

## Tzu Chi Disaster and Medical Relief Team Leaves for Nepal

Written by Tzu Chi Foundation  
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In response to the devastating earthquake in Nepal, the Tzu Chi Foundation on April 27 sent a team of 15 people to assess the disaster and provide emergency medical help. They will evaluate what aid the victims need and the next steps in the relief effort. They aim to provide the care and great love of Taiwan to Nepal in the shortest possible time.

The team boarded a China Airlines plane at 1:20 pm from Taoyuan Airport, with an estimated arrival time of 4 pm at Bangkok. From Bangkok, they will take another plane to Nepal's capital, Kathmandu, and arrive at approximately 9:40 pm. The team is led by Dr. Chien Sou-hsin, superintendent of the Taichung Tzu Chi Hospital, and Dr. Chao You-chen, superintendent of the Taipei Tzu Chi Hospital.



Ten of the team members are from Taiwan and the other five are from Malaysia, Thailand, India, Philippine and the U.S. The five are experienced in international relief and can help with translation and evaluation of the relief materials that will be needed.

After the strong earthquake in Nepal, the Tzu Chi Foundation formed the Tzu Chi Disaster Command Center in Hualien at 7 am on April 26 to collect information for a quick response. This center has taken stock of supplies, including multi-function portable beds, instant rice which can be prepared quickly and environmental blankets. They are all prepared and can be transported to places of need at any time.

Up on arrival in Katmandu, the team will begin to provide medical and material assistance and evaluate the possibility of relief work in the emergency, medium and long-term.

By Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation.