

Advances in Earthquake Engineering

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Seismic hazard of moderate to high levels of are present throughout Pakistan, and the numerous building collapses caused by the 2005 Kashmir earthquake verified the seismic vulnerability of building types present throughout the country. The overall capacity of the Pakistani academic, public, and private sectors to assess seismic vulnerability, to identify potential seismic mitigation measures, and to strengthen vulnerable essential buildings is currently limited. There is a pressing need to develop a critical mass of knowledgeable professionals, strengthen existing faculties and their earthquake research programs.

There exists a huge stock of buildings through out Pakistan which are either not designed for earthquake resistance or have problems with respect to seismic resistance. In order to mitigate the seismic threat to the existing building stock a detailed and comprehensive three tier procedure has been developed for existing buildings in Pakistan. This paper presents the three tier seismic vulnerability assessment procedure and also discusses gaps in between information needed and available regarding seismology and earthquake engineering.