Geophysical Research Abstracts Vol. 19, EGU2017-11964, 2017 EGU General Assembly 2017 © Author(s) 2017. CC Attribution 3.0 License.



How angry was the ancient Greek god Poseidon in 141/142 A.D.?

Murat Şahin, İrem Elitez, and Cenk Yaltırak

Istanbul Technical University, Geological Engineering, İstanbul, Turkey (sahinmurat2@itu.edu.tr)

Poseidon, also known as "God of Sea" or "Earth-Shaker", was one of the Olympian's Gods in the Greek mythology. It was a common belief that Poseidon shows his rage by tsunamis and earthquakes. So, the how angry Poseidon in 141/142 A.D.?

According to the historical records, the whole area including Lycian cities and Rhodes was affected by a destructive earthquake and a following tsunami in 141/142. After these events the emperor of Greeks made donations to the Lycian cities and Rhodes for their recovery with relative to the damage and importance of the city. 141/142 earthquake had a considerable amount of damage on 28 ancient cities. With respect to the historical catalogues, this earthquake had at least 9-10 intensity and caused a tsunami in Rhodes and harbour of the ancient city of Patara.

In this study, we try to restrict the magnitude of the event by using PGA (peak ground acceleration), MMI (Modified Mercalli Intensity), tsunami modelling and amount of aids. Our preliminary results suggest that this event has to be bigger or equal magnitude 8.