

Seismic¹ shock

文章导读:当地时间 2 月 24 日,土耳其灾害与应急管理局发布消息,2 月 6 日的地震已在土耳其造成 44218 人死亡。管理局还称,2 月 6 日至今已发生余震 9136 次。土耳其大地震的影响将超出大部分人预料,除了地震带来的伤亡非常大,超出人们预估之外,更严重的影响正在世界范围内发生,整个世界局势都将因为这一场大地震而改变,中国、美国、俄罗斯和欧洲等,都深受波及且影响很大,迫使许多国家不得不调整对外战略。



【1】Why the devastating earthquakes might upend Turkish politics, too

为什么毁灭性地震也可能颠覆土耳其政治

【2】NOBODY KNOWS how many people lie trapped under the rubble. When two powerful earthquakes hit southern Turkey and northern Syria on February 6th, thousands of buildings collapsed, burying families as they slept. Rescuers are racing to dig them out before they **succumb**² to injury, thirst or the biting cold. By February 9th estimates of the death toll stood at more than 16,000; the true figure may be far higher. The World Health Organization says it could be 20,000, which would make it even worse than the quake that struck Izmit, 100km (60 miles) east of Istanbul, in 1999, killing some 18,000. Buckled roads, complex **terrain**³ and the vast size of the affected area, spreading out along the East Anatolian fault for some 450km, are making the relief effort **hellishly**⁴ difficult to manage (see Europe section).

没有人知道有多少人被困在废墟下。2 月 6 日,土耳其南部和叙利亚北部发生了两次强烈地震,数千栋建筑倒塌,一家人在睡梦中被埋。救援人员正争先恐后地在他们受伤、口渴或刺骨的寒冷之前将他们挖出来。截至 2 月 9 日,死亡人数估计超过 16000 人;真实数字可能

¹ **Seismic** /'saɪzɪmɪk/ 地震的; 地震学; 抗震; 地震台

² **Succumb** /sə'kʌm/ 屈服于; 屈服; 抵挡不住(攻击、疾病、诱惑等)

³ **Terrain** /tə'reɪn/ 地形; 地带; 领域; 地势; 地域

⁴ **Hellish** /'helɪʃ/ 地狱般的

要高得多。世界卫生组织表示，可能会有 2 万人死亡，这将比 1999 年伊斯坦布尔以东 100 公里（60 英里）伊兹米特发生的地震更严重，造成约 1.8 万人死亡。弯崎岖不平的道路，复杂的地形，以及沿东安纳托利亚断层蔓延约 450 公里的大面积受灾地区，使得救援工作极其难以管理（见欧洲部分）。

【3】The quake-struck parts of Syria were previously battered by a decade of war. Syria's **despot**⁵, Bashar al-Assad, is so wary of outsiders and **heedless**⁶ of human life that he may impede access for foreign relief agencies. Even in parts of Syria outside his control, entry relies on roads from Turkey that are now badly damaged. Turkey is naturally concentrating on its own people. Donors must try, against the odds, to ensure that Syria is not abandoned. So far, however, the response has been much too slow.

地震袭击的叙利亚部分地区此前遭受了十年战争的重创。叙利亚的暴君巴沙尔·阿萨德对外来者非常警惕，对人类的生命漠不关心，他可能会阻碍外国救援机构进入。即使在他控制范围之外的叙利亚部分地区，入境也依赖土耳其的道路，这些道路现在已经严重受损。土耳其很自然地将注意力集中在自己的人民身上。捐助者必须克服困难，确保叙利亚不会被遗弃。然而，到目前为止，反应太慢了。

【4】Even as the **relief**⁷ effort goes on, attention will turn to politics. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who has ruled Turkey for two decades, faces an election in May that was already going to be tough for him, thanks to a **floundering**⁸ economy and an inflation rate driven to over 50% by his foolish monetary policies. Voters will note his response to the earthquake, and ask why his government did not do more to prepare for such a disaster after the tremor of 1999. He knows it: government prosecutors have already launched investigations into two journalists for criticizing the state's response.

即使救济工作继续进行，人们的注意力也会转向政治。统治土耳其 20 年的总统雷杰普·塔伊普·埃尔多安（Recep Tayyip Erdogan）将在 5 月面临一场对他来说已经很艰难的选举，这要归功于他愚蠢的货币政策导致的经济低迷和超过 50% 的通货膨胀率。选民们将注意到他对地震的反应，并问他的政府为什么在 1999 年地震后没有采取更多措施来应对这场灾难。他知道这一点：政府检察官已经对两名批评国家回应的记者展开了调查。

【5】There is a grim irony at work. Mr Erdogan came to power after an election in 2002. His new party, Justice and Development (AK), upended an establishment that had

⁵ **Despot** /'despɑ:t/ 专制君主；暴君；独裁者；张文豪：专制君王

⁶ **Heedless** /'hi:dləs/ 不加注意；掉以轻心

⁷ **Relief** /rɪ'li:f/ 救济；解脱；宽慰；轻松

⁸ **Floundering** /'flaʊndərɪŋ/ 挣扎；挣扎的

ineffectually governed Turkey since the **restoration**⁹ of democracy in 1983. The then government's weak response to the earthquake of 1999, followed by its mishandling of a financial crash in 2001, contributed to a sense that a clear-out was needed, and AK ended up with two thirds of the seats in parliament. Now Mr Erdogan faces a similar set of circumstances; an economic crisis and a humanitarian one. Voters will judge him on his record in handling both.

