

Storm Smashes into Philippines, Causing Worst Flooding in Fifty Years

September 28, 2009: At least 240 Filipinos have lost their lives, and 150,000 of their homes, to Typhoon Ketsana. The storm hit Luzon, the Philippines' main island, on Saturday, September 26th.

Up to 80 percent of Manila is covered in water. Rescue workers are reported to be overwhelmed. Forty-eight hours after the storm dumped the same amount of rain in one day as is typical for a whole month in the region, thousands of capital residents are still awaiting rescue on rooftops.

Tens of thousands of people are sleeping in churches, schools, and outdoor parks. Many are pitching tents wherever they can. Roads and bridges have been washed away. In the capital of Manila alone, economic damage has already totaled \$30 million.

Once loss of life outside the capital is counted, the death toll is expected to rise, according to local officials.



Metro Manila saw its worst flooding in nearly 50 years.