middle school, fewer than 50 of its 697 students showed up. School principal Abdul Rashid said he was aware of four students killed in the quake. “Classes haven’t started. We’re only collecting data to find out how many students are safe,” he said.

One boy chatting in the **school compound** with friends said he was disappointed that so few of his classmates had shown up. “I’m still waiting for the Ministry of Education to give us instructions on when to begin classes. For now, I don’t think we’re ready. Many children are **traumatized** and frightened.

school compound    校园

traumatized    精神受创伤的

Many of the dead from the quake and tsunami were in Palu, the region’s main urban center. Figures for more remote areas are trickling in but they seem to have suffered fewer deaths than the city.

The government has allocated \$37 million to help victims of the earthquake. Debris would be cleared and areas hit by liquefaction would be turned into parks, sports **venues** and other public spaces, a spokesman for the national disaster **mitigation** agency said.

venues    场地；场馆

mitigation    减轻，缓和