这是一个残酷的讽刺。埃尔多安先生在 2002 年大选后上台。他的新政党正义与发展党(AK)推翻了自 1983 年恢复民主以来对土耳其统治不力的体制。当时的政府对 1999 年的地震反应不力，随后对 2001 年的金融危机处理不当，这导致了一种需要清算的感觉，正义与发展党最终获得了议会三分之二的席位。现在，埃尔多安面临着类似的情况；经济危机和人道主义危机。选民将根据他处理这两件事的记录来评判他。

【6】The collapse of so many buildings in Turkey—nearly 6,000, according to the government—will invite **scrutiny**¹⁰. Evidence will emerge that the advice of earthquake experts was ignored, and building codes were **flouted**¹¹ while corrupt or incompetent supervisors looked the other way. One **hallmark**¹² of the economic boom that made Mr Erdogan popular for his first decade in power was a surge in construction, though most of the buildings that collapsed were built before he came to office. He has had two decades to prepare for a big earthquake; it is hardly a secret that Turkey sits on one of the world's most active fault lines.

据政府称，土耳其有近 6000 栋建筑倒塌，这将招致审查。有证据表明，地震专家的建议被忽视了，建筑规范被藐视，而腐败或无能的监管人员却视而不见。埃尔多安执政的第一个十年里，经济繁荣的一个标志是建筑激增，尽管大多数倒塌的建筑都是在他上任前建造的；土耳其位于世界上最活跃的断层带之一，这几乎不是什么秘密。

【7】Mr Erdogan's poll ratings, and his party's, have been nearing record lows. Last month he brought forward the presidential and parliamentary elections from June to May, presumably to wrong-foot the opposition, which has still failed to unify around a single candidate for the top job. After the quake, the president declared a state of emergency in ten southern provinces, to last for three months, until almost the eve of the poll. No doubt there are commendable practical reasons for this. But it might also make it easier for Mr Erdogan to shut down criticism or opposition activity; indeed, access to

⁹ **Restoration** /restə'reɪʃn/ (规章制度等的)恢复；修复；复原；复位；整修；回归；归还；王政复辟时期

¹⁰ **Scrutiny** /'skru:təni/ 审查；详细审查；监督；推敲；详细检查

¹¹ **Flouted** /'flaʊtɪd/ 公然藐视，无视(法律等)

¹² **Hallmark** /'hɔ:lma:rk/ 贺卡；豪马；纯度标记；贺曼；贺曼影视

Twitter was briefly restricted after people used it to **lambast**¹³ the government's response to the quakes. He might now postpone the elections. Turkey was already entering a difficult period. Plate tectonics has just made it more dangerous.

埃尔多安先生和他的政党的民意支持率已经接近历史最低水平。上个月，他将6月至5月的总统和议会选举提前，可能是为了给反对派带来麻烦，反对派仍然未能围绕一位最高职位的候选人达成一致。地震发生后，总统宣布南部十个省进入紧急状态，持续三个月，直到投票前夕。毫无疑问，这有值得称赞的实际原因。但这也可能使埃尔多安先生更容易停止批评或反对活动；事实上，在人们用 Twitter 抨击政府对地震的反应后，Twitter 的访问一度受到限制。他现在可能会推迟选举。土耳其已经进入了一个困难时期。板块构造使其变得更加危险。

表达积累

1. 表达视而不见、藐视的常用表达

(1) 本文中用 **flout** 来表达视而不见，其英文释义为：to show that you have no respect for a law ,etc.by openly not obeying it .如：

The move caused widespread outrage, with many business owners saying they would openly **flout** the law for fear of losing their customers.

此举引发众怒，许多企业主公然藐视该法律，因为他们害怕失去顾客。

(2) 除了 flout 外，还有 **disobey**、**defy** 等也可以表达藐视的意思，如：

The firm will continue to lobby lawmakers to pass laws penalising countries that **defy** American court judgments.

这家公司将继续游说国会通过法律，惩罚藐视美国法院判决的国家。

另外固定句式：I **defy** you/anyone to do sth 的英文释义为：used to say that sb should try to do sth, as a way of emphasizing that you think it is impossible to do it.即表达激，挑动（某人尽力做你认为不可能的事），如：

I **defy** anyone not to cry at the end of the film.

我倒要看看有谁在电影结尾时不哭。

¹³ **Lambast** 狂打；痛斥；炮轰。

2.表达痛斥、炮轰

(1) 本文用了 lambast 来表达痛斥的意思, if you lambast someone ,you criticize them severely ,usually in public,即(通常指公开地)猛烈批评,痛斥,炮轰,如:

Grey took every opportunity to **lambast** Thompson and his organization.

格雷不放过任何一个炮轰汤普森及其组织的机会。

(2) blast 也有同样的意思, To blast someone or something means to criticize them strongly ,即表达炮轰、抨击的意思。

The judge **blasted** his critics.

法官痛斥他的批评者。

(3) **denounce** 的英文释义为: to strongly criticize sb/sth that you thin is wrong,illegal,etc. 即表达谴责; 指责; 斥责的意思, 其名词形式为 **denunciation** / dɪˌnʌnsiˈeɪʃn/, 如:

His speech was a head-on **denunciation** of the unpopular new policy.

他的发言是对不得人心的新政策的迎头痛斥。