

TO SAVE AS MANY LIVES AS POSSIBLE

Japan Disaster Relief Team gave its best in disaster zones

The Türkiye–Syria earthquake of February 6, 2023, caused widespread destruction. The Rescue and Medical Teams of the Japan Disaster Relief Team (JDR) were dispatched to the site at the request of the Turkish government, and began work as aftershocks continued.



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1 The first batch of Rescue Team attending the team-forming ceremony at Haneda Airport on the evening of February 6, the day of the earthquake. The ambassador of Türkiye to Japan Korkut Güngen attended the ceremony, expressing his gratitude to the team members. **2** On the plane to Türkiye, the Rescue Team discusses the information that has been gathered. The first team consisted of 18 members. The next day, a second batch of 55 members (with one additional member dispatched later) flew to Türkiye.



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3 Kahramanmaraş, a large city with a population of over 1 million, has many mid-rise buildings, a considerable number of which suffered “pancake collapses,” which made search and rescue operations extremely difficult. **4** Search and rescue operations were carried out with great care to prevent secondary disasters. **5** A handler and rescue dog dispatched by the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department. Four rescue dogs accompanied the team. The Rescue Team worked for seven days. **6** A member of the Medical Team checking the health of parents and children. The public hospital in Oğuzeli was temporarily relocated next to the JDR field hospital, with both working together to respond to the situation.

* This article is based on information current as of March 13.



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