The 1945 Makran tsunami and its impacts on Iranian coast: an interview report

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Abstract

The 1945 Makran earthquake off the coast of Pakistan has generated tsunami waves that impacted the coasts of Iran, Pakistan, Oman and India. Although the 1945 Makran tsunami was not reported at the same time by the Iranian authorities due to national crises, many local survivors remember the event and the impacts on Iranian Makran coast. This study focuses on the results of interview with some elderlies of Iranian Makran coast as well as reviewing historical documents in national archives. According to this survey, the 1945 tsunami impacted the Iranian coast severely. Although no fatality reported along the Iranian Makran coast, extensive property damage was occurred during the tsunami. Two critical locations in easternmost and westernmost Iranian Makran had received huge waves in different times in which the wave height decreased from east to west from more than 13 meters in east to less than 3 meters in west. The time lag in receiving the tsunami waves between the two locations is about 2 hours that could be related to receiving direct and reflection of tsunami waves by the coasts.

Keywords: Makran, 1945 Tsunami, Interview, Gulf of Oman